

## Lakeland Wins Awards from MPRO, Gift of Life

Michigan Peer Review Organization (MPRO), the Michigan arm of the national organization that recognizes hospitals for improving the standard of care with initiatives that advance the quality, efficiency and safety of patient care, presented its awards last September. There were two awards given to Lakeland: one for inpatient care and one for emergency care. There were three inpatient categories where Lakeland's hospitals in St. Joseph and Niles excelled: for treatment of heart attack, heart failure and pneumonia. Both Lakeland hospitals were honored in two categories in the emergency department: for treatment of heart attack and pneumonia. Michigan Peer Review Organization is an arm of CMS, which administers Medicare and Medicaid payments. The awards are given through the states to foster excellence in care delivery for these patient populations.



*Holding the awards, center left and right, are Mary Ann Pater, Vice President, Legal/Risk Management and Chief Compliance Officer; and Carolyn Burger, Clinical Performance Coordinator, Lakeland HealthCare.*

The Gift of Life is a national society that recognizes excellence in patient and family education about the importance of organ and tissue donation. Through this organization, Lakeland's hospitals in St. Joseph and Niles have earned the U.S. Health & Human Services (HHS) Medal of Honor. Former HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson launched this initiative



*Clinical Nurse Specialist Maureen Bishop, RN, MA, MSN, CCRN, CCNS, holds the Medal of Honor award given to Lakeland at the New Orleans conference. Over 1800 participants were there, including 250 transplant surgeons and the Surgeon General of the United States, who participated in the awards ceremony.*

in 2003 to foster awareness about the importance of organ donation. Lakeland is one of 300 hospitals being recognized nationally in 2006.

“We are pleased to have the hard work and conscientious attention of all Lakeland associates recognized,” noted Joe Wasserman, CEO of Lakeland HealthCare. “Their daily commitment to providing quality care, exceptional patient safety and compassionate care on a routine basis, as these awards demonstrate, is what makes our organization distinctive.”

“Few things affect our quality of life and the quality of our work more than our good health,” said Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, commenting on the MPRO Awards. “It’s important to recognize the hospitals and health care professionals who are making positive strides toward providing our citizens with accessible and affordable health care.”

“The Gift of Life recognizes hospitals who understand the importance of organ and tissue donation,” said Tom Beyersdorf, Executive Director, Gift of Life. “Over 95,000 patients are waiting for their second chance at life through an organ transplant. About 2100 of these patients are children. The work we do together ensures that these patients get another chance to live and that grieving families are given an opportunity to create a legacy for their loved one.”