

# Top Midsize Company

LEADING THE WAY IN EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION

When the Star Tribune came out with the Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota rankings on June 14, we were honored to find ourselves at the top spot for midsize companies. While we've always known our employees provide the best care, hearing they consider PHS such a great place to work is the icing on the cake.



**For more about our Top Workplace honor, search keywords: Top Midsize Workplace**

# Accredited since 1994

JOINT COMMISSION MAKES A VISIT TO PHS

The Joint Commission recently made a routine unannounced visit to PHS to ensure we are in compliance with their accreditation standards.

"We perform audits, hold process improvement groups, and provide extensive training to employees to ensure we are maintaining reliable, safe, and quality care for our patients,"

says PHS president Mark Hamman. "Being accredited shows the dedicated work and excellent patient care each employee brings to our company."

**To learn more about this accreditation, search keywords: Gold Seal of Approval**

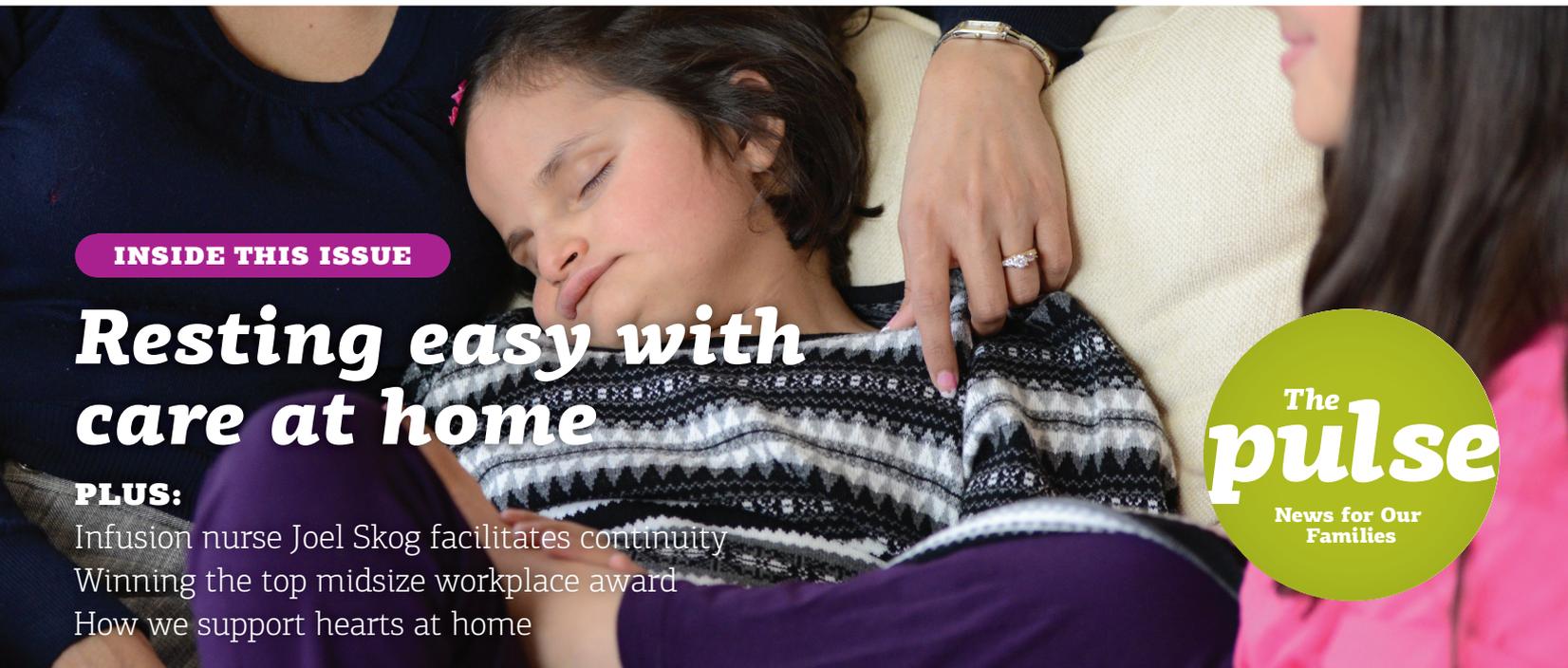


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# Thriving at Home

## SOPHIA CREATES A RIPPLE EFFECT



Diagnosed with Potocki-Shaffer syndrome as an infant, Sophia has always been a fighter. And thanks to lessons learned

from her daughter, Sophia's mom is able to bring this spirit to her high school classroom and fight for her students' needs.

