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NEWS RELEASE

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Gaylord Honors Prastine as 2012 Employee of the Year

WALLINGFORD, CT (May 18, 2012) –Erin Prastine, an inpatient physical therapist at Gaylord Specialty Healthcare, was named the 2012 Employee of the Year during a ceremony on May 8. This award was established in 1992 by the family of a former patient Joseph A. Lindenmayer, who received care at Gaylord in 1991. According to his daughter, Josephine L. Gierer, the award acknowledges the kindness that was returned to her father by the employees at Gaylord. Prastine is the 21st employee to receive the award.

“I feel so incredibly blessed and privileged to work each day with the most amazing people,” Prastine said. “I would like to thank all my patients and co-workers for making my time here at Gaylord such a memorable and meaningful experience. I am such a lucky lady!”

Sonja LaBarbera, director of inpatient therapy services at Gaylord said, “Erin is the type of therapist every patient wants to have. She is compassionate, dedicated, highly skilled, and humble. She is very deserving of this honor.”

A resident of Middlefield, Prastine joined the Gaylord staff in 2005 as a staff physical therapist and is now a level II therapist and therapy team leader. She is the coordinator of the ThinkFirst injury prevention program and co-coordinator of the spinal cord injury support group. Prastine received her bachelor of science in exercise physiology at the University of Massachusetts- Amherst and later earned her master’s degree in physical therapy at Sacred Heart University.

Gaylord Specialty Healthcare, a 137-bed, not-for-profit long-term acute care hospital, specializes in inpatient medically complex care and rehabilitation, outpatient therapies, and sleep

medicine. With its main campus in Wallingford, Gaylord operates an additional outpatient center North Haven. Gaylord Sleep Medicine centers are located in Guilford, North Haven, Trumbull and Glastonbury.