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Laguna Honda Hospital Honored for Best Practices in Restorative Care

October 23, 2007, San Francisco, CA -- Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center will receive a best practices award from the California Hospital Association for the innovative work of its restorative services program, the hospital announced today.

The award is due to be presented on Thursday in Marina Del Rey at a hospital association conference on hospital services for continuing care.

"The selection process was not easy, but the quality of Laguna Honda's program stood out," said Pat Blaisdell, California Hospital Association Vice President.

"It is an honor to be recognized by other health care professionals for our work," said John Kanaley, Laguna Honda's Executive Administrator. "We strive to meet the highest standards in our restorative care program, and this award lets us know that we are leading the way for other hospitals."

Restorative nursing care helps people to adapt and adjust to their physical condition so they can maximize their ability to live independently.

Restorative care is an integral part of the nursing services at Laguna Honda. At any time, 76% of residents receive regular restorative therapy. The remaining 24% are either in an acute condition and unable to receive the therapy or are preparing for discharge. Laguna Honda discharges over 200 residents each year.

"Our residents and their needs determine the care we provide," said Kanaley. "Our approach is to involve residents and their families to design restorative care that meets the needs of the individual. We want the residents to get the care that is right for them."

Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center is a city-owned and operated skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility that serves the safety net population of San Francisco. It was founded in 1866 and has served as a place of refuge for San Franciscans in times of earthquake and epidemic.

The hospital is midway through a capital improvement project to replace its 1920s-era buildings with new facilities. The first of the new buildings is scheduled to open in late 2009. The replacement is financed by a general obligation bond approved by voters in 1999, and by funding from the settlement of city lawsuits against the tobacco industry. Laguna Honda currently provides skilled nursing and rehabilitative services for 1030 elderly and disabled residents.

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