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## **Crystal McVey Receives “Spotlight” Award**

*AHF Honors the Clinical Nutrition Manager at Huntsville Hospital*

**Louisville, KY (May 8, 2014)** – The Association for Healthcare Foodservice (AHF) is proud to announce that Crystal McVey, Clinical Nutrition Manager, Huntsville Hospital, is the winner of the 2014 AHF Spotlight Award. This award will be presented at the 2014 AHF Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla.

The AHF Spotlight Award is presented to operator members who have enhanced operations through technology, program development, implementation, innovation and/or creative use of managing finances. Criteria include project complexity and scope, project initiative and leadership, resourcefulness, collaboration and use of AHF tools, results, and timeliness and applicability of the project for other AHF members.

McVey’s program involved the creation and implementation of a comprehensive, multidisciplinary team-oriented process for effective recognition and documentation of adult malnutrition. The goals were to increase the appropriate diagnosis and coding of malnutrition, improve reimbursement rates and improve patient outcomes.

Steps taken to achieve an adult malnutrition reimbursement program include:

- In house chart audit (178 charts reviewed)
- Education of Registered Dietitians
- Pilot Program launched in March 2013
- Education of doctors
- Implementation of the Malnutrition Screening Tool (MST)
- Creation of a Malnutrition Progress Note
- Implementation of Malnutrition Progress Note

In 2013, McVey saw an overall 48% improvement in the appropriate diagnosis and coding of malnutrition along with increased reimbursements.

“It is not merely enough to maintain, direct and organize,” said McVey. “Instead, I am holding something in trust for another. I am here to help my organization grow.”

**About AHF:**

The Association for Healthcare Foodservice (AHF) is the national professional association dedicated to advancing self-operated healthcare foodservice as industry best practice. AHF develops healthcare foodservice professionals, assuring food and nutrition services are valued as an essential contributor to the healthcare organization’s mission. For more information, please visit: [www.healthcarefoodservice.org](http://www.healthcarefoodservice.org).

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