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Lawrence General Hospital Recognized as a ‘Community Value Five-Star Hospital’

LAWRENCE, MA – Lawrence General Hospital has been recognized as a top-ranked Community Value Provider by Cleverley + Associates (Columbus, OH). Cleverley + Associates, a leading health care financial consulting firm specializing in operational benchmarking and performance enhancement strategies, released the findings as part of its new publication: *State of the Hospital Industry - 2010 Edition*.

“Lawrence General is honored to receive the *Community Value Five-Star Award*. We are particularly proud to be identified as one of the highest scoring facilities (top 20% in our peer group) in the country in measures of quality of care and costs,” said Dianne J. Anderson, President and CEO. “These awards serve as independent validation that Lawrence General’s quality scores exceed those of its peer hospitals, while our charges and costs are significantly lower than peer hospitals in our region. Health care value and value-based purchasing of health care services are increasingly important concepts driving health care reform, and Lawrence General continues to prove that high quality hospital care can indeed cost less.” Vice President of Philanthropy & Marketing, Nicholas S. Zaharias, adds “We are extremely proud to be the only remaining not-for-profit community Hospital serving the immediate region; the stronger we become, the more resources we reinvest into improved, local, high-value health care for the citizens of the Merrimack Valley.”

The *2010 State of the Hospital Industry* reports an exclusive measure developed by Cleverley + Associates: the **Community Value Index® (CVI)**. The CVI is a proprietary index created to offer a measure of the value that a hospital provides to its community. The book outlines the data used to calculate the CVI as well as provides a list of the Top 100 and all Five-Star (top 20%) hospitals across the USA.

“The topic of hospital value is increasingly being discussed. Issues of pricing and community benefit have been well-publicized but little has been offered to measure the broad scope of value,” adds James Cleverley, co-author. “In response, the **Community Value Index®** was created to provide an assessment of a hospital’s performance in four areas: financial strength and reinvestment, cost of care, pricing, and quality. Fundamentally, the CVI suggests that a hospital provides value to the community when it is financially viable, is appropriately reinvesting back into the facility, maintains a low cost structure, has reasonable charges, and provides high quality care to patients.”

Lawrence General Hospital’s mission of care began in 1875 when founded by The Ladies Union Charitable Society. The first hospital in the central Merrimack Valley of northeastern Massachusetts, LGH is a high access, high value, innovative, not-for-profit community health care provider. In 2010, Lawrence General Hospital clinically affiliated with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) and Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center. Lawrence General’s commitment to the health needs of the community is guided by a Board of Trustees from our service area, and carried out by 1,400 employees, and 200 volunteers. Lawrence General Hospital provided over \$4,200,000 in Community Benefits to the Merrimack Valley region in 2010.

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For more information about the CVI, visit:

<http://www.cleverleyassociates.com/CommunityValue/AboutTheCVI/Default.aspx>

For more information about Lawrence General: <http://www.lawrencegeneral.org>



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