

Rome Memorial Hospital's Housekeeping Staff Acknowledged for Job Well Done

ROME (May 19, 2004) -- Five of Rome Memorial Hospital's housekeeping staff were recently honored by the hospital's Senior Behavioral Health Unit (SBHU) staff for going "above and beyond" the call of duty in keeping the facility clean, according to SBHU Director Andrea Polidori-Knapp, MSW, CSW.

Housekeeping Staff Gloria Rosario, Joanne Mitsou, Militza "Millie" Jardines, Anna Cornell, and Julieta Stelle were honored by SBHU staff for providing a clean environment at the unit on the hospital's 2nd floor. "The housekeeping staff on our unit goes above and beyond their duties and responsibilities," said Polidori-Knapp. "They are always giving a hand to the nursing staff."

Located on the hospital's second floor, the Senior Behavioral Health Unit is a secure, 11-bed therapeutic environment that provides health care for seniors who have depression, anxiety, dementia, and other problems. The Unit provides services to patients within a 100-mile radius of the Central New York facility.

The SBHU staff are not the only ones that have recognized the professionalism of the housekeeping staff. "The Office of Mental Health, the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Healthcare Facilities and Horizon Health Corporation have all commented on the cleanliness of our hospital," she said. "I've heard them mention that the facility 'just sparkles,'" she added.

"When someone from Horizon Health Corporation mentions the cleanliness of our facility, that is truly a testament to our housekeeping staff because there are over 180 other Horizon facilities across the United States," said Polidori-Knapp.

"In 25 years, I've never actually been recognized in a department or unit for the work I do," said Housekeeper Joanne Mitsou. "The Housekeeping Department has recognized us," she said "but it's nice to be recognized by a specific unit," she added.

Building Services Manager Gail VanEtten said that her staff — 63-strong — are very conscientious of the service they provide and try to keep the entire hospital as clean as possible. "We try to put ourselves in the shoes of our patients and their families and recognize that what we do contributes to the overall quality of service that they are given at Rome Memorial Hospital."

The Senior Behavioral Health Unit can take admissions seven days a week, 24 hours a day to meet the needs of seniors in crisis. For more information, please call 338-7399.