

PRESS RELEASE Embargoed Until Thursday, February 17, 2011

Community Benefit Report
Delaware's Hospitals Major Contributor to Health,
Prosperity of State

*Member Hospitals Contributed Healthcare
and Healthy Living Initiatives Valued at Over \$311 Million
Over 18,137 Jobs at an Average Salary of \$57,644
\$186 Million in Taxes Paid*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 17, 2011
Contact: Wayne Smith, President & CEO,
Delaware Healthcare Association. 302 674-2853

Delaware's hospitals have a tremendous impact on the healthcare and economy of the State. Their contributions to Delaware's quality of life were recently quantified in the Delaware Healthcare Association's *Community Benefit Report*. The report details financial and programmatic data for Fiscal Year 2009.

Delaware's not-for-profit hospitals contributed a total of \$311.9 million in Fiscal Year 2009 toward free and subsidized healthcare and community benefit programs aimed at fostering a healthier citizenry. Of that total, the amount of free health care provided to those unable to pay was \$87.0 million while the subsidy representing the unpaid cost of government sponsored healthcare totaled \$137.3 million. In addition, Delaware's hospitals spent \$87.3 million on community benefit programs designed to create healthier lives in almost every corner of our State. Delaware Healthcare Association President Wayne A. Smith said the spending level, "represents a significant financial contribution to ensuring the basic healthcare needs of Delawareans are met, regardless of ability to pay."

He further noted that, Delaware, unlike the typical situation found in other states, has no state or local government financed general hospital. "State and local governments save tens of millions of dollars by having our State's not-for-profit hospitals provide the safety net care that would otherwise have been provided at taxpayer expense through a county or state hospital, as is the case in other states. Delaware's hospitals make a significant financial contribution to the State while saving the taxpayer significant expense," he stated.

The First State's hospitals also represent an impressive employment base and a key economic contributor to the State's on-going prosperity. Delaware hospitals are industry leaders given their combined total 2009 expenditures of \$2.31 billion and total employment of 18,137 people in well-paying jobs at an average salary of \$57,644 per year.

"Delawareans of all income levels not only receive superb healthcare at our hospitals and healthcare facilities, but hospitals also provide a stable employment and economic base, which is important in these trying economic times," Smith observed.

About the Delaware Healthcare Association

The Delaware Healthcare Association is a statewide trade and membership services organization that exists to represent and serve hospitals, health systems, and related health care organizations in their role of providing a continuum of appropriate, cost-effective, quality care to improve the health of the people of Delaware.