



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Six Iowa Organizations Recognized in Innovation and Performance Excellence Program

Cedar Rapids - The Iowa Quality Center announced today that six organizations are being recognized in the 2009 Iowa Recognition for Performance Excellence (IRPE) program—Iowa's premier program for innovation and performance excellence.

The organizations receiving recognition this year are:

Gold Level

**Iowa State University, Facilities Planning & Management,
Ames**

Silver Level

**Genesis Health System, Davenport
St. Luke's Hospital, Cedar Rapids
Wright Medical Center, Clarion**

Progress Level

Winneshiek Medical Center, Decorah

Commitment Level

Rebuild Iowa Office, Des Moines



The prestigious Iowa Recognition for Performance Excellence program was established in 2000 to help businesses and organizations in the state become more sustainable. Each applicant organization receives over 1000 hours of analysis by a team of trained examiners and the IRPE program presents awards to the organizations that demonstrate successful process-based results. The process is aligned with the Baldrige National Quality Program.

There is no monetary award, but those who complete the process indicate it helps them identify strengths and opportunities for improvement within their companies, provides training for continuous improvement and leadership development, and assures customer focus, efficiency, and workforce engagement within their organizations. This process is a proven method for organizations to achieve their highest potential and become more competitive in the world marketplace. For this reason the process is used by 36 states to support their economic development efforts.

In the past ten years, there have been 74 applications to the IRPE process, and 41 have been recognized for their Leadership achievement; three at the gold level, 17 at the silver level and 21 at the bronze level.

Companies and organizations that complete the Iowa process are also better positioned to prepare for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. All types and sizes of Iowa organizations are eligible to apply to the Iowa process, including business and manufacturing, health care, education, government, or non-profit.

The IRPE process, awards and examiner training are coordinated by the Iowa Quality Center, an independent non-profit organization, based in Marion, Iowa.

For more information about the IRPE process contact Gary Nesteby at the Iowa Quality Center, (319) 398-7101 or visit the IQC website at www.iowaqc.org.