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Hialeah Hospital Awarded “Champion of Change” Award for Achievements in Evidence-Based Maternity Care

Hialeah Hospital was one of eleven hospitals in Miami-Dade County to earn the award from the South Florida Hospital & Healthcare Association and Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade

MIAMI, Fla. (Jan. 2012) – Hialeah Hospital was recognized by the South Florida Hospital & Healthcare Association and Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade for its achievement in evidence-based maternity care with the “Champion of Change” award. Hialeah Hospital was one of eleven hospitals in Miami-Dade County to earn the award for participating in the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI), which is a comprehensive quality improvement initiative that includes system, policy and environmental changes to offer an optimal level of care for infant feeding. The award was presented to Hialeah Hospital at the ten-year anniversary celebration of Healthy Start Coalition on December 13, 2011.

“We proudly accept the “Champion of Change” Award for our leadership and excellence in maternity care in Miami-Dade County,” said Ralph Aleman, chief executive officer of Hialeah Hospital. “It’s an honor to be among the eleven local hospitals taking proactive steps to help new mothers provide a healthy start to their newborns’ lives.”

The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) is a global program sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to encourage and recognize hospitals and birthing centers that offer an optimal level of care for infant feeding. The full BFHI program takes an average of four years for a hospital to implement. The “4-Destination Pathway” approach assists hospitals in giving mothers the information, confidence, and skills needed to successfully initiate and continue breastfeeding their babies or feeding formula safely.

As part of the BFHI initiative, Hialeah Hospital’s Maternity Care Center offers free childbirth and breastfeeding classes in English and Spanish several times a month. These classes, lead by highly qualified nurses and specialists, teach common methods of relaxation and breastfeeding techniques to and ensure that expectant and new mothers are prepared to nurture and care for their newborns to the best of their abilities. To attend a class or to learn more about maternity care at Hialeah Hospital, please call 1-877-383-4226.

ABOUT HIALEAH HOSPITAL

Hialeah Hospital, part of Tenet's Florida region, is located at 651 East 25th Street in Hialeah. The hospital has been serving the medical and health care needs of central to north Miami-Dade County since 1951.

Hialeah Hospital offers a broad range of health care services, including 24-hour emergency care, cardiology, neurosurgery, obstetrics, a Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, laboratory, a surgical weight loss program that has been designated a Center of Excellence by the American Society for Bariatric Surgery, a sleep disorders program, and a complement of imaging services. Hialeah Hospital received the Get With The Guidelines[®]–Heart Failure Gold Performance Achievement Award from the American Heart Association, which signifies that Hialeah Hospital has reached an aggressive goal of treating heart failure patients with 85% compliance for at least 24 months to core standard levels of care as outlined by the American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology secondary prevention guidelines for heart failure patients. Hialeah Hospital is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the nation's oldest and largest hospital accreditation agency. To learn more about Hialeah Hospital, visit www.hialeahhosp.com.

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