Florida Hospital Association Becomes Supporting Organization of the Healthier Hospitals Initiative

Promotes green stewardship within the health care sector across the state of Florida

RESTON, VA— The Healthier Hospitals Initiative (HHI) announced today that the Florida Hospital Association has become a Supporting Organization of the Healthier Hospitals Initiative, a collaborative of leading health care institutions united to help speed the health care sector toward environmental sustainability. HHI was launched by twelve hospital systems—Advocate Health Care, Bon Secours Health System, Catholic Health Initiatives, Dignity Health, Gundersen Health System, Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), Inova Health System, Kaiser Permanente, MedStar Health, Partners HealthCare, Stanford University Medical Center, and Tenet Health Systems (including former Vanguard hospitals)—along with Practice Greenhealth, Health Care Without Harm and the Center for Health Design, in May 2010.

HHI is a coordinated sector-wide approach based on the premise that how we design, build and operate hospitals can improve patient outcomes and workplace safety, prevent illnesses, create environmental benefits, and save money.

“Florida Hospital Association’s commitment to delivering a high standard of safe, quality care for all Floridians is evident in the 2013 Florida Hospitals Community Benefit Report, said Gary Cohen, President of Health Care Without Harm and Founder of HHI. “Prioritizing sustainability as a key driver in educating and pointing hospitals toward resources, joining with our vibrant community to support this work will mobilize even more facilities across the state of Florida.”

The leading hospital systems, Supporting Organizations and health care facilities work together to accelerate the widespread use of proven sustainability practices in six key “Challenge” areas:

- Engaged Leadership
- Healthier Food
- Leaner Energy
- Less Waste
- Safer Chemicals
- Smarter Purchasing

Success will be measured and tracked with aggregate data that can be sorted by state or hospital type—data that will be of great use for demonstrating success.
“Florida hospitals are committed to good stewardship in the delivery of safe, effective care,” said Bruce Rueben, FHA President. “That is why we support the Healthier Hospitals Initiative.”

HHI Supporting Organizations support the goals of the Healthier Hospitals Initiative and seek opportunities to share information with organization members and associates. The green movement in health care is completely in concert with any organization's mission of improving the health and well-being of their community, and promoting effective stewardship of human and financial resources.

Learn more about the Healthier Hospitals Initiative at www.healthierhospitals.org.

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**About the Healthier Hospitals Initiative**

The Healthier Hospitals Initiative (HHI) is a national campaign to implement a new approach to improving environmental health and sustainability in the health care sector. Led by 12 sponsoring health systems and three nonprofits, HHI challenges hospitals to reduce waste in six Challenge areas: Engaged Leadership, Healthier Food, Leaner Energy, Less Waste, Safer Chemicals and Smarter Purchasing. More information is available at www.healthierhospitals.org.

**About the Florida Hospital Association**

Florida Hospital Association is comprised of 238 hospitals and health systems from across the state. Through representation and advocacy, education, and informational services, we support the mission of our members to provide the highest quality of care to the patients we serve. For more information, visit www.fha.org.