Grays Harbor Community Hospital Named "Tops" in Healthcare

Local News

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Aberdeen, WA – The administrative team at Grays Harbor Community Hospital has been named the “Top Leadership Team in Healthcare” for mid-sizedhospitals (100-499 beds). The distinction comes from HealthLeaders Media, the leading industry publisher of information resources for senior-level healthcare executives, reaching more than 100,000 healthcare decision-makers nationwide every month.

“Our associates have worked hard to improve our hospital, and had a great story to tell”, explains CEO John Mitchell. “As the leadership team, we simply told it.”

Grays Harbor Community Hospital was originally identified as one of 12 semi-finalists in their category; which was later narrowed down to 2 finalists. An on-site inspector, who is a former hospital system CEO, visited GHCH in May. He toured the facility, interracted with the administrative team, spoke with employees and Medical Staff, and interviewed Doug Barker, Managing Editor of the Daily World. “His goal”, shared Mitchell, ” was to validate that the challenges and results identified in our application were accurate.”

HealthLeaders Media Editor-in-Chief, Jim Molpus, says the 2009 Top Leadership Teams winners share a common thread in that systemic barriers to healthcare performance have not stopped them. “It is challenging for a community hospital to compete when so much in healthcare is directed toward large health systems,” Molpus says. “Grays Harbor Community Hospital has shown the turnaround that can occur with a culture of transparency and a shared vision for improvement.”

In addition to the award for Mid-Sized Hospitals, four others were also named as the single honoree in their category (Large Hospital or Health System, Small Hospital, Medical Group, and Health Plan; those award winners are located in Denver, CO, Caribou, ME, Evanston, IL, and Williamsville, NY respectively.). Grays Harbor Community Hospital, with approximately 100 licensed beds in service, is at the small end of the mid-sized category.

The Top Leadership Team in Healthcare awards will be presented in October at the annual HealthLeaders conference in Chicago. Mitchell will share Grays Harbor Community Hospital’s leadership success story to attendees from Scripps Health, the Mayo Clinic, Vanderbilt University Medical Center and others from around the country.

Mitchell echoed Molpus’ comments. “This award would not have been possible if the entire community had not been supportive of our hospital. Part of our success story has been the increase in market share we’ve had from residents of Grays Harbor county. Once again, the associates and Medical Staff have made it possible for Grays Harbor Community Hospital to be nationally recognized for its best practices.”