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VHH Welcomes New Vice President of Patient Care Services

(GLENDALE, CA – June 9, 2008) – Judy McCurdy, RN, MSN, recently joined Verdugo Hills Hospital (VHH) as Vice President of Patient Care Services. McCurdy brings more than 30 years of progressive healthcare experience to VHH. She has worked in hospital and health services in not-for-profit and for-profit managed care community hospitals and IPA. Throughout her career, McCurdy has served in various capacities, including as Chief Operating Officer, Chief Executive Officer and Vice President of Patient Care Services.

In her new role at VHH, McCurdy looks forward to working with the nursing staff to ensure that patients continue to receive excellent care. “Each patient will have a consistent quality experience irregardless of the caregiver.”

McCurdy says she enjoys working for non-profit healthcare facilities. “I love the non-profit world. It has a different sense of mission and purpose, and I feel more in-line with that,” she says. “There is a real sense of community here (at VHH), which is very appealing.

Having written a thesis and dissertation, McCurdy says she has applied knowledge from both practical and theoretical experiences throughout her professional career. “Our (healthcare) culture tends to operate on a crisis model,” McCurdy says. “We have to understand the nature of the problem in order to be able to solve it. While much of our work is crisis management, we also need to be adept at longer-term problem solving and innovation.”

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Prior to joining VHH, McCurdy served as Vice President of Patient Care Services at Encino-Tarzana Regional Medical Center, where she developed a plan to initiate hourly patient care rounds for nursing staff, among other major developments. McCurdy has also served as Chief Operating Officer for Anaheim General Hospital, where she was responsible for patient care services, facilities support services, as well as professional and ancillary services. She has also held leadership positions at Los Angeles Metropolitan Medical Center, Martin Luther Hospital and Kaiser Foundation Hospital Mental Health Center.

McCurdy holds a doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology in Los Angeles. McCurdy also has a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Iowa and a Master of Science degree in Nursing from the University of California, Los Angeles. She also holds a Master's degree in Healthcare Administration from California State University, Long Beach. Upon completion of her doctoral degree, McCurdy opened Kaiser's psychiatric hospital in Los Angeles in the late 1970s.

McCurdy is married and lives in Los Angeles, and has one dog and three cats. "While I love the sophistication of L.A., I haven't given up my Iowa roots," she says.

McCurdy is also proud to have run the L.A. Marathon and learned how to scuba dive in Mexico.

About the Hospital:

Verdugo Hills Hospital is a 158-bed nonprofit primary care facility nestled in the foothills between Glendale and La Cañada Flintridge. The hospital features all private rooms, 24-hour emergency services, comprehensive inpatient and outpatient diagnostic and treatment facilities, and a family birthing center. It is the only independent, free-standing hospital in the greater Foothills community and was voted "Foothills' Best Hospital" for 2008 by readers of the *Glendale News-Press* for the fifth consecutive year. Several VHH medical staff members have also earned the title of "Foothills' Best": Drs. Eric Lee and Joseph Lee, Foothills' Best Cardiologists; Dr. Jane Wada, Foothills' Best Dermatologist; Laurie Flagg, Foothills' Best Nurse; Dr. Ronald Woodard, Foothills' Best Obstetrician/Gynecologist; Dr. Scott Beeve, Foothills' Best Ophthalmologist; Dr. Allan W. Perry (Jr. & Sr.), Foothills' Best Plastic Surgeons; Dr. Brad Aguirre, Foothills' Best Podiatrist; and Dr. William F. Schubert, Foothills' Best Family Physician.

For more information, please visit www.vhhospital.org. For more information about funding initiatives or to support the hospital, please call the Foundation at 818.952.2226.

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