



**APPLE TREE DENTAL**

Access • Compassion • Excellence



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## **Apple Tree Dental honored at UCare’s “A Salute to Excellence!” awards ceremony**

### ***22 Minnesota clinics and care systems recognized for outstanding results in 2022 HEDIS measures and innovation***

MINNEAPOLIS, October 18, 2023 — [UCare](#) held its 15th annual “A Salute to Excellence!” event Thursday evening, September 21, at the [Delta Hotels](#) in northeast Minneapolis to recognize 21 clinics and care systems with top results in 2022 Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures – including preventive care, disease management, behavioral health, maternity care, care transitions and medication management. Apple Tree Dental received UCare’s Innovation Award for implementing innovative approaches to improve dental access for Medicaid and uninsured populations across the lifespan, from pre-schoolers to nursing home residents.

This year’s A Salute to Excellence! evening was attended by more than 50 health care clinicians and staff. The evening opened with remarks from UCare President and CEO Hilary Marden-Resnik, followed by a feature presentation from Julia Joseph-Di Caprio, MD, founder of Leap Pediatric and Adolescent Care, about the rewards and challenges of starting a local, non-profit community-based practice. UCare’s Innovation Award was then presented to Apple Tree Dental by UCare Vice President of Provider Relations and Contracting Cathy VonRueden. Next, UCare Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer Tenbit Emiru, MD, PhD, MBA, honored guests with UCare Excellence in Health Care Awards for their quality results.

“At UCare, we are deeply grateful for the extraordinary efforts our health care partners take to put their patients and UCare members first,” said Marden-Resnik at the event. “This evening of celebration, gratitude and awards is one of the highlights of the year. We enjoy taking the time to recognize health care partners like you who enable us to fulfill our quality care promise to members.”

**About Apple Tree Dental**

*Founded in 1985, Apple Tree Dental’s mission is to overcome barriers to oral health. Apple Tree is a Critical Access Dental provider that delivers comprehensive dental services to individuals and families at nine Centers for Dental Health throughout Minnesota. Apple Tree also delivers on-site care at 150 community partner locations for vulnerable communities using the industry’s latest technologies. With special expertise in pediatric, geriatric, and special needs populations, Apple Tree is nationally recognized for its pioneering approach to integrating dental care as part of overall health and wellbeing. For more information, visit [www.appletreedental.org](http://www.appletreedental.org).*

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