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MEDIA CONTACT:

Suzanne Montanaro
Marketing Manager
(507) 526-6168
smontanaro@uhd.org

United Hospital District Honors 32 Employees *Annual Luncheon Celebrates Milestone Anniversaries*

Blue Earth, MN – May 11, 2023 – United Hospital District (UHD) recognized 32 employees celebrating five and 10-year work anniversaries at their annual Service Recognition Luncheon, held at the Ten Talents Art Center. The 2023 honorees account for a combined 460 years of service. UHD CEO Rick Ash, who emceed the event, noted, “Every year, as we recognize each honoree’s high level of commitment and dedication for their years of service, it also reminds us of the truly amazing people we have at UHD. They truly live our mission of Committed to Care and Committed to You, and we are thankful to have such incredible staff!”

2023’s longest serving employees are Kari Olson, LPN, and Ranae Schutt, LPN, both celebrating their 45th year at UHD. The nurses have a long personal and professional history together, having attended and carpooled to Rochester Area Vocational Technical Institute, graduating with their Licensed Practical Nurse degrees (LPN) in 1978, and then beginning their careers at UHD after graduation. Their tenures at UHD have included various roles. While primarily serving as caregivers for inpatients in the hospital, Kari and Ranae have also worked in other hospital departments, including pharmacy, labor and nursery, emergency, and surgery. In the clinic, their skills have been utilized for specialties services, including cardiology, ENT, and urology.

During the luncheon program, Nursing Manager Jamie Ringness, RN, stated that Kari and Ranae have borne witness to changes in charting systems, remodels, and departments, but one thing that has remained a constant over 45 years is their exceptional care to their patients. Ringness added, “UHD is blessed to have such dedicated and exceptional nurses caring for their patients.”

The remaining 30 honorees were each noted for their service, which included five, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 35-year milestones. The UHD Service Recognition Luncheon is a longstanding annual tradition that began more than 30 years ago. During the event, UHD managers and senior administrators award jewel-themed pins representing the different milestone years – Ruby for five years, Sapphire for 10

years, Emerald for 15 years and Diamond for 20 years or more. Employees with 25 or more years of service are also given gifts from their managers.

UHD is pleased to recognize all of the following employees for their many years of service to our healthcare organization:

UHD 2023 SERVICE RECOGNITION LUNCHEON		
Employee	Years of Service	Department
Olson, Kari	45 years	Nursing
Schutt, Ranae	45 years	Nursing
Gaylord, Glenn	35 years	Ambulance
Holland, Leah	25 years	Rehab Therapies
Hollund, Betty	25 years	Radiology
Leyva, Shannon	25 years	Dietary
Spencer, Andrea	25 years	Clinic Nursing
Steinhauer, Danielle	20 years	Home Health & Hospice
Badje, Kandy	15 years	Revenue Cycle
Becker, Tara	15 years	Rehab Therapies
Esterhuizen, Mari	15 years	Revenue Cycle
Hilpipre, Melissa	15 years	Home Health & Hospice
Phippen, Kerry	15 years	Nursing
Ailts, Karla	10 years	Revenue Cycle
Frank, Pauli	10 years	Environmental Services
Karp, Dr. Bob	10 years	Family Medicine
Marte, Ivan	10 years	Information Technology
Miller, Myron	10 years	Environmental Services
Smidt, Heather	10 years	Nursing
Stahl, Summer	10 years	Home Health & Hospice
Stenzel, Lori	10 years	Rehab Therapies
Sullivan, Christina	10 years	Clinic Nursing
Anderson, Jim	5 years	Maintenance
Bachenberg, Dr. Tim	5 years	Family Medicine
Bruellman, Lexie	5 years	Revenue Cycle
Grant, Adam	5 years	Ambulance, Safety
Klunder, Laraine	5 years	Anesthesia
Meyer, Cassie	5 years	Finance
Northwick, Ryan	5 years	Maintenance
Pedersen, Renee	5 years	Nursing
Wenkheimer, James	5 years	Ambulance
Zellmer, Stephanie	5 years	Rehab Therapies

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