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Advocate Lutheran General Hospital Awarded 2012 Silver Award for “Progress toward Excellence” from Illinois Performance Excellence

Naperville, IL (December 4, 2012) - Illinois Performance Excellence today announced that **Advocate Lutheran General Hospital** is a recipient of the 2012 Silver Award for “Progress toward Excellence” for demonstrating sound and notable continuous improvement principles. Recipients of the Illinois Performance Excellence (ILPEX) Silver Award go to those organizations which have demonstrated effective, systematic well-deployed approaches that respond to the overall requirements, for most items, in the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence, and are aligned with organizational needs.

“Congratulations to the Advocate Lutheran General Hospital associates, physicians, and volunteers who lifted us to the Silver Award. It recognizes the progress we have made on our journey to be *Always the Best*,” said Anthony A. Armada, FACHE, and President of Lutheran General. “I am proud to serve in an organization that seeks opportunities to learn and improve so that we can provide the best place for patients to heal, physicians to practice and associates to work.”

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital will be honored at the ILPEX Quest for Excellence Conference and formally bestowed the award at the 18th annual recognition ceremony, “Saluting Excellence,” both events to be held on March 22, 2013, in Naperville, IL.

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and Advocate Children’s Hospital in Park Ridge is a tertiary care, academic and research hospital and the only Level 1 trauma center in the Northwest suburban region of Chicago. Advocate Lutheran General Hospital has been recognized 13 times as one of the 100 Top Hospital by Thomson Reuters, the only hospital in Illinois and one of 28 named by the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) as providing exemplary outcomes in surgical patient care. The hospital was also the first in the North and Northwest suburbs to be awarded the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s prestigious Magnet designation, the highest honor and level of nursing excellence in the nation and certified as a primary stroke center by the Joint Commission.

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital is part of the Oak Brook based Advocate Health Care, which is the largest health care provider in Illinois and one of the nation’s top health care systems. Advocate serves the health needs of the Chicago metropolitan area through 10 acute care hospitals, including two children’s hospitals, the region’s largest medical group,

comprehensive home health and hospice services. Advocate is a not-for-profit, faith-based organization.

“Congratulations to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and all of its employees for its progress to an on-going journey to excellence,” says Darcy Davidsmeyer, President and CEO of Illinois Performance Excellence. “Health care delivery systems face numerous challenges in achieving patient care and safety. Addressing organizational performance and process and resource alignment is the best way to get efficiencies, focus and sustainability within any organization.”

The 2012 Board of Examiners -- made up of nearly 100 experts in business, education, health care and government -- work in teams, spending more than 1700 hours assessing each applicant in seven categories: leadership, strategic planning; customer focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; workforce focus; operations focus and results. The ILPEX Panel of Judges is responsible for validating the integrity of the ILPEX award process and determining recognition level for each applicant. The ILPEX Award for Excellence has three levels of recognition with recipients meeting various stages of performance.

About Illinois Performance Excellence

Illinois Performance Excellence (ILPEX) empowers organizations to understand and use the framework of the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence, moving to a systematic “view” which translates into alignment and sustainability. As a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization, ILPEX’s vision is to create a culture of excellence that is pervasive throughout Illinois. Four Illinois organizations have been honored with the prestigious Baldrige National Quality Award, they are: Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital – 2010; Community Consolidated School District 15 – 2003; Motorola Commercial, Government & Industrial Solutions Sector – 2002; Motorola. Inc. – 1988.

For more information on how your organization can benefit from services provided by Illinois Performance Excellence, visit www.ilpex.org, or call 630-637-1595 extension 3.

For more information on the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, visit www.nist.gov/baldrige/.

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