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## **PROMINENT HEALTH EDUCATION PROVIDERS AWARDED NATIONAL ACCREDITATION STATUS**

MILWAUKEE, WI – The National Association of Health Education Centers (NAHEC) is proud to award accreditation status to four prominent U.S. health education providers and advocates: Clarion University Health Science Education Center (Clarion, PA), Ruth Lilly Health Education Center (Indianapolis, IN), Children’s Health Education Center (Milwaukee, WI) and CentraState Healthcare System’s Star and Barry Tobias Health Awareness Center (Freehold, NJ).

“The education these organizations provide is important to the long-term health literacy in the communities they serve. I am pleased to be able to highlight their high standards and effectiveness in delivery of crucial health education in their communities,” said David Midland, Executive Director of NAHEC.

National Association of Health Education Center’s accreditation brings national recognition to a health education program for its commitment to excellence, accountability, high professional standards, and continued institutional improvement. The NAHEC Accreditation Program serves as the field’s primary vehicle for quality assurance, self-regulation, and public accountability. Developed and sustained by health education professionals, the program reflects, reinforces, and promotes best practices, institutional ethics, and the highest standards of health education program operations.

“With increased healthcare costs, more attention needs to be focused on improving health literacy as a strategy that has proven its return on investment,” noted Accreditation Commission Chair, Nancyann Falvo, PhD. “I hope that by highlighting these outstanding organizations, more attention will be given to the link between increased health education and decreased preventable illness and injury.”

The Accreditation process, which includes an extensive self-study and peer review process, ensures that accredited members are credible and accountable in their educational programming and delivery. The process certifies that institutions have undergone a rigorous process of self-assessment as well as review by its peers and they fulfill their obligations to the public as set forth in their individual missions.

“It is an honor and privilege to be recognized by the prestigious National Association of Health Education Centers,” said Maryann Roper, RN, MA, Executive Director of the Health Awareness Center. The award validates the efforts put forth by our highly qualified team of nurses, dietitians, and educators who strive to provide quality health education programs to our schools, community, and businesses.”

For more information about NAHEC or its Accreditation Program, visit [www.nahec.org](http://www.nahec.org).

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#### About the National Association of Health Education Centers (NAHEC)

Established in 1989, the National Association of Health Education Centers (NAHEC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and promoting a national network of organizations that provide health education programs. Through this network, over 3.9 million children and adults receive health education that empowers them to actively participate in creating healthier communities. For more information about the National Association of Health Education Centers, visit [www.nahec.org](http://www.nahec.org).