

8-2009

## The Beat: August 2009

CentraCare Health

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.centracare.com/the-beat>

 Part of the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

---

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

Contact Chris Nelson  
in Communications by calling  
(320) 229-5199, ext. 71384,  
or e-mail [nelsonc@centracare.com](mailto:nelsonc@centracare.com)

## CentraCare ranks among state's 'Best Places to Work'



Dear Friends:

Congratulations! You are employed by one of the Best Places to Work in Minnesota.

CentraCare Health System has earned this recognition from the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*, which based the award entirely on employees' responses to an online survey conducted this spring by Quantum Market Research. Employees were asked to respond to 37 statements using a six-point scale, ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree. Among the statements:

- I find my job interesting and challenging.
- Considering the value I bring to the organization, I feel I am paid fairly.
- There is open and honest communication between employees and managers.
- I understand how my job helps the organization achieve success.
- The leaders of this organization demonstrate integrity.

The statements were divided into 10 categories, including team effectiveness, trust with co-workers, feeling valued, and manager effectiveness.

This wonderful honor does not surprise me. Just two months ago in this space, I wrote, "CentraCare Health System is a great place to work" and noted that many of us have found it to be so for decades. The Best Places to Work award indicates that we find our work interesting, challenging and rewarding, and that we know we are making a difference. It is important that we, as employees of a health care system, feel good about our work because engaged employees provide better care and support to patients and their families.

CentraCare, along with other Best Places to Work winners, is featured in the Aug. 28 edition of the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*, is noted at <http://twincities.bizjournals.com/twincities/> and was honored at an Aug. 27 luncheon in Minneapolis.

Again, congratulations on this honor — and thank you for your role in making CentraCare one of Minnesota's Best Places to Work!

Sincerely,



Terry Pladson, MD  
President, CentraCare Health System

## ICU receives Beacon Award

The Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at St. Cloud Hospital is honored to be a recipient of the Beacon Award for Critical Care Excellence. This is the second time the ICU has received the Beacon Award given by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. The Beacon Award is given to recognize:

- Excellence in the intensive care environment in which nurses work and critically ill patients are treated;
- Excellence of the highest quality measures, processes, structures and outcomes based upon evidence;
- Excellence in collaboration, communication and partnerships that support the value of healing and humane environments.

## Critical care program celebrates five years

The five-year anniversary of the intensivist-directed St. Cloud Hospital critical care program was Aug. 23. It was one of the first programs in the state to have doctors trained and certified in the specialty of critical care medicine. Scott Davis, MD, medical director of the ICU, was instrumental in getting the program off the ground. He later was joined by Drs. John Olsen and Sandeep Jain. These doctors work exclusively in the ICU to respond to urgent patient needs. Pulmonologists Jeff Kowitz, MD; Keith Leavell, MD; David Risher, MD; and David Shuster, MD, also assist with the critical care program.

## Businesses may not advertise in CentraCare lobbies

Employees may remove from the lobbies of CentraCare facilities any brochures, fliers or other materials promoting businesses such as restaurants, scrubs suppliers or competing health care providers. You also may deny any requests that you receive to post such materials in our facilities. If you are in doubt about materials that you see, please contact the Communications department, ext. 74980, to determine whether they meet our criteria.

## CentraCare Clinic news

Kudos to...

- George Morris, MD, CentraCare Clinic – Health Plaza, who was the medical director for the 2009 Twin Cities Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk Aug. 21-23. Dr. Morris oversaw participants' medical needs during this event.
- CentraCare Clinic – Women & Children received \$3,000 from Target and \$500 from Walmart for the Reach Out & Read program to purchase children's books for their pediatric patients.

- Two new physicians joined CentraCare Clinic – Long Prairie in August.

**Thomas Ferry, MD**, is a board-certified family medicine physician who received his medical degree and completed his residency in family medicine and general surgery at the University of Minnesota. Most recently, he practiced in Zimmerman, Minn.



**Suresh Gundaji, MBBS**, is a family medicine physician who received his medical degree from Osmania Medical College in Hyderabad, India, and completed his residency at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport Monroe, La.



## Recovery Plus celebrates 38 years of service

Employees and volunteers are invited to join the Recovery Plus staff for an open house from 1:30-4 p.m. Sept. 17 to celebrate National Recovery Month and the 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Recovery Plus. There will be tours of the new addition, guest alumni speakers and viewing of the Recovery Art Gallery. Attendees can build their own ice cream sundaes.

## SBSC receives recognition for quality improvement

St. Benedict's Senior Community was recognized as one of the 2009 recipients of the Step I National Quality Award presented by the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living. The award recognizes providers that have developed a foundation to begin a journey of continuous quality improvement.

## Long Prairie becomes level IV trauma hospital

Long Prairie Memorial Hospital (LPMH) has been named a Level IV trauma hospital by the Minnesota Department of Health. As a Level IV trauma hospital, LPMH provides stabilization and treatment of severely injured patients. To be designated, LPMH demonstrated compliance in several areas, such as proper emergency room and operating room procedures and equipment, professional trauma education and post-trauma peer review processes.

## Marketing, Communications receive awards

CentraCare Health System was recognized July 23 by the Minnesota Health Strategy & Communications Network with five awards to recognize excellence in research, planning, marketing, communications, public relations and community relations.

## Inpatient dialysis receives Patriot Award

Jennifer Deering, a National Guard member and an employee of the St. Cloud Hospital inpatient dialysis unit, nominated her department for the Patriot Award — and won. The Minnesota Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), gave the dialysis unit a pin and certificate of appreciation July 22. This past spring, health system President Terry Pladson, MD, signed a statement of support for the ESGR in demonstration of CentraCare's ongoing support of employees who serve their country, or have family members who serve.