



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing Ranks 1st in the U.S. on National Council Licensure Exam *Academic achievement the result of rigorous course of study and review*

RICHMOND, Va. - (Jan. 9, 2011) – Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing has ranked number one out of all nursing programs in the United States for passage of the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for the time period October 2010 to September 2011, as reported by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The College ranked first out of 1,752 nursing programs, including associate's, diploma and bachelor of science programs.

The rankings are based on the percentage of the Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing's passage rates compared to other programs with at least 10 graduates who took the NCLEX during the same reporting period. All nursing programs with the same percentage of graduates passing the NCLEX will have the same rank.

Each state board of nursing uses the rigorous, standardized exam to determine whether or not a candidate is prepared for entry-level nursing practice. The National Council of State Boards of Nursing monitors the quality of the NCLEX examinations to ensure the test is reliable, valid and meets all other aspects of data quality.

“Our students’ overwhelming and consistent success on the NCLEX is the result of their skill, intelligence and hard work,” said Melanie Green, Ph.D., RN, CNE, vice president and provost of Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing. “Their achievement demonstrates Bon Secours’ commitment to providing a world class nursing education.”

Each graduate of the last seven classes of the Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing has passed the NCLEX on his or her first attempt. Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing now offers an NCLEX capstone review course with practice tests and other review tools as part of its curriculum. This year, the

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College also opened a Clinical Simulation Center, a realistic training facility where students practice complex treatment scenarios with high-tech mannequins and equipment. Students at the College receive nearly 1,000 hours of laboratory and clinical training, nearly twice the minimum required by the Virginia Board of Nursing and that offered by most comparable colleges of nursing.

The Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing is part of the Bon Secours Virginia Health System, the fourth largest and only faith-based health system in Virginia, offering a full range of services at seven hospitals. Students, faculty, staff and alumni of the College are part of a nearly 200-year-old mission of providing good help to those in need inspired by the Sisters of Bon Secours. The College extends this mission by educating nurses in a spirit of academic and clinical excellence to serve the community with genuine compassion and the highest clinical standards.

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About Bon Secours Virginia Health System

Bon Secours Virginia provides good help to thousands of Virginians through a network of hospitals, primary and specialty care practices, ambulatory care sites and continuing care facilities across the Commonwealth. The not-for-profit health system employs about 12,000 people, including nearly 300 physicians as part of the Bon Secours Medical Group.

The fourth largest and only faith-based health system in Virginia, Bon Secours Virginia offers a full range of services including cardiac, women's, children's, orthopaedics, oncology, neurosciences and surgery at seven award-winning hospitals.

- Bon Secours Richmond is St. Mary's Hospital, Memorial Regional Medical Center, Richmond Community Hospital and St. Francis Medical Center
- Bon Secours Hampton Roads is Maryview Medical Center, DePaul Medical Center and Mary Immaculate Hospital

About Bon Secours Richmond Foundation

Bon Secours' ministry of providing good help to those in need is supported by the Bon Secours Richmond Foundation, which raises funds to create healthy communities, advance clinical innovation and provide an extraordinary experience of care.