

RICHARD COLE NAMED VALLEY VIEW "MERCY AWARD" WINNER

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Office of Marketing & Communications, Rivier College

FT. MOHAVE, AZ – Valley View Medical Center has named **Richard Cole, RN**, as the recipient of the hospital's 2012 Mercy Award. Cole, the clinical coordinator of Valley View's cardiac cath lab, is the hospital's nominee for a national Mercy Award by LifePoint Hospitals, Inc.

At Valley View, the Mercy Award is the equivalent of being named employee of the year. Cole was one of five employees nominated by physicians and staff. CEO Rick Carter said Cole "exemplifies what's best about Valley View.

"He really, really, really cares," Carter emphasized during a reception for hospital employees announcing the winner.

"Richard gives of himself," said Dana Humphreys, Valley View's ICU clinical coordinator as well as a cath lab nurse alongside Cole. "He loves to mentor nurses just beginning to learn the cath lab. He has patience and an aura about him that promotes learning and enhances the newer nurses' desire to learn, ask questions and seek additional opportunities for education."

The award recognizes one employee who best represents the spirit and values of parent company LifePoint's founding chairman and CEO, Scott Mercy. Each LifePoint hospital designates one Mercy Award winner. An overall winner is selected from among 54 hospitals.

According to Carter, Cole "inspires those around him with his positive attitude and bright smile."

Cole joined Valley View as a cath lab nurse after working in a similar capacity for seven years at another hospital. In early 2011 he was promoted to clinical coordinator of the cath lab, which handles most cardiac and vascular-related cases other than open heart surgery. Before moving to the Tri-State area in 2001 he was a home health, post surgical and charge nurse in Virginia and Texas. A "Navy brat" who went to school around the world, he graduated from high school in Keene, NH, received his nursing degree from Rivier College/St. Joseph School of Nursing in Nashua, NH, and his bachelor of science in nursing from the University of Phoenix.

Cole is no stranger to supporting causes important to him. He volunteers to teach classes as a part of Mohave Community College's nursing curriculum, has volunteered at a suicide prevention hotline, and even donates educational materials to MCC students.

When cath lab staffing is short, Cole puts himself on 24/7 call so that no patient or physician would have to be inconvenienced by either delaying a procedure or being transferred out of the area.

For his local honors, Cole receives \$500. He and a guest will also receive a trip to Nashville, home of LifePoint Hospital's corporate offices, and a reception for all hospital Mercy Award winners.

Four other employees were nominated for Valley View's 2012 Mercy Award: case management director Joy Bennett, RN, admitting director Cveta Lozevski, acute rehabilitation nurse Jennifer McMurray, RN, and quality/risk management director Yvonne Shamplain, RN.

Valley View is licensed as a 90-bed full-service acute care hospital with two adjacent medical office buildings and an on-campus outpatient rehabilitation complex. It serves the Tri-State area along the Colorado River including Bullhead City, Arizona, Laughlin, Nevada and Needles, California. It is part of LifePoint Hospitals, Inc., a leading hospital company dedicated to providing quality healthcare in non-urban communities. ■

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