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CHW Named One of the Best Places to Work for Fourth Consecutive Year

Health system ranks among top companies in the Bay Area for quality of work environment

SAN FRANCISCO – May 5, 2008 – For the fourth year in a row, Catholic Healthcare West (CHW) has been recognized as one of the Best Places to Work in the San Francisco Bay Area, among companies with 3,000 or more employees. Ranked fourth in the “Giant Companies” category, CHW employs 4,700 people in the Bay Area at four hospitals—Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, St. Mary’s Medical Center, Sequoia Hospital, and Dominican Hospital—as well as at its corporate headquarters in San Francisco and its patient financial office in Redwood City.

“We are honored to receive this recognition and to know that our employees are proud—and happy—to work for CHW,” says Lloyd Dean, CHW president/CEO. “We have an incredible team of people who serve our patients every day, and it is their dedication to CHW’s values and to the communities we serve that make CHW such a great place to work.”

The rankings were announced this week and will be published today in a special edition of the *San Francisco Business Times*, *Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal* and *East Bay Business Times*. To be eligible for the distinction, at least 8 percent of a company’s employees had to respond to an online survey, comprised of 37 questions measuring employee satisfaction across 10 different categories, including: team effectiveness, retention risk, alignment with goals, trust with co-workers, individual contribution, manager effectiveness, trust in senior leaders, feeling valued, work engagement and people practices.

“We value our employees for who they are, not just what they do,” says Ernie Urquhart, CHW’s senior vice president/chief human resources officer. “Rewarding and investing in our staff is the most important thing we can do as an employer. They feel empowered and respected in their work, which supports them in providing excellent, compassionate care to our patients.”

By offering some of the best employee reward programs in the country, CHW is able to attract and retain some of the best professionals in the healthcare field. In addition to employer-paid dependent health-care coverage and tuition reimbursement credits, CHW offers a wide variety of leadership, managerial and mentoring programs that provide employees with the knowledge and resources to improve their skill sets.

The quality of CHW’s work environment and the pride of its employees is evident throughout the hospital’s network of care facilities, as CHW hospitals in San Bernardino, CA and Phoenix, AZ have also been recognized as among the “Best Places to Work” in their communities.

About Catholic Healthcare West

Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), headquartered in San Francisco, CA, is a system of 41 hospitals and medical centers in California, Arizona and Nevada. Founded in 1986, it is the eighth largest hospital system in the nation and the largest not-for-profit provider in California. CHW is committed to delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable health care services with special attention to the poor and underserved. The CHW network of more than 9,500 physicians and approximately 53,000 employees provides health care services to more than four million people annually. In 2007, CHW provided \$922 million in charity care and unsponsored community benefit. For more information, please visit our website at www.chwHEALTH.org.