



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Connecticut Hospital Association Recognizes  
Backus Hospital's Alice Facente  
As a 2011 Healthcare Hero**

June 24, 2011, Wallingford - At its 93rd Annual Meeting on June 23, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) recognized **Alice Facente, RN, MSN, BC, Clinical Educator, The William W. William W. Backus Hospital**, as a *2011 Healthcare Hero*. She was nominated for this award by her colleague Shawn Mawhiney, director of communications.

As the Backus Education Department Clinical Educator, Alice has embraced the rapidly changing eastern Connecticut community and encouraged her colleagues to do the same. Together they are bridging communication gaps and helping to provide culturally sensitive care to patients inside the hospital, and reaching out to minorities in the community. Alice led the formation of a Cultural Diversity Council. The council explores cultural issues affecting patients, and proposes and implements solutions that are both sensitive and practical.

CHA's "Healthcare Heroes" Contest was developed in 2002 to celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. Now in its tenth year, the presentation of the "Healthcare Heroes" awards has become a highlight of CHA's Annual Meeting.

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The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's not-for-profit hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, public health, and hospital reimbursement.

