



Mercy Considers Sponsorship of Joplin Hospital

The Sisters of Mercy Health System (Mercy) has signed a letter of intent with Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) to transfer the sponsorship of St. John's Regional Medical Center in Joplin, Mo., from CHI to Mercy. A period of due diligence is underway and, if successful, the transfer of sponsorship would take place later this year.

The proximity of St. John's Regional to the communities served by Mercy makes this relationship a natural extension in terms of Mercy's geographic presence. St. John's Regional and Mercy also share a history as health ministries that were founded by the Sisters of Mercy and that continue to be shaped by this faith-based heritage.

St. John's Regional includes a 367-bed hospital and Level 2 trauma center in Joplin, a 25-bed rural hospital in Columbus, Kan., and a physician clinic network representing 74 primary care and specialty physicians. The organization is served by more than 2,200 employees and 250 physicians representing more than 40 specialties. •

Mississippi Health Advocacy Program Receives Consumer Assistance Grant

Mississippi Health Advocacy Program (MHAP), one of Mercy's sponsored community-based ministries, has received a grant totaling nearly \$800,000 from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. MHAP will use the funds to provide Mississippi's parents with resources for healthcare advocacy on behalf of their children. They will do this by

combining counseling, representation, data collection, evaluation and citizen stories to inform policymakers and health providers. The W.K. Kellogg Foundation supports children, families and communities as they strengthen and create conditions that enable vulnerable children to achieve success as individuals and as contributors to the larger community and society. •

St. John's Hospital Receives \$1 Million Endowment, Becomes St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Affiliate

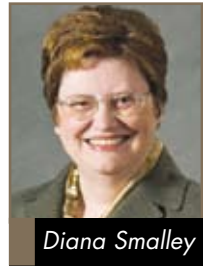


William and Jane Pitt (center) with their family, Rob and Julie Neal (left) and Doug and Julie Pitt (right)

On June 13, St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Mo., announced plans for expanded children's healthcare services that include a formal affiliation with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis and the recruitment of the region's first pediatric hematology/oncology physician, who will join St. John's on August 1. A \$1 million endowment to fund the position was given to St. John's by the family of Jane Pitt, including the Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie family, Doug and Lisa Pitt and Rob and Julie Neal.

St. John's Jane Pitt Pediatric Cancer Center will open this summer in a temporary location within St. John's Hospital. St. John's will be the sixth St. Jude affiliated pediatric hematology-oncology clinic in the U.S., serving children throughout southwest Missouri and northern Arkansas. •

Oklahoma CEO Elected to Healthcare Society



Diana Smalley

Diana Smalley, FACHE, president and CEO of Mercy Health System of Oklahoma, has been elected to serve on the Board of Governors of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), a professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives. She will serve a three-year term representing ACHE affiliates on the organization's Board of Governors, the authority that manages ACHE operations and member services. •

Sister Honored for Service to Laredo, Texas



Sr. Rosemary Welsh, RSM, accepts her award from Laredo Community College President Juan Maldonado.

Sister Rosemary Welsh, RSM, director of outreach services at Mercy Ministries of Laredo's Mercy Primary Healthcare Services, and executive director of Casa de Misericordia,

recently was honored by Laredo Community College with the 2009 President's Beacon Award. The award recognizes individuals whose altruistic efforts have improved and advanced the welfare of Laredo and its residents. Sr. Rosemary was recognized for more than 30 years of service to the community. •

St. Joseph's Mercy Receives Three AFMC Quality Awards

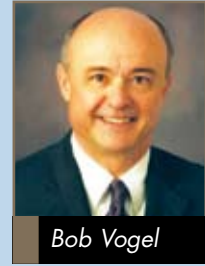


St. Joseph's Mercy COO Anna Silva (left) accepts the three AFMC awards, along with Quality Improvement Coordinator Shelley Fedor, Vice President-Medical Affairs Mark Larey, DO, Executive Director of Quality Assurance Anita Gottlieb and Clinical Outcomes Coordinator Lynn Pellegrino.

St. Joseph's Mercy Health Center in Hot Springs, Ark., recently was honored by the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care (AFMC) with multiple quality improvement awards:

- An Innovator Award for the development and implementation of "Hands Across Hot Springs," a community educational project that helped kick off the World Health Organization's worldwide "5 Moments for Hand Hygiene" campaign.

Mercy VP Retires



Bob Vogel

Bob Vogel, vice president-managed care consulting for Mercy and interim CEO of Mercy Health Plans (MHP), has retired after 15 years of service to Mercy.

During his time with Mercy, Vogel was instrumental in guiding Mercy's managed care efforts, including the expansion of MHP into new service areas and increasing health plan/provider integration. He will continue to serve on MHP's board of directors and in a part-time consulting capacity as needed.

Lynn Britton, Mercy president and CEO, and Ron Ashworth, chair of the board of directors of Mercy Health Ministry, Mercy's governing body, will manage the duties of MHP's CEO role until a successor is found. Responsibility for managed care contracting has been assumed by Randy Combs, Mercy's chief financial officer. •

- A first-place Most Improved Award for having the highest reduction in failure rates of appropriate core measures from 2007 to 2008.
 - A second-place Best Achievement Award for having the second highest appropriate core measures from 2007 to 2008.
- St. Joseph's Mercy was one of only three hospitals in the state to be presented three awards. •

Mercy Leader Named to CHA Board

Brian O'Toole, Ph.D., senior vice president of mission and ethics for Mercy, has been elected to the Catholic Health Association (CHA) board of trustees. He will serve a three-year term. •



Brian O'Toole, Ph.D.

George Flynn Named to Performance Improvement Leadership Role



George Flynn

George Flynn, current president and CEO of Mercy Health System of Northwest Arkansas, has been named senior vice president of performance improvement for Mercy. In this new position, he will

provide executive leadership for areas that support performance improvement across the health system, including performance management, project management, operations consulting and the use of change management methodologies such as Six Sigma, CAP, Work-Out® and Lean.

Flynn will continue to serve as president and CEO of Mercy Health System of Northwest Arkansas during the search for a new CEO, and will transfer to his new position upon the arrival of a new CEO in Northwest Arkansas. •

Leadership Changes

Jim Best has been named chief – business alignment for Mercy Information Services Division, in addition to his current role as vice president – regional implementation in support of Genesis–Epic activities.



Jim Best



Rene Crosswhite

Rene Crosswhite has been named president – financial analytics and planning for the Sisters of Mercy Health System.

Jim Gebhart, FACHE, has been named president of Mercy Health Center in Oklahoma City.



Jim Gebhart



Rhonda Hanan



Lynne Mitchell

Rhonda Hanan, RN, has been named vice president and chief nursing officer for Mercy Memorial Health Center in Ardmore, Okla.

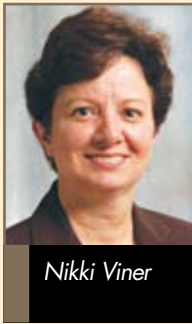
Lynne Mitchell has been named regional chief financial officer (CFO) for the Sisters of Mercy Health System's Arkansas facilities.



David Tew



Curtis Thompson



Nikki Viner

David Tew has been named chief operating officer for Mercy Health System of Oklahoma.

Curtis Thompson has been named vice president, payor relations and contracting for the Sisters of Mercy Health System.

Nikki Viner has been named vice president of market development for the Sisters of Mercy Health System. •



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