



Embargoed until:
October 29, 2009

Community Hospital Anderson partners with the AU School of Nursing to enhance medication training

Anderson, Ind. --- Community Hospital Anderson recently announced that it is partnering with the Anderson University School of Nursing to enhance medication training and practices. Community Hospital Anderson, along with the Community Hospital Anderson Foundation, will provide the AU School of Nursing with the Pyxis® MedStation® System. The Pyxis® MedStation® System represents the very latest in automated medication management.

“We are grateful to Community Hospital Anderson for this generous support in providing a state-of-the-art piece of equipment that will greatly enhance our development of skilled nurses,” says Dr. James L. Edwards, president of Anderson University. “Community Anderson is a valued partner in our shared commitment to bring the very best of health care to this region, which must begin with the best of education of professionals in this vitally needed field of service.”

The Pyxis® MedStation® System is the leading automated dispensing system supporting decentralized medication management. Barcode scanning to help ensure accurate medication dispensing, features to prevent loading of the wrong medication and active alerts to provide an added safety precaution for high risk medications are just a few of the ways the Pyxis® MedStation® system supports safe and efficient medication management.

“We are thrilled to partner with Anderson University to provide this system,” says Bill VanNess, M.D., president and CEO of Community Hospital Anderson. “Investing in the education of our future nurses benefits the entire health care community, and ultimately, our patients, as we send more prepared nurses into the workforce.”

The Pyxis® MedStation® System is the leading solution for decentralized medication management. Pyxis® MedStation® System technology offers the tools nurses and pharmacists rely on to help improve safety, security and efficiency. The Pyxis® MedStation® System provides profile-based medication dispensing and includes the Pyxis® BioID, a fingerprint verification function. The product also features electronic tracking and documentation.

“The medication management process is complex,” says Dr. Karen Williams, dean of the Anderson University School of Nursing. “Pyxis® technology is committed to breaking the harmful cycle of medication errors and simplifying medication management to bring safety and nursing practice together in measurable ways. Our students will now have the opportunity to utilize this important technology

prior to entering the patient care environment, which is consistent with the Anderson University School of Nursing mission of, 'educating individuals committed to competence and compassion in the nursing profession, serving God and society.'"

The addition of the Pyxis® MedStation® System fortifies an already strong nursing program at Anderson University. The School of Nursing at Anderson University is unique from other nursing programs because it integrates a Christian perspective into its programs and the relationships among students, faculty, and staff.

"We are grateful to our friends at Community Hospital and the Community Hospital Foundation for providing our School of Nursing with this important learning device," said Karen Roller, executive director of Development at Anderson University. "Their intentions from the onset were to provide the best possible preparation opportunities for our nursing students. When we asked them to consider funding the Pyxis machine, they immediately saw the potential positives for not only our students, but for future patients. Their concern was always to promote the well-being of patients through promoting excellent preparation of nursing students. They partnered with us to find a state-of-the-art device and we're grateful for their gift, encouragement and guidance in this process."

The mission of Community Hospital Anderson is to serve the medical, health and human service needs of the people in Anderson, Madison County and contiguous counties with compassion, dignity, respect and excellence. Service, although focused on injury, illness and disease will also embrace prevention, education and alternative systems of health care delivery.

The Community Anderson Foundation was established to receive, hold and distribute financial support for the benefit of the hospital and throughout the years has participated in numerous campaigns to benefit the community.

"While we typically focus much of our attention on the hospital, we also support the health care needs of the community," says Keith Trent, vice president and chief foundation officer with Community Anderson. "We are pleased to partner with the hospital in providing this state-of-the-art equipment to the AU School of Nursing."

The addition of the Pyxis® MedStation® System is a part of *Dreams. Discovery. Direction.*, a \$110 million campaign launched by Anderson University on October 6, 2006. The campaign is the largest fundraising effort in the university's history. To date, the campaign has raised \$93 million. Major components of the campaign include \$51 million for capital projects, \$34 million for endowment and \$25 million for operational support.

Anderson University is a private, four-year, Christian liberal arts institution of approximately 2,800 undergraduate and graduate students. Established in 1917 by the Church of God, the university offers more than 60 undergraduate majors and graduate programs in business, education, music, nursing and theology.

###