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## MEDIA RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

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### ***MHA Celebrates Employee Milestones***

The Middlesex Hospital Alliance (MHA) has followed the longstanding tradition of recognizing hospital employees for the years they have worked at Four Counties Health Services and Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital. In 2005, recognition was enhanced based on feedback from employees to provide gifts and offsite recognition to employees after 10 years of service as opposed to 20 years which was the practice previously. Staff members are recognized at 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 year intervals. Staff with 5 years of service is recognized at receptions held with co-workers on site at either the FCHS site or the Strathroy site respectively. Physicians at MHA are recognized at 25 years of service as part of its staff and physician service.

The MHA sponsored an evening on April 6 at West Haven Golf & Country Club that recognized staff members who had worked at either of its sites for an extended period of time. Recipients of the recognition had service records that ranged from 10 years to 35 years. Service for those recognized totaled 720 years for the Strathroy Site and over 80 years of service for the FCHS site. In 2010 there were no physicians who had reached the 25 year milestone.

“It just isn’t as common in today’s fast paced world to see employers who have such large numbers of staff who have worked decades for the same employer“, said Board Chair Cheryl Waters. “Employees that have been with the MHA for 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years have seen phenomenal changes in the way hospitals function, particularly related to the significant introduction of technology in all areas. Computerization has revolutionized the way we deliver services and monitor the quality and productivity of our hospitals”.

In recognition of service, the hospital provides from its budget a gift (\$100 for 10 years, \$150 for 15 years, \$200 for 20 years, \$250 for 25 years, \$300 for 30 years, \$350 for 35 years and \$400 for 40 years). This year gifts and pins totaling \$7788.58 were given out at the evening’s event that recognized 64 people for service milestones. The MHA is currently reviewing the Service Recognition program to ensure recognition of staff while ensuring costs are manageable.

The evening ended with an expression of appreciation from the Board Chair Cheryl Waters on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Middlesex Hospital Alliance to the employees who were in attendance.