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LEBANON VA MEDICAL CENTER HONORS OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES

LEBANON – May 2, 2013 –

The Lebanon VA Medical Center honored outstanding staff members at the sixth annual “Hearts of Excellence” recognition ceremony on Thursday, May 2, 2013. The Medical Center Director, Robert W. Callahan Jr. recognized the dedicated and selfless service of employees who demonstrate unsurpassed commitment to keeping the nation’s pledge to care for “those who have borne the battle.” The recognition ceremony is a simple and genuine expression of gratitude and thanks to employees who personally contribute to improving the lives of Veterans.

The “Hearts of Excellence” is an annual event developed by a joint partnership between labor and management that recognizes outstanding staff achievements in a variety of areas. Employees may be nominated by their supervisors, co-workers or Veterans. A joint labor-management committee reviews the nominations and competitively selects individual and group honorees in several categories. Honorees at the Lebanon VA were also forwarded to a regional competition, sponsored by the Federal Executive Board, which includes 170 federal agencies. This year’s honorees include:

Non-Supervisory Rookie of the Year

Noah Whiddon

Supervisory Rookie of the Year

Stacie Price - Gold

Teresa Columbus - Silver

Outstanding Trades and Crafts Performer

Brad Wildermuth

Economy in Government Operations

Receiving & Distribution Team (Dean Steckbeck, Christopher Heilman, Carl Walkowiak, Tessa Herb and Warren Wenger)

Outstanding Administrative Support Accomplishment

Casey Christ

Outstanding Technical Support Accomplishment

Jody Boyer - Gold

Julie Willard - Silver

Outstanding Technical Achievement

Pressure Ulcer Team (Nancy Fitting, Lynn Kern and Dr. Barbara Keenan)

Outstanding Professional Achievement

Dr. Jorge Diduszyn

Supervisor of the Year

Amanda Wise - Gold

Gary Margut - Silver

Manager of the Year

Gary Houtz – Gold

Scott Harman - Silver

Improved Federal Image

James Sumlin – Gold

Jane Long – Silver

York Community Based Outpatient Clinic (Gaye Bailey, Laurie Catalfo, Melissa Gouge, Melvin Latham and Meridith Moore)

Valor

Dr. Kenneth Graf – Gold

VA Police Capt. Scott Whisler and Lt. Lynn Rutt – Silver

Outstanding Community Service

Cheryl Green – Gold

Cynthia Campbell-Samuels – Silver

Federal Executive Board Winners Included:

Dr. Kenneth Graf – Gold Award for Valor (Individual)

Scott Whisler & Lynn Rutt – Gold Award for Valor (Group)

Cheryl Green – Silver Award – Outstanding Community Service (Individual)

The Lebanon VA Medical Center is one of 153 VA Medical Centers located throughout the Nation. Last year, the medical center served approximately 45,000 Veterans through nearly half a million visits and appointments. The Lebanon VA Medical Center offers comprehensive, primary and specialty care from its central campus in Lebanon and six Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) located in Reading, Lancaster, Pottsville, Frackville, Camp Hill and York. If you are a Veteran and wish to receive care at the Lebanon VA Medical Center or any of its CBOCs, please call 717-228-6000 for immediate review of your eligibility and enrollment.

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