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Apothecary By Design Receives Governor’s Award for Business Excellence

Maine-Based Pharmacy Also Ranked a “Best Place to Work”

PORTLAND, Maine, Oct. 14, 2015 — Apothecary By Design, an independent, Maine-based, specialty, retail and compounding pharmacy, on Oct. 14 received the 2015 Governor’s Award for Business Excellence, just a week after being named one of the “best places to work in Maine.”

The 25th annual Governor’s Award, given to six organizations this year, honors Maine companies that have demonstrated commitment to their employees, communities and overall business excellence. Administered by the state’s Department of Economic and Community Development, the annual awards have recognized 138 companies since 1991.

In that time, ABD is one of only six healthcare organizations to receive the award.

ABD Chief Executive Officer Mark McAuliffe was presented with the GABE at a reception in Augusta.

“These businesses represent the best of the best here in Maine,” Gov. Paul R. LePage said in a press release. “I am particularly pleased that each of these businesses has shown a commitment to investment, innovation, their communities and our great state.”

On Oct. 7, ABD was ranked the No. 15 “best place to work in Maine,” among more than 40 mid-size employers, by the Maine State Council of the Society for Human Resource Management.

The 10th annual ranking was based on anonymous employee surveys and other data assembled by a private firm and endorsed by the Maine State Chamber of Commerce and the Maine Department of Labor.

This year’s list recognized a total of 75 employers, or about one-third of those that completed the evaluation process, according to the society. In 2014, ABD ranked No. 17 among mid-size (50-249 employees) organizations on the list.

More numbers – ABD makes the Inc. 5000

Business magazine Inc. in August ranked ABD No. 4 in Maine on the magazine’s annual list of the 5,000 fastest-growing private companies in the United States. Only nine Maine companies made the list, and ABD was by far the one with the greatest revenues – twice those of the next-largest ranked company in the state.

ABD was No. 1,122 – among the top 23 percent – in the national ranking, and No. 111 among the 380 fastest-growing private companies in healthcare. The ranking was based on ABD’s three-year revenue growth of 382 percent, up to \$89.8 million in 2014, and the addition of 45 employees.

In comparison, last year ABD was ranked No. 1,813 on the list, based on a sales increase of 228 percent and the hiring of 35 employees.

New accreditation, new partner

Also in early August, ABD received accreditation from Accreditation Commission on Health Care. ACHC is a nonprofit, third-party accreditation organization that has developed national quality standards by which providers of healthcare products and services are measured.

In 2014, ABD received accreditation from another leading healthcare standard-setting organization, URAC.

In addition, ABD recently entered into a strategic partnership with BelHealth Investment Partners (BelHealth), a healthcare-focused private equity firm. BelHealth will assist ABD in rapidly expanding its national footprint in specialty pharmacy, using Portland as a base and leveraging the high-touch service model ABD has built in Maine.

About Apothecary By Design

Apothecary By Design is a fast-growing, independent, specialty, retail and compounding pharmacy with a high-touch service model and a focus on advocating for patients with chronic, complex diseases. Headquartered in Portland, Maine, ABD provides intensive case management services to patients locally and nationally with complex medical conditions such as HIV, hepatitis C, MS and infertility. With specialty medications typically costing \$3,000 per patient per month, ABD's staff also assists with prior insurance authorization and patient benefits, in order to optimize treatment at the lowest possible cost. Through support, education and advocacy, ABD puts patients on a path toward better health and quality of life.

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