News Release

For Immediate Release
December 20, 2010

HALTON HEALTHCARE SERVICES RECEIVES PROVINCIAL AWARD

Oakville, ON - Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) has been awarded a GOLD Quality Healthcare Workplace Award by the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care – HealthForce Ontario.

"Halton Healthcare Services is amongst the first organizations in the province to achieve this prestigious award recognizing organizational efforts to improve healthcare workplaces in ways that contribute to providers' quality of work life and the quality of care and services," said Tom Closson, OHA President & CEO and Dr. Joshua Tepper, Assistant Deputy Minister, HealthForceOntario, in their congratulatory letter to HHS.

Our award submission highlighted many of the unique programs that have been implemented at the HHS Hospitals in Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville. The Hospital was presented with the award at the Ontario Hospital Association's HealthAchieve Conference held in Toronto.

"We are thrilled with the recognition that has been awarded to the staff at HHS who have all contributed to the successful achievement of this Gold award," said Karen Adams, HHS Vice-President, People and Organizational Development.

The panel of quality workplace experts recognized a number of the unique programs that have been implemented at HHS including the availability of staff fitness centres at all HHS hospitals, the Kailo Wellness Program and the Interprofessional Mentorship, Preceptorship and Coaching Team (IMPACT), which exposed frontline staff to new perspectives in patient centred care and interprofessional collaboration. HHS was also congratulated for organizing annual patient safety expos which provide staff with opportunities to showcase and be recognized for their good work. The 2010 Patient Safety Expos were open to the public this year.

HHS was additionally recognized for having a strong commitment to quality improvement and quality workplace initiative metrics and evaluation processes.

"This is an award that celebrates the staff at HHS," said John Oliver, HHS President and CEO. "It compliments the innovation and the amazing teamwork at HHS to ensure that our hospitals provide a workplace that promotes quality of work-life and continuous quality improvement which ultimately benefits patient care."

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To learn more about the OHA's Quality Healthcare Workplace Awards, please log on to their site at www.oha.com, and look under Services, Healthy Work Environments, Quality Healthcare Workplace Awards.

Halton Healthcare Services is comprised of three community hospitals in the Halton Region; Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. In 2010 HHS received a three-year full Accreditation with no conditions. For more information about Halton Healthcare Services, please log on to www.haltonhealthcare.com.

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