

Hospital Review

BUSINESS & LEGAL ISSUES FOR HEALTH SYSTEM LEADERSHIP*Becker's Hospital Review/Becker's ASC Review*

100 Best Places to Work in Healthcare

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Becker's ASC Review/Becker's Hospital Review has announced its list of the "100 Best Places to Work in Healthcare." The 2011 list was developed through nominations and research, and the following organizations were selected for their demonstrated excellence in providing a work environment that promotes teamwork, professional development and quality patient care.

For a variety of reasons, the editors ultimately determined to focus the list on hospitals, health systems, surgery centers and large physician practices. The list excludes advertisers. All organizations that are placed on the list undergo a substantial review with other peers and through our own research.

Sacred Heart Hospital (Eau Claire, Wis.)

Type of facility: Hospital/health system

What makes it a Best Place to Work: Sacred Heart Hospital, an affiliate of Hospital Sisters Health System, is a 344-licensed bed acute care hospital that provides trauma center and regional cancer center services. Many of the hospital's creative initiatives center around employee recognition. Each year, the hospital distributes a free frozen turkey to each colleague on staff in the week before Thanksgiving, and each staff member also receives a gift at the hospital's annual Christmas dinner. August means the annual colleague appreciation picnic, where hospital staff and families gather on the hospital's back lawn for ribs, chicken and live music. Each month, the hospital holds a 20-minute recognition ceremony where leaders recognize teams and individuals who have exceeded expectations; one star member is awarded the "employee of the month" special parking space, and others are given certificates and gift cards. Hospital leaders also send out weekly thank you notes to outstanding employees' homes, and top performers are invited to attend leadership conferences and hospital award ceremonies. Aside from employee recognition, Sacred Heart staff are encouraged to keep themselves healthy by participating in a nurse-led wellness initiative. The initiative includes diet and nutrition coaches, exercise consultants, BMI and cholesterol testing and smoking cessation programs, and those who participate are eligible for additional vacation time hours. A 25 percent discount on tuition at the local Catholic daycare gives staff with young children a convenient option for child care.