



LSU Hospitals Receive National Award

Institutions and Staff Honored for Service during Hurricane Katrina

For Immediate Release

Baton Rouge, LA (August 3, 2006) The nine hospitals of the LSU Health Care Services Division are recipients of the 2006 Safety Net Award presented by the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (NAPH). The award recognizes the extraordinary dedication, service and heroism displayed by the institutions and staff during Hurricane Katrina.

"There are endless reports of the heroism and selflessness of health care workers responding to Katrina and caring for its victims," said NAPH President Larry S. Gage. "In the first days and weeks after the hurricane, we heard of workers who refused to leave a facility while there were still patients there. When the definitive history of Hurricane Katrina is written, these men and women will be its true heroes."

The LSU hospitals honored include, The Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans (Charity and University Hospitals); Earl K. Long Medical Center, Baton Rouge; Bogalusa Medical Center, Bogalusa; Lallie Kemp Regional Medical Center, Independence; Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center, Houma; University Medical Center Lafayette; Dr. Walter O. Moss Regional Medical Center, Lake Charles; and the Huey P. Long Medical Center, Pineville.

"In the face of adversity, our dedicated staff rose to the occasion," said Rod West, Chairman of the LSU Board of Supervisors. "This award is recognition of their personal sacrifice and commitment"

The National Association of Public Hospitals represents over 100 hospitals and health systems in the United States. During its 25 year history, the association has made significant strides in educating federal, state and local decision makers about the unique challenges faced by member hospitals and the nations most vulnerable populations.

The LSU Health Care Services Division hospital and clinic system is the largest provider of health care in Louisiana, with more than 1.2 million patient visits annually to 350 outpatient clinics, and 46,000 admissions to nine hospitals

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