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FirstCare Health Plans Earns NCQA Accreditation
National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) is a nationally recognized evaluation program of health care services provided to health plan members.

AUSTIN, Texas (March 24, 2015) – FirstCare Health Plans announced today that it has earned three-year Accreditation status from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). We pursued this accreditation because of our commitment to the highest quality health care for our more than 175,000 members throughout 108 counties in west Texas.

NCQA Health Plan Accreditation, the industry's most meticulous, comprehensive and transparent health care accreditation program, is nationally recognized for its evaluation of the quality of health care services that a health plan provides its members.

"This accreditation confirms that FirstCare is fulfilling our commitment to quality for our members," said FirstCare President and CEO Darnell Dent. "It is an honor to be recognized for our hard work and dedication towards providing Texans with access to quality care and remaining strong in our belief that our communities should be healthy."

NCQA accreditation provides consumers and businesses with an unbiased third-party review to verify, score and publicly report health plan performance across the nation in five categories including: Access and Service, Qualified Providers, Staying Healthy, Getting Better and Living with Illness.

"We are proud of our dedicated staff for achieving NCQA Certification for the services we provide to our members and providers," commented FirstCare Chief Medical Officer Dr. Adolfo Valadez. "Meeting NCQA's rigorous standards demonstrates our commitment to providing quality health care services to the people of Texas, and it proves to anyone seeking affordable, high-quality health care coverage that they will receive the best from FirstCare Health Plans."

About NCQA
NCQA is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality. NCQA accredits and certifies a wide range of health care organizations. It also recognizes clinicians and practices in key areas of performance. NCQA's Web site (www.ncqa.org) contains information to help consumers, employers and others make more informed health care choices.

About FirstCare Health Plans

Our mission is to provide access to high quality, affordable health care through strong partnerships in the communities we serve. Since 1985, we've been serving the health care needs of members across North, West, and Central Texas. Today, our service area includes 108 counties, with local offices in Abilene, Amarillo, Lubbock, Waco, and corporate offices in Austin, Texas. We offer a wide range of HMO, PPO, HSA, and ASO products through a variety of programs, including small and large employer plans; state, federal and teacher plans; government programs; and the Health Insurance Marketplace. With the support of our owners, Covenant Health in Lubbock and Hendrick Health System in Abilene, we serve over 175,000 members. For more information, please visit www.firstcare.com.

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