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For Immediate Release

Stormont-Vail HealthCare Earns National Recognition for Patient Care Excellence

(Topeka, Kan., March 18, 2009) – It's one of the highest levels of recognition a health care organization can achieve. Stormont-Vail HealthCare has achieved Magnet™ recognition for excellence in nursing services by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Magnet Recognition Program®.

“The Magnet recognition is a tremendous achievement for Stormont-Vail, but it doesn't change who we are,” said Maynard Oliverius, Stormont-Vail HealthCare President and Chief Executive Officer. “It simply recognizes the excellent work our nurses do each day and reflects the commitment of our entire staff to serve as a team, providing the highest quality care possible for the people of our community.”

The Magnet Recognition Program recognizes health care organizations that demonstrate excellence in nursing practice and adherence to national standards for the organization and delivery of nursing services. Applicants undergo a rigorous evaluation that includes extensive interviews and review of patient care services. Research shows there are clear benefits to hospitals that are awarded Magnet status and to the communities they serve:

- Health care consumers can have more confidence in the overall quality of a hospital if it has achieved the level of excellence established by the Magnet Recognition Program.
- Magnet designated facilities consistently outperform other facilities in recruiting and retaining nurses resulting in increased stability in patient care and patient satisfaction.
- Because quality nursing is one of the most important factors in enlisting high caliber physicians and specialists, Magnet status becomes an attractive force that extends to the entire facility.

“What this means for patients is we have assembled the best team of people, invested in technology and facilities and implemented best practices in the world,” said Carol Perry, Stormont-Vail HealthCare Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer. “Magnet has high standards for education, community involvement and teamwork among all departments. I am so proud of our nursing staff and all team members across the organization that contribute to the excellent care we give to patients.”

Stormont-Vail HealthCare joins the ranks of many other prestigious Magnet facilities, including The Mayo Clinic, Johns Hopkins, The Cleveland Clinic and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. KU Medical Center is the only other organization in Kansas to achieve Magnet status. ANCC is the largest and most prominent nursing credentialing organization in the United States. Magnet recognition is valid for four years.

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