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GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL RECEIVES LEADERSHIP AWARD FROM  
VHA INC. FOR SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE

VINCENNES, Ind. – VHA Inc., a national health care alliance based in Irving, Texas, has recognized Good Samaritan Hospital for supply chain management improvement. Good Samaritan Hospital is one of only seven VHA member hospitals nationwide to receive the 2010 VHA Leadership Award for Supply Chain Management Excellence.

VHA serves more than 1,400 not-for-profit hospitals and more than 28,000 non-acute health care organizations nationwide, supporting their efforts to improve their clinical and economic performance. The VHA 2010 Leadership Award for Supply chain Management is given to member organizations that demonstrate high levels of performance in one of four areas:

- Sourcing and resource management
- Distribution, logistics and inventory management
- Supply chain innovation and creativity
- Supplier diversity

Good Samaritan Hospital won the award for its efforts with incorporating the use of hand-held bar coding technology in the receiving, issuing and delivery functions of the supply chain. “This project not only drastically reduced the amount of time that we spent restocking par carts, but also achieved efficiencies in dock logging, receiving of delivered items to the hospital, issuing of supplies from the warehouse, and the delivery of supplies throughout the hospital,” stated Jan Beesley, Director of Materials Management at Good Samaritan Hospital. “This project also provided us with a very efficient tracking system

for packages within the hospital. The ultimate beneficiaries of this award-winning project are our patients, as necessary supplies are now available in a much more expeditious and accurate manner. Although we are not a clinical department, our performance improvement projects are always designed to support and improve the care we provide to our patients.”

Rob McLin, President and CEO of Good Samaritan Hospital says this award validates the dedicated focus of the hospital’s supply chain team to improve purchasing processes and distributing and managing the materials and products needed to take care of patients and run the hospital. “Supplies are the second largest expense category for hospitals - behind salaries - so controlling these costs enhances our ability to maintain staffing levels and provide better patient care,” he added. “Given the tremendous pressures facing our hospital because of declining reimbursements and increasing community needs, we have to excel in improving efficiency. Our connection to VHA helps us improve our performance both operationally and clinically, so we were pleased to be recognized by VHA for our work in supply chain management improvement. I’m most proud of our staff that made this work.”

The Executive Vice President at VHA, Scott Downing, says improving supply chain performance positively impacts the bottom line, positioning the organization to have more resources to provide better care. “We all pay into the health care system in some way, and we want health care organizations to provide effective and efficient care, he added.”

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### **About Good Samaritan Hospital**

Good Samaritan Hospital, Knox County’s largest medical facility, is located in Vincennes. The facility started with 25 beds in 1908 and has grown into a regional medical center providing space for 232 in-house patients. Annually, Good Samaritan Hospital has more than 333,700 outpatient visits and an additional 33,800 plus visits to its emergency room. The hospital offers a wide scope of medical services. From open-heart surgery to the birth of a baby, this growing health care provider balances quality patient care with preventive education to fulfill its mission. Consistently ranked in the top 5 percent in the nation in patient satisfaction, Good Samaritan Hospital provides a superb

level of care while maintaining fiscal integrity and expanding facilities to meet the needs of the community.

### **About VHA**

VHA Inc., based in Irving, Texas, is a national network of not-for-profit health care organizations that work together to drive maximum savings in the supply chain arena, set new levels of clinical performance and identify and implement best practices to improve operational efficiency and clinical outcomes. Formed in 1977, through its 16 regional offices, VHA serves more than 1,400 hospitals and more than 28,000+ non-acute care providers nationwide. VHA was ranked by *Modern Healthcare* as the 7th best place to work in health care in 2009.

**NOTE: VHA is not an acronym. Use VHA Inc. on first reference and VHA thereafter.**