



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL NAMED SPIRIT OF WOMEN® PREMIER HOSPITAL

The national designation is based on an in-depth evaluation of excellence in women's healthcare and community outreach.

CHESTERFIELD, MO, October 6, 2009 – St. Luke's Hospital proudly announces its latest national recognition for excellence in women's health. The Spirit of Women Health Network has named St. Luke's a Spirit of Women Premier Hospital.

The national designation is based on a comprehensive evaluation of innovation and excellence in women's healthcare and community outreach. The standards were developed by the Spirit of Women Health Network in consultation with the Office on Women's Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Spirit of Women is a coalition of hospitals and healthcare providers across the United States that ascribes to the highest standards of excellence in women's health, education and community outreach. St. Luke's is the only Spirit of Women hospital in the region.

“Few hospitals in our country, and even the world, recognize how to provide appropriate medical care, preventative medical care and educational services for women,” said Tanya Abreu, Spirit of Women Health Network president and national program director. “St. Luke's Hospital is one of a very small number of facilities in our country that provides exceptional women-centered medical care and, as a result, has been identified as a community accelerator for women's health excellence in the United States.”

Earlier this year, St. Luke's was the only Missouri hospital to receive the HealthGrades 2009/2010 Women's Health Excellence Award for providing quality healthcare to women.

“It is most rewarding to be nationally recognized for programs that we believe are vital for women of all ages in our community,” said Jan Hess, St. Luke's Hospital vice president. “As the only Spirit of Women hospital in the region, we are committed to helping women and their families take positive steps toward better health.”

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About Spirit of Women:

Spirit of Women is a national network of leading hospitals dedicated to improving women's lives with innovative health and community programs. Spirit of Women Hospitals touch the lives of millions of women each year through the presentation of educational events, consumer membership programs, annual conferences, marketing communications and grassroots efforts to improve the health and well-being of women everywhere. The initiative enables participating hospitals to focus on community needs while providing the strength of national support.

About St. Luke's Hospital:

St. Luke's Hospital, located in Chesterfield, Missouri, is a premier, regional healthcare provider specializing in individualized care. The 493-bed, not-for-profit hospital offers more than 60 specialty areas including cardiovascular care and surgery, cancer care, neurosurgery and neurology, orthopedics, maternity and other women's health, general medicine, outpatient services, pediatrics and comprehensive surgical services. St. Luke's was the only Missouri hospital recognized in 2007, 2008 and 2009 as a HealthGrades America's 50 Best Hospital™, ranking among the top one percent in the nation based on superior clinical quality. For more information about St. Luke's Hospital, please visit www.stlukes-stl.com/newsroom.

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