

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***The Lincoln Foundation to Honor Exceptional Organizations  
with 2007 Lincoln Awards***

**Naperville , IL – 1 November 2007** – The Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence announces the 2007 recipients of its three-tiered award process based on the Criteria for Performance Excellence of the Baldrige National Quality Program.

For 2007 there are five recipients of the Lincoln Silver Award for “Progress Towards Excellence” for demonstrating sound and notable continuous improvement processes. The organizations are as follows:

**SILVER RECIPIENTS FOR “PROGRESS TOWARDS EXCELLENCE”**

- **Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital , *Downers Grove***
- **Delta Dental of Illinois , *Lisle***
- **Community Consolidated School District #93, *Serving portions of Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, & Hanover Park***
- **Memorial Health System, *Springfield***
- **OSF St. Mary Medical Center , *Galesburg***

Two additional Illinois organizations have been awarded the 2007 Lincoln Bronze Award for “Commitment to Excellence” for their earnest efforts to adopt and apply continuous improvement principles. These organizations include:

**BRONZE RECIPIENTS FOR “COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE”**

- **Passavant Area Hospital , *Jacksonville***
- **Provena Health System, *Mokena***

“Today’s challenges in healthcare, education & business require organizations to continually strive for improvement in order to effectively serve their constituencies and succeed” says Paul G. Kuchuris, Jr., President and CEO of The Lincoln Foundation. “The Foundation is proud of its role in helping organizations begin and maintain their journeys to excellence. This year’s recipients are excellence examples of organizations that are making a difference in their communities and their respective sectors. We are proud to honor them for their leadership in demonstrating that with a well structured, proven framework, organizations can ensure that our state will continue to be competitive and build a bright future for Illinois .”

This achievement identifies them as a leader in contributing to the economic development and competitiveness of Illinois . On Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Westin Hotel in Lombard , The Lincoln Foundation will be honoring all of the 2007 Lincoln Award recipients. Our keynote speaker for this special event will be Sister Mary Jean Ryan, SSM Healthcare, a National Baldrige Award recipient. For more information on this Recognition Ceremony, call 630-637-1595 x3 or visit our website at [www.lincolnaward.org](http://www.lincolnaward.org).

#### **About The Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence:**

The Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence is a not-for-profit organization based by both private and public funding that assist Illinois organizations to continuously improve their performance by encouraging, developing, and highlighting excellence among all five sectors of the economy: industry, service, health care, education, and government. Each year a selected team of Lincoln Examiners reviews and assesses each award application in seven areas (leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, information and analysis, human resource focus, process management and results) and a Panel of Judges determined which applicants have earned recognition. For more information on how your organization can benefit from The Lincoln Foundation or to attend the Recognition Ceremony, call 630-637-1595 x3 or visit our website at [www.lincolnaward.org](http://www.lincolnaward.org).

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