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**Connecticut Hospital Association Recognizes
Hospital of Saint Raphael's Leigh Bak
As a 2008 Healthcare Hero**

June 18, 2008, Wallingford - At its 90th Annual Meeting on June 17th, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) recognized Leigh Bak, RN, MS, COE, Clinical Nurse Specialist at the Hospital of Saint Raphael, as a 2008 Healthcare Hero. Ms. Bak was nominated for this award in an essay written by Judy Catalano, RN, Director, Nursing Staff Development at Saint Raphael's.

Ms. Bak recently participated in a volunteer mission to Biloxi, Mississippi to assist residents devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Under the auspices of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, Bak helped rebuild a water-damaged house for a local minister. She plans to return to Biloxi next year to provide additional assistance to the community still struggling to rebuild.

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 seventh 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.