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## **Thomas Thaman Receives “Partnership in Leadership” Award**

*AHF Honors the Director of Food and Nutrition at Eskenazi Health*

**Louisville, KY (May 8, 2014)** – The Association for Healthcare Foodservice (AHF) is proud to announce that Thomas Thaman, Director of Food and Nutrition, Eskenazi 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.

On Dec. 7, 2013, Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital and Eskenazi Health embarked on a new journey, including a new name and new building with foodservice facilities for the citizens of Indianapolis and Marion County.

Thaman and his team worked directly with the architects and consultants to develop the vision that they had for this operation.

“On behalf of both the Eskenazi Health Food and Nutrition team and our senior leadership, I am very proud to present our new hospital and medical center as a model for organizational support for self-operation in foodservice,” said Thaman.

Prominent at the new Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital and Eskenazi Health campus included a major expansion of the food and dining services for patients, staff and visitors. This expansion included an enlarged eating establishment called the Ingram Micro Mobility Marketplace at Eskenazi Health, a state-of-the-art production kitchen which services both the marketplace and room service. The production kitchen also features a composting system that will allow us to effectively reduce our daily food waste to a 20 lb bag of fertile compost.

The Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Hospital and Eskenazi Health campus boasts a 5,000 square foot “sky farm” on the roof of the seventh floor Eskenazi Health Outpatient Care Center. This unique sky farm will grow vegetables and herbs that will be used in recipes for both patients and guests in the Ingram Micro Mobility Marketplace and Café Soleil. The produce will also be sold to staff in Café Soleil Express to promote healthy eating. In addition to the expanded operations on the Eskenazi Health campus, a self-operated Café Soleil Express was also added. Café Soleil Express includes a small kitchen and 20 seat dining room located in the new Eskenazi Health West 38th Street location, which opened in October of 2013 on the west side of Indianapolis.

**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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