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For Immediate Release

Wooster Community Hospital (WCH) Women's Pavilion Receives Breastfeeding Care Award

The International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners® (IBLCE®) and International Lactation Consultant Association® (ILCA®) have recognized the Women's Pavilion (Maternity) at Wooster Community Hospital for excellence in lactation care.

WOOSTER (August 3, 2021): The WCH Women's Pavilion has received recognition for lactation (breastfeeding) care. The lactation professionals of the WCH Women's Pavilion all hold the International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant® (IBCLC®) certification and provide a lactation program for families. In addition, the Women's Pavilion lactation consultant team provided recent completed activities that help protect, promote, and support breastfeeding.

Marin Skariah, Chair of the Board of IBLCE, recently stated, "Institutions that are awarded the IBCLC Care Award have dedicated their efforts to promote and provide a lactation program that makes expert assistance available when the breastfeeding family needs it. Through the presentation of this Award, we honor the work of IBCLCs around the world as they strive to advance global public health by providing expert lactation care to families and by promoting breastfeeding care to other healthcare professionals through advocacy and training."

Shelly Huff, Vice President of Patient Services/CNO, said, "WCH is very proud of our commitment to supporting breastfeeding women for the health of our babies and our entire community. Our lactation team is dedicated to providing the best possible care and resources for our families not only during their stay in the hospital, but for as long as they need."

IBCLCs focus on preventive care, so they are available during pregnancy to assess and provide information on how to successfully initiate breastfeeding. They continue that assistance after the baby is born by helping families overcome breastfeeding challenges, providing accurate information, and continuing to support them as their baby grows. They assist families returning to work or school, help

families in more unusual situations such as breastfeeding more than one baby or nursing a sick or premature infant, and help train nursing staff to manage basic breastfeeding care.

As allied health care professionals with the leading internationally recognized certification for professional lactation services, IBCLC professionals work in hospitals and birthing centers, clinics, public health agencies, private practice, community settings, government agencies, and in research. There are currently more than 33,400 such professionals in 125 countries and territories worldwide.

In addition to finding IBCLC professionals at Women's Pavilion at Wooster Community Hospital families can also find an IBCLC near them by visiting www.ilca.org. Follow the "Find a Lactation Consultant" link and search for an IBCLC by postal code, city and state, or country.

For more information about the IBCLC Care Award program, contact IBCLCE at award@iblce.org.

About Wooster Community Hospital

Wooster Community Hospital (WCH), built in 1950, is a 172-bed, full-service and acute-care facility. Located in Wooster, the hub of Wayne County, Ohio. WCH is a 7-time IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospital that offers a complete range of inpatient and outpatient services. WCH has continued to expand facilities and add services to meet the needs of the community. WCH is the second largest employer in Wayne County and, was also named by CMS (Centers for Medicare Services) as a 5-Star facility and recognized as part of Newsweek's annual list of World's Best Hospitals for 2020/2021. For more information, visit www.woosterhospital.org/obstetrics.