ANCC Announces New Appointments for Commission on Magnet Recognition

SILVER SPRING, MD — April 22, 2013 —The American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on the Magnet Recognition Program® is pleased to announce the appointment of a new commissioner and a new chair. As the body of experts representing various sectors of the nursing community, the commission is responsible for the governance of Magnet Recognition Program activities. Governance includes such responsibilities as approving program criteria, making the final decision regarding the designation of the Magnet® credential, and providing a mechanism for the systematic review and evaluation of the strategic direction of the Magnet Recognition Program.

New Commissioner: Mary Dee Hacker of Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Mary Dee Hacker, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, has served as the visionary chief nursing officer and vice president of patient care services at the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles for 20 years. She guided the hospital to its initial Magnet designation in 2008 and then through its first re-designation in 2013. She is known for creating a healthy culture and work environment for direct care providers and all members of the health care team. Hacker has been associated with Children’s Hospital for more than three decades, beginning as a staff nurse in 1975, and has held various administrative nursing positions at the hospital.

In addition, she is a member of the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles Board of Trustees, California Institute for Nursing & Health Care (CINHC), and the DAISY Foundation. Hacker is a frequent speaker at state, regional, and national meetings. She is a member of numerous local, state, and national healthcare organizations. She has won numerous awards for nursing leadership and was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2010.

Hacker is the first Commission on Magnet representative from a pediatric hospital — a group representing approximately 8 percent of all Magnet hospitals. She is also the first representative from California in nearly a decade. Her term begins on July 1, 2013, and runs for four years.

New Chair: Deb Zimmerman elected new chair of Commission on Magnet Recognition

Deborah T. Zimmermann, DNP, MS, RN, NEA-BC, was elected as the incoming chair of the commission at the March meeting. Dr. Zimmermann became the chief nursing officer and vice
president of patient care services with The Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Medical Center in 2009. Zimmermann came to the VCU Medical Center from Rochester General Hospital, where she was senior vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer. During her 23-year career at Rochester General, Zimmermann also served as vice president of hospital operations, chief patient care executive, employee health services director, and nurse practitioner. Zimmermann has earned numerous professional certifications and has held leadership positions in professional organizations such as the New York Organization of Nurse Executives, the Finger Lakes Work Force Collaborative, and advisory boards of several colleges and universities.

She has served on the Commission on Magnet since 2006. Her term as chair begins on July 1, 2013, and runs for one year.

“Mary Dee is a passionate advocate for the value of Magnet. She offers a unique perspective as a senior leader from key stakeholder groups. We are thrilled to have her expertise on the commission,” says Karen Drenkard, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, executive director of the American Nurses Credentialing Center. “Combined with the leadership of Dr. Zimmermann, this new roster of commissioners will continue the course of setting an evidence-based strategic plan for the program, refining the Magnet Sources of Evidence, and leading the international expansion of Magnet.”

**About the Magnet Recognition Program®**

ANCC’s Magnet Recognition Program® is the most prestigious distinction a healthcare organization can receive for nursing excellence and quality patient outcomes. Organizations that achieve Magnet recognition are part of an esteemed group that demonstrates superior nursing practices and outcomes.

Recognizing quality patient care, nursing excellence, and innovations in professional nursing practice, the Magnet Recognition Program provides consumers with the ultimate benchmark to measure the quality of care that they can expect to receive. *U.S. News & World Report* uses Magnet designation as a primary competence indicator in its assessment of almost 5,000 hospitals in order to rank and report the best medical centers in 16 specialties. In the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, the nation’s oldest survey comparing hospital performance in safety, quality, and efficiency, Magnet designation automatically earns full credit for Safe Practice #9: Nursing Workforce. This section of the survey scores hospitals on their commitment to staffing with highly trained nurses and putting nurses in leadership positions that afford them substantial input on patient safety issues.

**About ANCC**

The mission of the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), is to promote excellence in nursing and health care globally through
credentialing programs. ANCC’s internationally renowned credentialing programs certify and recognize individual nurses in specialty practice areas. It recognizes healthcare organizations that promote nursing excellence and quality patient outcomes while providing safe, positive work environments. In addition, ANCC accredits healthcare organizations that provide and approve continuing nursing education. ANCC’s Credentialing Knowledge Center offers educational materials to support nurses and organizations as they work toward their credentials. ANCC is the first and only healthcare certification organization in the United States to have successfully achieved ISO 9001:2008 certification. For more information, visit www.nursecredentialing.org.