



Media Release

## **Safe Work Australia Month celebrated at Bethesda Hospital**

16 October 2013

As part of Safe Work Australia month, Bethesda Hospital has many reasons to celebrate with their staff at an event at the Hospital café on Wednesday 23 October 2013 from 11:30am.

Bethesda Hospital has just been notified that following a review by a WorkSafe Plan Assessor in August 2013, they have qualified for a WorkSafe Plan Platinum Certificate of Achievement.

The Claremont based private hospital is the only WA hospital to receive a Platinum Award in 2013.

To achieve a Platinum WorkSafe Plan Award organisations have to demonstrate a rating of 90% or more in every element of the WorkSafe Plan in the areas of Management Commitment, Planning, Consultation, Hazard Management and Training and Supervision as well as an annual reduction in either the incidence rate or frequency rate of lost time injury.

WorkSafe Plan Certificates of Achievement are presented at three levels:

- Silver Certificates: organisations meeting minimum standards
- Gold Certificates: organisations demonstrating good progress toward a best practice approach to safety and health management
- Platinum Certificates: organisations that achieve highest standards.

A formal presentation of the award from either the Commissioner for WorkSafe or the Minister for Commerce will take place early in the New Year; however the hospital wanted to celebrate this remarkable achievement with their staff.

This celebration event will also mark the completion of the Global Corporate Challenge (GCC), - the 16 week global workplace health and wellness program that 77 (11 teams of 7) staff members participated in, thanks to the generosity of Credent Financial Services.

Teams of seven from companies all over the world took part in this challenge and recorded their daily activity levels via the GCC website or mobile apps.

The post GCC results of the Bethesda teams were remarkable including:

- Total steps taken over the 16 week challenge = 111,290,082
- Total distance = 71,226 kilometres
- Energy burned= 4,487,216 calories which equals 17,892 slices of cake!
- 92% of surveyed staff said that the GCC had a positive impact on their relationship with exercise

- 88% of staff reported being more conscious of opportunities in their day to add more steps
- 94 kilos were lost collectively
- 58% reported a decrease in stress levels at home and work
- 42% reported an increase in work productivity.
- 65% reported they were more aware now of Bethesda Hospital's commitment to their health and well-being.

Hospital Chief Executive Officer said that 'the WorkSafe Award demonstrates our commitment to creating a safe work environment, and is an outstanding achievement for our OSH committee as well as our management and staff'.

'This external recognition goes a long way to reaffirm to our staff, patients, doctors and the community that Bethesda Hospital provides excellent patient care, and that we are passionate about quality and safety'.

This latest award joins other external accolades for the Hospital including top rankings in the patient satisfaction survey's conducted by health funds HBF and Medibank in the past two years, as well as the WHO Asia Pacific Hand Hygiene Excellence Award 2012/2013.

Bethesda is an independent 88-bed hospital in Claremont, which has been providing outstanding care and service to the Western Australian community for nearly 70 years.

[www.bethesda.asn.au](http://www.bethesda.asn.au)

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**Media Enquiries**

Naomi Quinlivan

0408 598 977

[nquinlivan@bethesda.org.au](mailto:nquinlivan@bethesda.org.au)