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Connecticut Hospital Association Marks 90th Annual Meeting

June 16, 2008, Wallingford - At its 90th Annual Meeting on June 17th, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize hospitals and individuals making significant contributions to the health of Connecticut residents.

The *T. Stewart Hamilton, MD Distinguished Service Award* will be presented to Robert G. Kiely, President and CEO of Middlesex Hospital. During his nearly twenty-year tenure at Middlesex, Kiely has positioned the hospital as a leader in the areas of governance, financial performance, organizational perception, nursing excellence, community benefit, and managed care strategy.

A former Chair of CHA's Board of Trustees, Kiely is a leader in the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce, an Adjunct Faculty Member of George Washington University, incoming Health Care Chair of the George Washington University Alumni Association, Chair of the VHA Northeast region, Immediate Past Chair of the Connecticut Chapter of American College of Healthcare Executives, a member of the Editorial Board of the Governance Institute, a member of Hospital Advisory Group for The Joint Commission, and a frequent contributor to scholarly publications in the field.

"Bob Kiely is truly one of the outstanding healthcare leaders in Connecticut and nationally," commented Jennifer Jackson, President and CEO of the Connecticut Hospital Association. "His thoughtful, dedicated service has been an inspiration, and CHA is extremely proud to recognize his contribution through the T. Stewart Hamilton, MD Distinguished Service Award," said Jackson.

The William W. Backus Hospital will receive the *John D. Thompson Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Healthcare Through the Use of Data* for the hospital's dramatic results in reducing central line infections in the critical care environment to zero. The hospital formed a multidisciplinary team to take a "zero-tolerance" approach to central line infection, resulting in the adoption of formal policy that is now standard in the critical care unit. The standardized interventions have reduced to zero the incidence of central line infection, with life-saving results.

The recipient of the *Connecticut's Hospital Community Service Award* is Windham Community Memorial Hospital for its Prenatal Clinic, which provides health, education, and obstetrical services at no charge to more than 100 poor, underserved, and at-risk pregnant women annually. Windham Hospital has been providing critical prenatal services to low-income women since 1979, with the goal of assuring that at-risk women deliver healthy babies.

The CHA Annual Meeting will be held at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington, from 4pm-7pm on Tuesday, June 17, 2008.

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