



OHSU GREENTEAM WINS PARTNERS FOR CHANGE AWARD

Hospital lauded for environmental achievements

April 18, 2006, Seattle, WA – Today, OHSU GreenTeam received praise for its significant efforts to improve environmental performance while delivering quality patient care.

The award was presented by Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E), a non-profit group focused on improving health care's environmental performance. H2E is based on the vision of a healthy health care system – a system that embraces safer building products, clean air, energy and water efficiency, safe working practices and a commitment to public health demonstrated through waste volume and toxicity reduction. Jointly founded by the American Hospital Association, the Environmental Protection Agency, Health Care Without Harm and the American Nurses Association, H2E educates health care professionals about pollution prevention opportunities, regards the sector's best performers and provides a wealth of practical tools and resources to facilitate the industry's movement toward environmental sustainability.

The H2E Partners for Change Award recognizes hospitals that acknowledge and act upon the crucial link between community and environmental health. The award is given annually to facilities that have made significant and sustainable progress toward reducing waste, preventing pollution and eliminating mercury. Recipients reduce, reuse and/or recycle at least 10% of their total waste each

year and often find that these pollution prevention programs benefit both their communities and their bottom line.

“By focusing on environmental sustainability, OHSU GreenTeam is playing an active role in the health care sector’s fundamental shift toward protecting public health instead of simply treating disease,” said Laura Brannen, Director of Hospitals for a Healthy Environment. OHSU GreenTeam is to be commended for its visionary efforts to create a healthier environment for their patients, staff and community and for setting the example for other hospitals to follow.”

“Here at OHSU, we believe that protecting the health of our environment is crucial to protecting the health of the community we serve. Because of this, we are committed to continually improving our environmental impact to make our hospital safer and healthier for our patients, staff, community and the global environment.” Cites the GreenTeam co-chairs Jamie Schaub and Skai Dancey.

The leading national force in helping hospitals with environmental improvement, H2E provides practical solutions through a website full of resources, regular teleconferences offering expert help for environmental challenges and a listserv where colleagues across the country share best practices and strategies for pollution prevention. At CleanMed 2006 (<http://www.cleanmed.org>), H2E honors nearly 200 facilities for environmental excellence through its annual awards program. To learn more, visit <http://www.cleanmed.org>