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Martha Rardin Receives “Partnership in Leadership” Award

AHF Honors Director of Nutrition and Dietetics at Hendricks Regional Health

Louisville, KY (May 5, 2014) – The Association for Healthcare Foodservice (AHF) is proud to announce that Martha Rardin, MSM, RDN, CD, FAND, Director of Nutrition and Dietetics, Hendricks Regional Health, is the winner of the 2014 AHF Partnership in Leadership Award. This award will be presented at the 2014 AHF Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla.

The AHF Partnership in Leadership Award is presented to AHF operator members who demonstrate a strong commitment to self-operation and currently support the foodservice director or foodservice administrative director.

Rardin has been the Director of Nutrition and Dietetics at Hendricks Regional Health for 28 years. After watching department services triple during her tenure, the administration had developed a high level of trust and respect for Rardin and her team. During her 20th year, discussions were held regarding a new department. Rardin’s expertise and judgments allowed her team to design and supervise the construction.

“Designing and building a new department was a chance of a lifetime,” said Rardin. “I believe because I had been a leader in my facility and profession, my character and judgment was trusted with the 3.1 million dollar construction.”

Hendricks Regional Health initiated a construction project that resulted in a new kitchen and servery in 2008. The primary objective was to replace a kitchen built in 1962 with a 50 bed hospital serving 300-400 meals/day with a custom kitchen that could service a 160 bed hospital and serve 1,000 – 1,200 meals/day, and would service the community for the next 30 years. Construction was completed in 2010.

The results of the design and construction efforts were a new 17,507 square foot department designed with FIFO (first in/first out) as their basic principle.

The scope of the entire project involved new construction on the main campus. Included in the construction was a new kitchen, including new office space for the Center for Diabetes Excellence, a new surgical inpatient unit and eight operating room suites.

“Foodservice leaders should be encouraged to be advocates for those we serve, our associates and our community,” said Rardin. “Our expertise is invaluable to our employers.”

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.

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