"On a daily basis, I have 150 teenagers who go through my classroom," she said. "Somehow through Sophia and this experience



Anywhere you see this logo, you know you'll be reading a story about one of our All Stars, who are being featured monthly throughout 2015 as we celebrate 25 years!

with the nurses and everyone at PHS, I know I have to take care of them in a way that transcends their academic needs."

The support home care nursing provides has allowed Sophia's mom to spend quality time with her, rather than always being a caregiver.

"It's a good place to be, and I thank PHS with all of my heart. Without their excellent care, this would have never been possible. Now we can be a family. She's stable with vigilant care from the nurses, and she isn't going to the hospital all the time. And I get to be a mom."

**To meet Sophia and more 25 year all stars, search keywords: 25 Year All Stars**



Joel Skog, RN, BSN, CRNI

### Meet Joel Skog PROVIDING CONTINUITY FOR IV PATIENTS

After watching PHS infusion nurses come to his patient's home to administer therapy, Joel Skog – who was a home care nurse for another agency at the time – realized he was ready to develop this skill set and open an exciting new chapter in his nursing career.

After four years at PHS and a recent promotion to infusion nurse supervisor, he truly knows just how much an infusion nurse's day can change at a moment's notice – which is why he has a great passion for being able to coordinate the team of nurses to respond to unplanned needs, while still providing continuity of care for patients.

"Trying to make sure one infusion nurse is able to visit the same patient, appointment after appointment, and recognizing that a nurse knows this patient's nuances and details of their care – that is really impactful to me," said Joel.

**To learn more about Joel, search keywords: Joel Skog**



PHS patient Claire visits the capitol with her family and PHS staff

### Session Adjourned WHERE OUR EFFORTS LANDED

After over four months of hearings, bills, amendments, and negotiations, the 2015 legislative session adjourned on May 18 - but not before holding a special session to address unfinished business.

PHS focused on issues not addressed in the special session, meaning we were able to review where our efforts landed right away.

One of our top priorities, de-linking MN Medicaid rates for medical equipment from federal Medicare rates, was a major undertaking and was ultimately successful. By removing "competitive bidding" from Medicaid, providers can avoid unsustainable reimbursement rates for equipment that PHS and many Minnesota businesses carry.

PHS also focused on creating a third tier for intensive care pediatric home care nursing as well as a DME sales tax bill, both of which will be continued in the next legislative session.

**Read more about legislative outcomes by searching keyword: Adjourned**



Roy Maynard, MD

### Message from Our Medical Director

#### SUPPORTING HEARTS AT HOME

As a drug that increases the heart muscle's ability to self-contract, Milrinone is normally reserved for short-term management of heart failure in hospitalized intensive care unit patients.

However, after the first report on using Milrinone for pediatric outpatients was published in 2006, with subsequent studies supporting its use as a safe and cost effective option for selected children with heart failure, PHS provided Milrinone as a home-based infusion therapy for the first time in 2008.

Since then, 10 other pediatric patient referrals have benefitted from this intervention thanks to PHS infusion therapy service.

To better understand how Milrinone affects patients, PHS is conducting a study that will compare outcomes of our patients with previously published reports of children with Milrinone therapy.

**To learn more about the study, read Dr. Roy Maynard's article by searching keyword: Milrinone**

Pediatric Home Service can serve you **24 hours a day, 365 days a year.**  
Call **651-642-1825** or visit **PediatricHomeService.com.**