

Hospital Guidelines To Participate in the 2009 Employee Pride Program

What is the Wisconsin Health Care Employee Pride Program?

The Wisconsin Hospital Association, along with the Wisconsin Society of Healthcare Human Resource Administration, the Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Executives, and the Wisconsin Healthcare Public Relations and Marketing Society, sponsor the Pride Program to celebrate the pride that health care employees have in their work and the contributions that they make to their patients, their community and their profession. Employees from **all departments** of your health care facility are encouraged to write about what it is that drew them to a health care career, and what they would tell someone who asked them why they stay in health care. They do not need to be a direct care provider to be eligible for recognition in this statewide program.

Employees who have pride in their chosen profession are strong ambassadors for health careers and for Wisconsin hospitals. By having one of your employees recognized at a statewide level, it helps us publicize and celebrate the remarkable people in health care, from food service to patient care. Following the program, hospitals will receive press release materials for use in their own community, which will link your hospital's local employee recognition program to the statewide program.

How it Works

1. Distribute the enclosed application form to all employees

A designated leader from administration, human resources, or public relations from each hospital is asked to distribute the enclosed application to all employees, inviting them to submit a one-page essay, poem, or story that explains why the employee chose to work in health care or what keeps them there. Supervisors may want to personally encourage employees to submit their "story." Additionally, you may use the enclosed poster to advertise the Pride Program throughout your hospital. The attached materials that publicize the program are also available in Microsoft Word and can be edited and printed by your hospital. These Word files are available at www.wha.org.

2. Choose ONE submission to forward to WHA

A designated team at your hospital should review the submissions and choose ONE to forward to WHA.

3. Submit the following three things to WHA by **Friday, March 27:**

- ONE employee's essay, poem or story, via email
- The employee's signed Application for the Pride Program
- A completed Pride Program Submission Form

ESSAYS MUST BE TYPED AND EMAILED to Shannon Nelson at WHA at snelson@wha.org.

4. Accompany your employee to the reception and dinner honoring them

The honored employee and one designated leader from each hospital will be invited to be guests of WHA at a reception and dinner on May 7 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Relatives or other members from the hospital are welcome to attend the dinner, but WHA will not cover their registration cost. A registration form for the dinner is included with this packet. WHA will not cover overnight expenses if they are required.

If you have any questions, contact Shannon Nelson or Mary Kay Grasmick, Wisconsin Hospital Association, at 608-274-1820 or email snelson@wha.org.