



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER RECOGNIZES ST. LUKE'S FOR EXCELLENCE IN NURSING

St. Luke's Receives Re-Designation as a Magnet Hospital

BOISE, ID (February 2, 2006) -- The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association and the nation's leading nursing credentialing organization, has re-designated St. Luke's as a Magnet Hospital; recognition for excellence in nursing service, the gold standard by which nursing is measured. The re-designation applies to St. Luke's hospitals in Boise and Meridian.

St. Luke's was the 39th hospital in the nation to receive this prestigious designation. Other hospitals to receive Magnet recognition include Cedar Sinai, Los Angeles; Mayo-Rochester, Rochester, Minnesota; University of Washington, Seattle, and Robert Wood Johnson, New Brunswick, NJ. St. Luke's was the first hospital in Idaho and the second in the Mountain States Region to receive this award. To date, a total of 190 hospitals have received Magnet designation.

ANCC recognized St. Luke's for exemplary nursing leadership and quality patient care. ANCC's Magnet Recognition Program for Excellence in Nursing Services was developed to provide national recognition of acute care facilities that provide exceptional nursing care.

"Being named a Magnet Hospital is a true honor and we are so proud of our entire staff," said Noreen Davis, RN, senior vice president of nursing and patient care services at St. Luke's. "Receiving re-designation demonstrates our ongoing commitment to achieving excellence in the care we provide to our patients; something that is our top priority. It is an effort that can only come about with exceptional teamwork from nursing, other dedicated staff, volunteers, physicians, and leaders who make a commitment to excellence in nursing and patient care.

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ANCC's Magnet Status is a volunteer peer-review process whereby a team of professional registered nurses with experience in quality indicators, nursing administration, and nursing care appraises a hospital's nursing services, clinical outcomes, and patient care delivery. The appraisers not only review traditional "nurse-sensitive" indicators, but also conduct extensive interviews that help evaluate the management philosophy and advocacy practices of the Chief Nurse Executive and other nursing leadership with respect to the patient, family, community and nursing services.

"Our nursing professionals have again made us very proud," noted Ed Dahlberg, president and CEO of St. Luke's. Their dedication to our patients is clear in all they do and we appreciate the Magnet Commission's award of Magnet designation that formally acknowledges their ongoing commitment to excellence."

Established in 1993, the Magnet Recognition Program for Excellence in Nursing Services is the highest level of recognition by ANCC available to facilities that provide excellent short-term care services. The program recognizes excellence in management philosophy and practices in nursing services; adherence to standards for improving quality of nursing care; leadership of the chief nurse executive in supporting professional practice; competence of nursing personnel; and attention to the cultural and ethnic needs of patients and their care providers.

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