**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: St. Jude Medical Staff**

**FROM: Lee Penrose, President and CEO**

**DATE: Dec. 23, 2015**

**SUBJECT: St. Jude Earns Magnet Status**

 It is a great pleasure to announce that St. Jude Medical Center has been named a “Magnet” hospital, a prestigious national honor earned by only 8 percent of U.S. hospitals. This award is the highest accolade in nursing excellence that any hospital can receive.

This coveted honor recognizes hospitals that deliver an extraordinary level of beside care, demonstrate excellence in clinical practice, exceed national standards and benchmarks, and display innovation and leadership in improving outcomes.

One of the most difficult credentials to achieve in the healthcare industry, the recognition offers tangible evidence of our quality of care to patients, employer groups, and rating organizations. Many hospital “report cards” now use Magnet recognition as an important factor in overall score.

The award comes after a rigorous and lengthy evaluation of patient services throughout the hospital, including the submission of nearly 3,400 pages of evidence —documenting continuous improvement, interdisciplinary collaboration, and shared decision-making—as well as a three-day on-site visit by appraisers in November.

Donna Havens, PhD, RN, FAAN, Chair of the Commission for Magnet Recognition Program, made the announcement during a conference call – an announcement that was greeted with exuberant cheering and applause by those present. Ms. Haven lauded the hospital’s strong shared governance and Professional Practice Model, ongoing advancement of staff clinical knowledge and skills, and the interprofessional collaboration and innovation exhibited throughout the medical center.

Independent research shows that hospitals receiving Magnet recognition consistently outperform other facilities, including creating better patient outcomes, shorter lengths of hospital stay, lower mortality rates, and top decile patient satisfaction. Magnet hospitals also recruit and retain more qualified staff and increasingly impact physician recruitment as well.

Please join me in congratulating our entire staff on the quality, innovation and passion they offer each and every day to patients, families and one another. This top honor is a wonderful addition to our growing list of national awards and recognitions.