



Belleville, IL 62220
618/234/2120 Ext. 1270
Fax: 618/222/4748

*From: Kelly Barbeau
Marketing Support Specialist*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2007

RE: St. Elizabeth's Hospital RN receives Outstanding Nurse Recognition Award
St. Elizabeth's Hospital
Belleville, IL

St. Elizabeth's Hospital is proud to acknowledge Sarah Boyer, RNC, CI.C., CBE, as the winner of the annual March of Dimes Nurse Recognition Award.

The March of Dimes and its Perinatal Nursing Advisory Committee honors nurses who exemplify dedication to infants and families while promoting the mission of the March of Dimes.

"I am very excited about this great honor," Boyer said. "Education on childbirth is one of my favorite duties. I enjoy providing information to make the birth experience better for new moms."

An employee of St. Elizabeth's since 1997, Boyer was nominated by her supervisor, Margie Darr, Nurse Manager for the Mother/Child Department. She was one of only five nurses in the state of Illinois honored with this award. Awards are given based on their individual

professional and volunteer activities, and how these areas relate to the mission of the March of Dimes. The nominees were then reviewed by a special sub-committee of the Perinatal Nursing Advisory Committee.

Boyer, a resident of O'Fallon, provides education, support, and care for inpatient and outpatient families, as well as the surrounding community. She is also the hospital's Lead Childbirth Educator and Lead DOULA. Her responsibilities consist of organizing and scheduling all childbirth, breastfeeding, and sibling education classes, and facilitating the "Meet the DOULA" education classes. This class allows patients to become more familiar with the DOULA services offered.

She has volunteered in numerous programs within the hospital and the community. She is a member of the Association for Women's Health and Neonatal Nursing and is the volunteer Chairperson for the hospital breastfeeding task force. As Chairperson she successfully started a free breastfeeding support group for breastfeeding families in the community. She also manages the "BABIES-R-US" community education program and is the Health Fair Coordinator, which promotes mother baby care and services at local mall health fairs.

The March of Dimes Recognition Awards will be held at the 32nd Annual Perinatal Conference in the Hyatt Regency Woodfield in Schaumburg February 28th-March 2nd, 2007.

St. Elizabeth's Hospital is a 506-bed acute care medical facility featuring a newly renovated 16-suite surgery center including open-heart suites and an outpatient surgery center featuring 26 private rooms. The hospital was founded by the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis. Today, we continue the mission of our founding sisters: to provide care for the sick and needy with a spirit of respect, care, competence and joy. We maintain a Gold Seal of approval from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Facilities

(JCAHO). For more information please contact Kelly Barbeau at 618.234.2120, extension 1270.

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