



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Connecticut Hospital Association Recognizes
St. Vincent Medical Center's Lauren Burke
As a 2011 Healthcare Hero**

June 23, 2011 - At its 93rd Annual Meeting on June 23, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will be recognizing **Lauren Burke, CSA, Clinical Support Associate, Oncology Unit, St. Vincent's Medical Center**, of Milford, CT, as a *2011 Healthcare Hero*. She was nominated for this award by her colleagues Carol Barnes and Maureen Rooney.

Three years ago, Lauren started a program at St. Vincent's to collect backpacks filled with school supplies for each child who is a client at the Merton House in Bridgeport. She also collects extra items for stock during the year, so children will have all the supplies they need to ensure they can concentrate on their studies without the worry. This proved so successful that Lauren initiated an "adopt-a-child" program for Christmas, also through the Merton House. She proactively finds donors, and co-workers to supply truly great gifts for children of all ages 1-18 years. Through her strength and faith she has persevered to continue to serve those in need.

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.