



## **NEWS**

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Saint Luke's Hospital achieves national recognition for nursing care**

*Magnet re-designation puts hospital in top 2 percent in nation*

*KANSAS CITY, Mo.* – The nurses at Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City have done it again.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Magnet Recognition Program® for excellence in nursing services has once again designated Saint Luke's Hospital as a Magnet hospital. The hospital initially achieved Magnet designation in 2004.

To date, approximately 6.2 percent of all health care organizations in the U.S. have achieved Magnet Designation. Re-designation puts Saint Luke's in an elite category; only 2 percent of all hospitals in the nation have been designated twice, according to ANCC.

“Magnet recognition is to nursing what a Super Bowl victory is to professional football,” said Debbie White, RN, MSN, MSA, ACNS-BC, NEA-BC, vice president and Chief Nursing Officer, Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City. “To earn Magnet status once is a tremendous accomplishment and a great source of pride for our nurses. To retain Magnet status for another four years really underscores the commitment of our entire staff to continually strive harder each day to meet the health care needs of the people we serve.”

According to the ANCC, the leading nursing credentialing organization in the U.S., Magnet designation is widely accepted as the gold standard of patient care. The Magnet Recognition Program recognizes excellence and professionalism in nursing. Applicants undergo an extensive evaluation, and members who are awarded Magnet status must continue to maintain rigorous standards as part of their four-year designation. To reapply for and receive Magnet status for an additional four years is confirmation of the hospital's resolve to deliver the highest level of care in nursing today.

Research shows that Magnet hospitals are more effective at attracting and keeping quality nurses.

“We’re a better institution today because of our Magnet designation four years ago,” said White. “It raised the bar on patient care and inspired all of us to strive to be even better and stay committed to Saint Luke’s vision to be ‘The Best Place to Get Care. The Best Place to Give Care.’”

Saint Luke’s Hospital has a long tradition of excellence in nursing. Strong retention rates can be attributed to nursing involvement in decisions about nursing practice through a shared governance model, a behavior-based career advancement program that allows nurses to control their own career path, recognition programs, and continual monitoring of employee satisfaction.

Excellent nursing care translates to high patient satisfaction. Each year since 1996, Kansas City consumers have ranked Saint Luke’s Hospital first for quality health care services in the metropolitan area, according to the National Research Corporation.

Magnet Designation places Saint Luke’s Hospital in another elite category – in 2003 Saint Luke’s Hospital became one of the first health care organizations in the country to ever win the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the highest award a business can receive for quality management and performance.

Saint Luke’s Hospital of Kansas City employs approximately 1,000 nurses.

For more information about Magnet Designation, visit [www.nursecredentialing.org](http://www.nursecredentialing.org).

*Saint Luke’s Hospital is a 623-bed tertiary care hospital located at 44<sup>th</sup> and Wornall Road in Kansas City, Mo. Founded in 1882, it is the flagship hospital in Saint Luke’s Health System, which consists of 11 area hospitals and several primary and specialty care practices, and provides a range of inpatient, outpatient, and home care services. Founded as a faith-based, not-for-profit organization, our mission includes a commitment to the highest levels of excellence in health care and the advancement of medical research and education. The health system is an aligned organization in which the physicians and hospitals assume responsibility for enhancing the physical, mental and spiritual health of people in the metropolitan Kansas City area and the surrounding region.*

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