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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2026

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### **The Clinic captures top national health center honor**

ADA – For the first time, the Health Resources and Services Administration has awarded The Clinic its top Health Center Quality Leader award. The Clinic is the only federally qualified health center in Oklahoma to earn the prestigious gold badge in 2026.

“We continue to exceed standards set by HRSA, which is a credit to all our employees, from our primary care providers and specialists to our amazing support staff,” said Brenda Ware, CEO and President of The Clinic. “Each member of the team is critical to our success. This award demonstrates to our patients, colleagues, and the public that we provide the very best care to the population we serve. We are energized by this honor and will continue to aim even higher.”

HRSA is the federal agency that funds and regulates health centers. The gold Health Center Quality Leader award places The Clinic in the top 10% of the highest-performing health centers across the United States.

The Clinic’s achievements do not end there. In total, The Clinic earned seven HRSA quality awards in 2026. That places The Clinic in the top 1% of health centers in the country. The Clinic earned National Quality Leader awards in Diabetes Health and Heart Health, as well as Improving Health Care Access, Advancing HIT For Quality, High Value Care, and Preventive Health.

Established in 1968, The Clinic cares for close to 30,000 unique patients, with primary service locations in the rural communities of Ada, Konawa, Holdenville, Stratford, and Seminole. The Clinic also provides care for students of East Central University and Seminole State College.

The Clinic serves its patient population in a wide variety of fields, including primary care; autism and ADHD; behavioral health; speech pathology; cardiology; dentistry; sports medicine; diabetes management; endocrinology; pediatrics; ear, nose, and throat; foot and ankle surgery; internal medicine; urology; obstetrics, gynecology, and midwifery; and wound care.

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*The Clinic @ Central Oklahoma Family Medical Center, or “The Clinic,” is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) meeting a stringent set of requirements, including care services on a sliding-fee scale based on federal poverty guidelines.*