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**TAHOE PACIFIC HOSPITALS
EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION
FOR QUALITY RESPIRATORY CARE**

June 16, 2009 (RENO, Nev.) – Tahoe Pacific Hospitals have earned the Quality Respiratory Care Recognition (QRCR) from a national program that helps patients and families make informed decisions regarding the quality of respiratory care services provided by hospitals. The QRCR award is given to fewer than 15 percent of hospitals in the United States.

The American Association for Respiratory Care (AACRC) began the recognition program in 2003 in an effort to help consumers identify those facilities using qualified respiratory therapists and industry best practices to provide respiratory care. To earn the QRCR designation, hospitals must adhere to strict safety and quality standards, including:

- All respiratory therapists employed by the hospital to deliver bedside respiratory care services are either legally recognized by the state as competent to do so or hold the certified respiratory therapist or registered respiratory therapist credential.
- Respiratory therapists are available 24 hours a day.
- A doctor of medicine or osteopathy is designated as medical director of respiratory care services.

Respiratory therapists are specially trained healthcare professionals who work under physicians' orders to provide a wide range of breathing treatments and other services to people with asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cystic fibrosis, lung cancer, AIDS and other lung or lung-related conditions.

Tahoe Pacific Hospitals have two locations in the Reno area: one on the campus of Renown Medical Center at South Meadows and the other on the campus of St. Mary's Regional Medical Center. Both facilities are accredited by The Joint Commission and are Medicare certified.

Tahoe Pacific Hospitals specialize in the treatment of medically complex patients who require extended hospitalization. Many of our patients are transferred to our hospital after a stay in an intensive care unit and have often experienced multiple system failures and slow response to traditional medical treatments.

Tahoe Pacific Hospitals are part of the LifeCare family of hospitals. The LifeCare Hospitals network includes 20 specialty acute care hospitals in 10 states. To learn more about our facilities, visit us on the Web at www.lifecare-hospitals.com.

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