



The influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals

Contact: Christy Rasmussen  
Director of Communications  
402/742-8151 or [crasmussen@nhanet.org](mailto:crasmussen@nhanet.org)

Date: 3/8/2008

### **NHA names Boys Town National Research Hospital 2007 Advocacy Team of the Year**

LINCOLN, Neb. — Wednesday, March 5, at the Nebraska Hospital Association's annual Advocacy Day event held at the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel in Lincoln, the NHA recognized Boys Town National Research Hospital in Omaha as the *2007 Advocacy Team of the Year*.

The award was presented to John Arch, administrator, and Pat Connell, associate administrator of behavioral health by NHA President, Laura Redoutey, FACHE. "This award recognizes Boys Town National Research Hospital's outstanding advocacy achievements on a local, state and national level. The NHA lauds the hospital staff for its commitment to improving the delivery of behavioral health and all health care services in Nebraska," Ms. Redoutey said.



*John Arch, Boys Town National Research Hospital administrator, Laura Redoutey, NHA president, and Pat Connell, associate administrator of behavioral health for Boys Town National Research Hospital.*

In 2007, the advocacy team at Boys Town National Research Hospital played an active

role in advocating for mental health provider rates, increasing mental health services capacities, mental health parity, decreasing the number of youth in juvenile detention centers, encouraging the Unicameral and the executive branch to develop family-based services and promoting legislation to facilitate health care workforce development.

One of the most significant initiatives Boys Town undertook was facilitating the formal development of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Coalition. Connell, Boys Town's advocacy team chair, is also the membership chair of the Behavioral Health Coalition which is comprised of representatives from ten non-profit associations, including the Nebraska Hospital Association, concerned with improving behavioral health.

Boys Town National Research Hospital is active at a state level within the NHA, the Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health and the Nebraska Association of Homes and Services for Children; and on a federal level within the Association of Private Practice Psychiatric Hospitals and Health Services, the National Council of Community Behavioral Health and the National Institute of Medicine.

The Nebraska Hospital Association congratulates the team at Boys Town National Research Hospital for their outstanding advocacy achievements.

#### **About the NHA**

The Nebraska Hospital Association is a statewide trade association representing Nebraska's hospitals and health systems. The NHA has been representing and supporting the needs of Nebraska's rural and urban hospitals since 1927. Today, NHA supports and encourages its members in developing various health care delivery systems geared toward improving the health and well-being of Nebraska's communities. NHA works closely with its membership to develop legislative and communication programs, prepare policy analysis, sponsor educational programs, prepare data analysis, assist with community health development and provide information and special services to our members. For more information, visit the NHA Web site at [www.nhanet.org](http://www.nhanet.org).