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## **WOUND HEALING CENTER AT CHARLESTON AREA MEDICAL CENTER HONORED**

CHARLESTON, W. Va. (March 23, 2009) – Opened in September 2007, the Wound Healing Center at Charleston Area Medical Center is already becoming an industry leader in quality care. It has been awarded the New Center Outcomes Award by National Healing Corporation (NHC), a leader in disease management accounting for more than 30 percent of the nation's managed and outsourced wound healing centers.

NHC Chief Clinical Officer Katherine J. Rowland presented the award saying, "The team at Charleston Area Medical Center has excelled in both their dedication and results. In the short time they have been opened they have treated more than 800 chronic wounds that had not responded to previous therapies. They healed 89 percent of these wounds with almost all of them having a successful outcome in 16 weeks or less."

The winner of the annual award is based on data from clinical measures reported from NHC centers open for at least 15 months.

The Wound Healing Center at Charleston Area Medical Center specializes in the treatment of chronic wounds and non-responsive conditions and offers hospital-based outpatient wound care, as well as disease management and diabetes care.

Lisa Smith, director of the Charleston Area Medical Center Wound Healing Center, accepted the award saying, "Opening a new center can be a daunting task yet the need in the community fueled by an aging population and rising diabetes rates encourage us all to do our best every day. The physicians, clinical staff and everyone at the Wound Healing Center have been tireless in their commitment and I am honored to accept this on their behalf."

One of the highly specialized treatments offered at the center is hyperbaric oxygen therapy which works by surrounding the patient with 100 percent oxygen at higher than normal atmospheric pressure to increase the amount of oxygen in the patient's blood and promote healing from the inside out. In addition to tissue oxygenation, the Wound Healing Center also employs the use of vascular studies, tissue culturing and pathology, revascularization, skin grafting and clinical or surgical debridement.

The Wound Healing Center at Charleston Area Medical Center is located at 600 Morris Street, Suite 103 in Charleston. Call (304) 388-7040 or visit [www.camc.org](http://www.camc.org).

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### **About National Healing Corporation**

Founded in 1996 and headquartered in Boca Raton, Fla., with offices in Tampa, Fla., and Louisville, Ky., National Healing Corporation provides management services and the latest technology and expertise in wound healing to its client hospitals to establish quality wound healing programs. The Joint Commission

has awarded National Healing Disease-Specific Care Certification for wound care. Committed to health care compliance and best practice medicine, National Healing emphasizes these priorities in its extensive clinical and business training programs. The privately-held company accounts for 30 percent of all managed and outsourced wound centers in the United States. For more information, please visit [www.nationalhealing.com](http://www.nationalhealing.com).