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UPDATE

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FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY EDITION

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ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

IT'S BEEN A YEAR OF GREAT EVENTS for the Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospital Center. The advancements and improvements to health care in the Lehigh Valley are a function of the dedication, support and hard work of you -- the employees.

Last fall in my many conferences with employees, I asked for cooperation in dealing with the shakedown and opening problems which were inevitable. The entire staff rallied to smooth out the bumps. Many tales were told, most of which were untrue. With pride I say that I know of no problems which affected patient care during our shakedown period.

One year has passed. The future will present new goals and new challenges. We have gathered a team of skilled professionals, and through planning and our prime objective of the best quality patient care, we will attain more and greater achievements.

Just as the Center as a whole works in cooperation with the other hospitals in the area, employees of the Center must also work together. No matter what we do our tasks are vital in the total care of our patient.

Any hospital is only as good as the quality of its personnel. Bricks and steel and sophisticated medical equipment make the building. But a dedicated team of professionals, make it a hospital. We have such a team and I express thanks and appreciation to all of you for all you have given so generously in this first year of operation.

Ellwyn D. Spiker
Administrator

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THE BIG HEAD COUNT

RICHARD C. CIPOLETTI, DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL SERVICES, sums up the major efforts of his division in the first year of operations as massive recruitment. Cipoletti points out that since he came to the Hospital Center, the number of employees has risen 2,450%. The bulk of these were added in the one month preceding opening.

Mrs. Rose Haas, the Employee Health Nurse, reports that her office completed 1,096 physical exams for employees, treated 263 employees for illness and 284 for incidents.

Thomas Dondore, Training Director, adds that his department has provided nearly 8,500 hours of instructional time to Hospital Center employees including programs such as Orientation, fire demonstrations, Infection Control Programs, and Unit Clerk Education.

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THE CREW THAT CARES

IN TERMS OF SIZE AND BUSINESS, THE NURSING DEPARTMENT has performed fantastically through its first year. Nearly 23,000 patients have been cared for at the Hospital Center representing almost 13,000 admissions. Nursing personnel in the Emergency Room alone have cared for 19,900 patients; 3,011 of which were admitted to the Hospital. This averages out to about 67 patients seen daily in the Emergency Room.

Florence Brown, Director of Nursing, is exceedingly proud of the care provided by her 355 employees. Six hundred and ten patients were cared for on the Acute Coronary Unit, and 676 in the Intensive Care Unit.

Operating Room personnel have served in the performance of 7,231 operations, not including 42 procedures performed in the Burn Unit Operating Room.

The Education Division of the Nursing Department has oriented 458 employees since opening day and has offered programs in intensive care nursing, coronary care nursing, burn care, pharmacology for LPN's and presently has enrolled 32 RN's in a college credit course as part of the Bachelor of Science in nursing curriculum.

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SURGERY SURGING

THE HOSPITAL CENTER OPERATING ROOMS have seen over 7,000 operative procedures performed since opening day. Calculating on a five day a week basis, that averages better than 30 cases per day. And considering the large number of lengthy complicated cases we do, that is quite a good showing.

Dr. Donald H. Gaylor, Chief of Surgery, reports that nearly 100 open heart procedures have been performed and the operative mortality rate has been exceedingly good. The Department of Surgery includes 78 attending staff members and 14 house staff members.

Dr. Gaylor is confident that our concept of regional trauma care is working and is evidenced in that more complicated trauma cases are being transferred to the Center for immediate resuscitation and treatment. The Emergency Medicine division of the Department of Surgery has seen about 20,000 patients in its first year of operation. If you are looking for statistics of a busy Emergency Room, just divide that one out and find how many visits to the Emergency Room occur each day.

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KEEP THE PATIENTS MOVING

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR AN EXAMPLE of enormous growth rate, the record has to be held by the Utilization Review/Discharge Planning Department. Since September 16th of 1974 the number of personnel employed in this division has increased by 300%.

Ms. Mary K. Samios, Director, reports that her division has handled 931 cases through the Discharge Planning section. Through the Utilization Review section efforts, over 2,000 past cases are reviewed each month.

Problems? "Sure they are there", said Ms. Samios, "We're the trouble shooters of the Hospital. With our expansion, you can imagine our No. 1 problem . . . we have run out of office space."

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BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

THE HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY has a collection of over 3,000 volumes, 100 journals and 181 microfilm cartridges representing journal back files. Carolyn Nippert, Librarian, reports that her department has provided over 1,500 article requests representing nearly 5,800 pages of information for hospital departments in the last year.

She also maintains the Center's access to the National Library of Medicine and other inter-library loan facilities.

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BREATHE DEEP

BRAD LEIDICH, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY, regards the Center's first year as landmark for his department.

Working on a 7 day 24 hour basis, Respiratory Therapy is actively involved in total pulmonary care of the patient.

In our first year, nearly 22,000 IPPB therapy treatments were ordered. The number of ventilator patients has increased from an average of one a day to the present, which is five each day. The number of alternate breathing therapy modes ordered is nearly 1,200.



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STATISTICS OF INTEREST

DID YOU KNOW 35% OF OUR RN'S were educated at Allentown or Sacred Heart Schools of Nursing . . . over 6,000 people toured the Center at its opening last fall . . . length of patient stay is 19% lower than other hospitals in the East . . . Bio-Medical Photography department has made over 3,000 pictures . . . Heart Station has done nearly 14,000 EKG's . . . Engineering costs are about 33% less than the national average . . . Dietary Department prepares about 1,500 meals each day . . . Housekeeping people maintain 339,000 square feet of floor space . . . Lab has about 80% Bachelor's Degree level techs . . . Nuclear Medicine Department sees about 250 patients each month . . . Pharmacy dispenses about 101,000 doses each month . . . Physical Therapy unit has given about 18,000 treatments . . . Pulmonary Function group does about 2,000 tests each month . . . X-Ray Department has an average daily case load of 130 examinations . . . Volunteers save the Hospital about \$14,000 worth of manpower expense each month?

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