

10-2008

## The Beat: October 2008

CentraCare Health

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**Do you have an idea for the Beat?**

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## You deserve to feel proud of your work, CentraCare



Dear Friends:

*From those scary, tear-filled moments in the emergency room to the gentle removal of a little boy's grimy, autograph-covered cast, we are there.*

*From the jittery, uncertain wait in the lobby for a chemical dependency assessment to the triumphant completion of treatment, we are there.*

*From the sadness of leaving the home where she raised her family to Grandma's contentment in her assisted-living apartment, we are there.*

These are the opening words of the 2008 CentraCare Health System Annual Report, which we will distribute this fall to community leaders at Report to the Community breakfasts in St. Cloud, Long Prairie and Melrose. We conduct these meetings each autumn as part of our effort to be transparent to our communities. We highlight our services, give an update on the system's finances and share patient success stories.

The meetings provide an opportunity to engage opinion leaders in the work that we do, in our efforts to improve the health of every patient, every day. It is important that the communities we serve trust that we are spending their health care dollars wisely, that our clinical work is of the highest quality, and that we have their best interests in mind in all that we do.

By early November, copies of the annual report will be available on CentraNet and [www.centracare.com](http://www.centracare.com) as well as in lobbies throughout the health system. I encourage you to take a few moments to look through the report, to take pride in the great work that you and your co-workers do. As stated in the annual report:

*A friendly face.*

*A straight answer.*

*A reassuring handshake.*

*Combine those with technical knowledge and clinical expertise – and you have a CentraCare staff member who can make a difference.*

Sincerely,



Terry Pladson, M.D.  
President/CEO, CentraCare Health System

Coborn's and other grocers from around the state provide hope to children with cancer by hosting the Grocers on the Green Golf Tournament each year in early September. The tournament has raised more than \$703,000 since 2001! Tournament proceeds benefit St. Cloud Hospital Pediatric Cancer Services through the Pediatric Cancer Fund of CentraCare Health Foundation. For more information about CentraCare Health Foundation, call 240-2810.

- Four convenient locations at St. Cloud Hospital, Heartland Clinic, CentraCare Health Plaza and Becker that are open to the public and accept most major insurance plans;
- Lower co-pay for Mayo/CentraCare health plan participants;
- Continuity of care as a result of patient record access by CentraCare pharmacists;
- Drive-through to pick up prescriptions at the St. Cloud Hospital location;
- Online prescription transfers and refills available at all CentraCare Pharmacy sites. For online prescription transfers and refills go to [www.centracare.com](http://www.centracare.com) and click on Prescription Refill Request.