

*Ukiah Valley
Medical Center*



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**Ukiah Valley Medical Center Wins California
Council for Excellence Bronze Eureka Award**

Ukiah Valley Medical Center (UVMC) is one of seventeen California organizations that have been recognized for their performance excellence by the California Council for Excellence (CCE). The CCE, which administers the California Awards for Performance Excellence (CAPE) named its 2005 recipients on December 13, 2005.

The award program, which emulates the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, recognizes companies and organizations that demonstrate continuous improvement and best-in-class performance in several key business areas including leadership, strategic planning, customer focus, human resources, and business results.

The CAPE program consists of a three-tier award system. The highest award is the Eureka Award, which UVMC won at the bronze level.

“We were so excited to just receive a site visit by the CCE because it represents that our positive work has gained the attention of statewide examiners,” said UVMC President and CEO Mark E. LaRose. “The fact that we’ve won an award for our excellence is a testament to the exceptional team of people we have at UVMC.”

UVMC is one of three Adventist Health hospitals that won a CAPE Award which includes an Adventist Health hospital in Los Angeles and another in Paradise, Calif. “We are pleased to be part of a system who values continuous improvement and excellent performance,” said LaRose.

The U.S. Congress established the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Program in 1987 to recognize U.S. organizations for their achievements in quality and performance and to raise awareness about the importance of quality and performance excellence as a competitive edge. The award is not given for specific products or services.

Organizations that are headquartered in California may apply for the CAPE Award. Applications for the award are evaluated by an independent board of examiners composed of primarily private-sector experts in quality and business. Examiners look for achievements and improvements in all areas of the organization. Organizations that pass an initial screening are visited by teams of examiners to verify information in the application and to clarify questions that come up during the review. Each applicant receives a written summary of strengths and areas for improvement in each area addressed by the criteria.

“The application and review process for the Baldrige and CAPE Award is one of the best, most cost-effective and comprehensive business health audit you can get,” says Arnold Weimerskirch, former chair of the Baldrige Award panel of judges and vice president of quality, Honeywell, Inc.

Among the top winners are Boeing’s Air Force Systems division based in Long Beach; Sharp Healthcare of San Diego; the American Association of Critical Care Nurses located in Aliso Viejo; and, Spectrolab based in Sylmar.

The CAPE Award recipients will be honored at the 12th Annual CAPE ceremony to be held on Friday, April 7, 2005, at the Hyatt Regency Irvine.

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Ukiah Valley Medical Center is part of Adventist Health, a not-for-profit, faith-based health system operating in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Founded on the Seventh-day Adventist heritage of Christian health care, Adventist Health is comprised of 20 hospitals with more than 3,100 beds, 18,800 employees, numerous clinics and outpatient facilities, 16 home care agencies and three joint-venture retirement centers. For more information, visit www.uvmc.org or www.adventisthealth.org.