



Carolinah HealthCare System

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Cabarrus College of Health Sciences Receives National Recognition for Community Service

Concord, N.C. — For the fifth consecutive year, [Cabarrus College of Health Sciences](#) is honored as a leader among higher education institutions for its support of volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement on the [2012 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll](#).

The [President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll](#) recognizes higher education institutions that reflect the values of exemplary community service and achieve meaningful outcomes in their communities. Inspired by the thousands of college students who traveled across the country to support relief efforts along the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina, the initiative celebrates the transformative power and volunteer spirit that exists within the higher education community. The Corporation for National and Community Service, which has administered the Honor Roll since 2006, named a total of 513 schools to the Honor Roll. For a full list of recipients, visit www.NationalService.gov/HonorRoll.

“Cabarrus College of Health Sciences has always endeavored to grow and nurture students into compassionate, community-minded healthcare providers,” said Cabarrus College Chancellor Dianne O. Snyder, DHA, RN. “We are proud of the role our faculty, staff and students play in improving the lives of those in our communities, and are truly grateful for this recognition of the work they do.”

All Cabarrus College students are required to complete voluntary community service with community-run programs, projects and events as part of their curriculum. During the 2010-11 academic year, students were actively involved in volunteering 6,874 hours of service. One exemplary example of community service takes place each summer through the Occupational Therapy Assistant program. Eighteen student volunteers collaborated with Wings of Eagles Ranch to provide services to campers. Volunteers provided professional expertise working as counselors. At Wings, therapeutic horses

serve as unique vehicles for exercising campers' bodies and minds providing physical, mental and emotional rewards. The horse's rhythmic movements help increase balance, muscle control and strengthens riders with impaired mobility. OTA have training regarding this therapy and apply their knowledge and expertise in providing therapeutic applications with riders. Riding motivates children with learning challenges to increase levels of concentration, patience and discipline. Over 471 community service hours benefited approximately 100 children with special needs.

“Preparing students to participate in our democracy and providing them with opportunities to take on local and global issues in their course work are as central to the mission of education as boosting college completion and closing the achievement gap,” said Eduardo Ochoa, the U.S. Department of Education’s assistant secretary for postsecondary education. “The Honor Roll schools should be proud of their work to elevate the role of service-learning on their campuses. Galvanizing their students to become involved in projects that address pressing concerns and enrich their academic experience has a lasting impact – both in the communities in which they work and on their own sense of purpose as citizens of the world. I hope we’ll see more and more colleges and universities following their lead.”

Cabarrus College of Health Sciences, an affiliate of Carolinas HealthCare System, is located on the campus of Carolinas Medical Center-NorthEast in Concord, N.C. Five hundred and fourteen students are enrolled in six associate degree and three baccalaureate completion programs. Associate degree programs include medical assistant, nursing, occupational therapy assistant, pharmacy technology, surgical technology and associate in science. Baccalaureate completion programs include health services leadership and management, medical imaging and nursing. The College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. For additional information, visit www.cabarruscollege.edu.

Carolinas HealthCare System (www.carolinashealthcare.org), one of the nation’s leading and most innovative healthcare organizations, provides a full spectrum of healthcare and wellness programs throughout North and South Carolina. Its diverse network of more than 650 care locations includes academic medical centers, hospitals, healthcare pavilions, physician practices, destination centers, surgical and rehabilitation centers, home health agencies, nursing homes and hospice and palliative care. CHS works to improve and enhance the overall health and wellbeing of its communities through high quality patient care, education and research programs, and numerous collaborative partnerships and initiatives.

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