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MPH gets bonus for care initiative

By STEPHANIE HARRIS THOMAS, Hope Star Writer

Medical Park Hospital was one of 29 hospitals selected across the state of Arkansas to receive over \$50,000 for an Arkansas Medicaid Quality Incentive Program.

MPH received the bonus of \$50,500 because it met the required criteria for the bonus. MPH Chief Nursing Officer/Chief Operating Officer Faye Hughes said some of the key indicators for selection, were measures of how the hospital stands in the care for patients suffering from pneumonia, congestive heart failure, or heart attacks.

Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe was grateful for the hospitals that qualified, in an announcement issued by his office.

“It is important not to only increase access to health care for Arkansans, but also to continually strive to improve that care,” Beebe said. “These hospitals are being recognized for taking the steps to make those improvements.”

MPH not only received the monetary award, but it also was the recipient of a performance award from Arkansas Medicaid, according to MPH Chief Executive Officer Todd Lorenz.

“We are excited to have been eligible, and to receive it is one more of the indicators of the quality of the staff and the care they provide,” Lorenz said. “We do care for a large medicaid population at Medical Park.”

He said everyone has worked hard, naming staff members Belinda Gaines and Susan Phillips, particularly, for their efforts. “All have worked hard, but it was a team effort,” Lorenz said. “It reflects our appreciation to Medicaid and our representatives in legislation that implemented the program for us.”