For Immediate Release

Southwestern Vermont Medical Center Presented 2017 ANCC Magnet Prize™

Houston—October 13, 2017—Southwestern Vermont Medical Center is proud to announce that it was presented with the 2017 American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Magnet Prize™ for its Accountable Community for Health Project at the ANCC Magnet Conference late yesterday afternoon in Houston. The prize is the highest honor that can be granted to a Magnet organization. Only one is given worldwide each year.

In a message to staff this morning, President and CEO Thomas A. Dee, FACHE, wrote, “This project was not easy. It took an innovative approach, dedicated teamwork, and years of constant effort. And it was undertaken, not with the hope of winning an honor like this one, but out of steadfast devotion to our mission of exceptional care and comfort for the people we serve.” He continued, “With this award, our nursing and clinical team has placed SVMC—a small health system from a small town in a small state—among the best respected and most notable health care institutions in the world.”

Over the past three years, SVMC has developed and used its innovative model to help high-risk, chronically ill patients, behavioral health patients, and patients dealing with substance abuse understand their ability to make decisions about their care. Community collaboration has led to improved knowledge of resources and a significant reduction in the number of emergency department visits and hospital admissions.

"ANCC is proud to recognize Southwestern Vermont Medical Center for its extraordinary work through their innovative Accountable Community for Health Project,” said Jeff Doucette, DNP, RN, FACHE, NEA-BC, CENP, LNHA, vice president of the Magnet Recognition Program® & Pathway to Excellence® Program. “It is always exciting to see nurses leading the way and working in such a collaborative manner to improve delivery of care for their patients.”

The prize, which includes a $50,000 purse to support continued work on the project, is sponsored by Cerner, a global leader in health care technology.

“The ANCC Magnet Prize™ represents the successful implementation of our nurse-driven initiative through the collaboration and partnership of multiple organizations with Southwestern Vermont Medical Center and our skilled nurses to deliver integrated care in our community,” stated Southwestern Vermont Health Care’s Chief Nursing Officer Carol Conroy, DNP, CENP. “SVMC is pleased to be recognized for our innovative nursing approach, as it represents a foundation for healthcare in the future.”

Media Contacts:
Ray Smith
Southwestern Vermont Health Care
802-447-5003
ray.smith@svhealthcare.org
About Southwestern Vermont Health Care
Southwestern Vermont Health Care (SVHC) is a comprehensive, preeminent health care system providing exceptional, convenient, and affordable care to the communities of Bennington and Windham Counties of Vermont, eastern Rensselaer and Washington Counties of New York, and northern Berkshire County in Massachusetts. SVHC’s providers are members of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Putnam Physicians, a multispecialty medical group operated in partnership with Dartmouth-Hitchcock. SVHC includes the Centers for Living and Rehabilitation, a 150-bed long- and short-term care skilled nursing facility; the SVHC Foundation; and Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC), a 99-bed community hospital. SVMC’s services include an emergency department staffed by physicians each of whom is board certified in emergency medicine; the Southwestern Vermont Regional Cancer Center, which is accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and managed by Dartmouth-Hitchcock; and a fully-digital imaging department. SVMC also includes 19 primary and specialty care practices and primary care offices in Bennington, Manchester, Pownal, West Dover, and Wilmington, VT. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission and is the state’s first Magnet Center for Nursing Excellence, a designation it has held since 2002. To learn more, visit svhealthcare.org.

About the ANCC Magnet Prize®
The Magnet Recognition Program® recognizes health care organizations that provide the very best in nursing care and uphold the tradition of professional nursing practice. Winning organizations must meet specific criteria such as extraordinary nursing activities that have been sustained over an extended period of time, innovations that are beyond the characteristics of Magnet organizations, and positive outcomes that have been demonstrated and empirically linked to the innovation.

In 2002, the ANCC board of directors established the Magnet Prize to encourage the pursuit of excellence. The prize recognizes organizations with unique programs where innovative action transforms nursing practice. The interventions and outcomes benefit the nursing profession as a whole and have direct impact on patients in various settings. This award serves as a means for acknowledging peak performance within credentialed Magnet® organizations and is the highest honor ANCC bestows within the Magnet® community. Cerner has sponsored the award since 2007.

About ANCC
The mission of the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), is to promote excellence in nursing and health care globally through credentialing programs. ANCC's internationally renowned credentialing programs certify and recognize individual nurses in specialty practice areas. ANCC recognizes health care organizations that promote nursing excellence and quality patient outcomes while providing safe, positive work environments. In addition, ANCC accredits health care
organizations that provide and approve continuing nursing education. ANCC is the only nurse credentialing organization to successfully achieve ISO 9001:2008 certification.

About Cerner
Cerner’s health information technologies connect people, information and systems at more than 25,000 provider facilities worldwide. Recognized for innovation, Cerner solutions assist clinicians in making care decisions and enable organizations to manage the health of populations. The company also offers an integrated clinical and financial system to help health care organizations manage revenue, as well as a wide range of services to support clients’ clinical, financial and operational needs. Cerner’s mission is to contribute to the systemic improvement of health care delivery and the health of communities. For more information about Cerner, visit cerner.com, read our blog at blogs.cerner.com, connect with us on Twitter at twitter.com/cerner and on Facebook at facebook.com/cerner. Our website, blog, Twitter account and Facebook page contain a significant amount of information about Cerner, including financial and other information for investors.