



St. Joseph's Medical Center

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NEWS RELEASE

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St. Joseph's Home Health Care Named to HomeCare Elite for Second Year

STOCKTON, CA, October 17, 2008 – St. Joseph's Medical Center Home Health Care announced that it has once again been named to the HomeCare Elite, a compilation of the most successful Medicare-certified home care providers in the United States. St. Joseph's is the only Stockton agency, facility-based or free-standing, to have earned this achievement.

"The 2008 HomeCare Elite winners exemplify a commitment to providing their patients with optimum care while performing at the highest level," said Nancy Buller, Senior Director of Marketing Communications at OCS, Inc. "We congratulate St. Joseph's Medical Center on being one of the top home care agencies in the country."

The **HomeCare Elite** is the definitive compilation of the most successful Medicare-certified home health care providers in the U.S. This review recognizes the Top 25 percent of those agencies whose performance measures in quality outcomes, quality improvement, and financial performance are the best and also identifies those honorees ranked in the Top 100 and Top 500.

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St. Joseph's Home Health Care Director Pat Collier, RN, MS, credits her caring staff and their hands-on experience with the company's ability to rank as one of the HomeCare Elite. She said, "St. Joseph's is very pleased to be honored with this distinction for the second year in a row. Our goal is to provide high-quality patient care to our patients in the comfort of their own homes so they can live as independently as possible".

St. Joseph's Medical Center, Home Health Care offers patients skilled services at home including registered nursing care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, home health aide services and medical social services. St. Joseph's Medical Center, Home Health Care is a Medicare certified, licensed, Joint Commission accredited, Home Health Agency that serves patients of all ages – from infants to the elderly.

The 2008 HomeCare Elite is the only performance recognition of its kind in the home health industry. The 2008 HomeCare Elite is brought to the industry by OCS, Inc., the leading provider of healthcare informatics, and DecisionHealth, publisher of home care's most respected independent newsletter, "*...home health line*". The entire list of the 2008 HomeCare Elite agencies can be viewed by visiting the OCS web site at www.ocsys.com/HCE.

About St. Joseph's Medical Center

St. Joseph's Medical Center is a not-for-profit, fully accredited, regional hospital with 294 beds, a physician staff of over 400, and more than 2,400 employees. St. Joseph's specializes in cardiovascular care, comprehensive cancer services, and women and children's services including neonatal intensive care (NICU). St. Joseph's Medical Center is the largest hospital, as well as the largest private employer in Stockton and San Joaquin County. In addition to being nationally recognized as a quality leader, St. Joseph's is consistently chosen as the "most preferred hospital" by local consumers. Founded in 1899 by Fr. William O'Connor and administered by the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael, St. Joseph's continues to lead the region in medical innovation as well as ongoing clinical research, developing tomorrow's advancements, today. St. Joseph's Medical Center is committed to delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable healthcare services with special attention to the poor and underserved. In 2008, St. Joseph's provided over \$45 million in charity care, community benefits, and unreimbursed patient care. St. Joseph's Medical Center is a member of Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), a system of 42 hospitals and medical centers in California, Arizona and Nevada. For more information, please visit our website at www.StJosephsCares.org

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