



For Immediate Release

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Mercy Medical Center Receives Energy Star Building Designation

ROGERS, Ark. (January 14, 2010) – Mercy Health System of Northwest Arkansas is pleased to announce that Mercy Medical Center has received recognition from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as an Energy Star labeled building.

Only 96 hospitals have ever received Energy Star certification, and only 21 hospitals in the country are currently Energy Star certified. Mercy Medical Center is the only hospital in Northwest Arkansas currently recognized as an Energy Star labeled building, and the first hospital in the Sisters of Mercy Health System to achieve this recognition.



“Stewardship has historically been a guiding principle for Mercy, and one way we are able to work out this mission is through the efficient management of the resources at our disposal,” said George McFerron, Director of Facilities for Mercy. “The recognition from Energy Star is a meaningful validation of our efforts, and we look forward to maintaining our Energy Star status on an annual basis.”

A critical partner in Mercy’s energy efficiency success is TME, Inc. Little Rock-based TME designed the mechanical and electrical features of Mercy Medical Center allowing Mercy to realize the efficiency gains necessary to achieve Energy Star recognition.

“TME congratulates the entire Mercy Health System team for achievement of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Energy Star Award,” states Ed Tinsley, Managing Principal/Chairman of the Board for TME, Inc. “Mercy Health System of Northwest Arkansas is leading the healthcare industry in energy efficiency as a result of the hospital’s strong commitment to reducing its carbon footprint and achieving its energy goals.”

Additional energy partners that employed solutions and technologies at Mercy Medical Center contributing to Mercy’s energy conservation success include:

- Grainger – for the implementation of efficient lighting and product solutions;
- Nalco Chemical – for the provision of cutting-edge water systems monitoring technology;
- Carroll Electric, Arkansas Western Gas and Rogers Water Utilities – for ongoing energy efficiency support;
- Air Filters Systems – for their innovative energy efficient filter program; and
- Woodbury Technical Services – for assistance with boiler operation efficiency.

An Energy Star qualified facility meets strict energy performance standards set by EPA and uses less energy, is less expensive to operate, and causes fewer greenhouse gas emissions than its peers. According to Energy Star and the EPA, energy use in commercial buildings and manufacturing plants accounts for nearly half of all energy consumption in the U.S. at a cost of over \$200 billion per year, more than any other sector of the economy. Commercial and industrial facilities are also responsible for nearly half of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to global warming.

“The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency congratulates Mercy Medical Center for reducing its impact on the environment by using less energy than other hospitals,” said Clark Reed, healthcare facilities program manager for Energy Star. “Mercy Medical Center is a national environmental leader, proving that hospitals can protect public health and demonstrate fiscal responsibility to the communities they serve.”

For more than a decade, the EPA has worked with businesses and organizations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through strategic energy management practices. To qualify for the Energy Star, a building or manufacturing plant must score in the top 25 percent based on EPA's National

Energy Performance Rating System. To determine the performance of a facility, EPA compares energy use among other, similar types of facilities on a scale of 1-100; buildings that achieve a score of 75 or higher may be eligible for the Energy Star. The EPA rating system accounts for differences in operating conditions, regional weather data, and other important considerations.

Mercy Health System of Northwest Arkansas

Mercy Health System of Northwest Arkansas, a not-for-profit faith-based health system, provides healthcare services to residents in northwest Arkansas and southwest Missouri. The System includes Mercy Medical Center, Mercy Health Foundation of Northwest Arkansas and 22 Mercy medical clinics in locations throughout northwest Arkansas and southwest Missouri.

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