



**American Hospital
Association®**

NEWS RELEASE

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AHA AWARD OF HONOR TO BE PRESENTED TO THE OHIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION'S ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

WASHINGTON (April 3, 2014) – The American Hospital Association (AHA) will present its 2014 Award of Honor to the Ohio Hospital Association (OHA) for its OHA Energy and Sustainability Program. The award, presented on May 5 as part of the AHA's Annual Meeting, is given to individuals or organizations in recognition of exemplary contributions to the health and well-being of our nation through leadership on major health policy or social initiatives.

The OHA Energy and Sustainability program assists hospitals in becoming more energy efficient, improving the overall environmental and public health of their communities while also reducing energy expenses. Through the program, Ohio hospitals are able to access association-provided energy audits. OHA has been authorized to obtain electric, natural gas and water usage from the utility companies that supply hospitals, after which OHA enters the data leading to an ENERGY STAR score. Individual hospital energy usage and benchmark scores remain confidential, but can be useful for comparison with other hospitals. The OHA benchmarking initiative will also make participating hospitals eligible for recognition by the Healthier Hospitals Initiative and other recognition programs.

“The Ohio Hospital Association has proven to be a leader in environmental stewardship and in convening its members in support of the work being done by individual hospitals,” said AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock. “The AHA is pleased to honor OHA in recognition of its

leadership in helping hospitals improve energy efficiency, prevent pollution and advance the environmental health of hospitals and communities.”

Another key value provided to participating hospitals comes through educational opportunities and conferences that can assist hospital decision-makers in understanding the environment, examining current trends affecting hospital operations, identifying examples for moving forward, as well as on key topics of pharmaceutical take-backs and proper pharmaceutical waste management.

In addition, the OHA program represents the needs and concerns of hospitals as they relate to negotiating electric market deregulation and renewable portfolio standards with the state government, working with utility companies related to design and communication of rebate and incentive programs, as well as coordinating with a natural gas endorsed supplier.

Rhonda Anderson, RN, chief executive officer of Cardon Children’s Medical Center in Phoenix will also receive the 2014 AHA Award of Honor.

Previous Award of Honor winners include organizations such as Reach out and Read, Ronald McDonald House Charities®, the Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare, the Center to Advance Palliative Care, the Institute for Safe Medication Practices and Habitat for Humanity. Individuals such as George Halvorson, chairman and CEO of Kaiser Permanente, Steven A. Schroeder, M.D., former president and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Donald M. Berwick, M.D., former administrator of the Department of Health and Human Services’ Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and former president and CEO of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement have also been honored.

About the American Hospital Association

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the improvement of health in their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which include nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks and other providers of care. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. For more information visit the website at www.aha.org.

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