

NEWS RELEASE



Lean Learning Center

40028 Grand River, Suite 300

Novi, Michigan 48375

www.leanlearningcenter.com

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Contact Nancy Lesinski or Steve Penn

French & Rogers

248-641-0044 tel

248-641-1718 fax

n.lesinski@french-rogers.com

For immediate release

LEAN LEARNING CENTER TO ASSIST NORTHEAST HEALTH WITH LEAN TRANSFORMATION

Novi, Mich., June 10, 2004 – The Lean Learning Center, a provider of lean curriculum, along with partner company Achievement Dynamics, has been selected by Northeast Health, a provider of senior care, hospital services, specialty services and retirement living in the greater Capital Region of Upstate New York, to lead the company through its lean transformation by providing consulting, lean education classes, and training events.

As part of its lean strategy, Northeast Health has selected a key individual on its task force to become the Lean Master. “A crucial part of our training strategy is to transfer our knowledge base to the client within a year,” said Lean Learning Center partner Jamie Flinchbaugh. “This enables them to then independently continue along their lean journey and share what they have learned throughout the enterprise.”

Required curriculum for Lean Master certification includes open-enrollment programs at the Lean Learning Center including the *Lean Experience*, a five-day session that teaches the foundation necessary for lean transformation, *Lean Leadership*, a two-day exploration of leadership principles required to drive lean transformation; *Lean Kaizen Workshop Boot Camp*, a five-day hands-on program with the majority of time spent at an actual manufacturing site; and *Lean Value Stream*, a two-day program that expands the lean vision to the entire enterprise. In addition, the program includes an in-company Learning

Laboratory, Self-Study and an On-Site Demonstration project at Northeast Health, requiring a display of tangible results.

Other elements of Northeast Health's lean initiative include an on-site Champion Development Workshop, four Kaizen events, and the establishment of a Lean Learning Laboratory.

Flinchbaugh believes that today's skyrocketing healthcare costs be controlled by incorporating the principles and practices of lean systems. "By employing lean methodologies, the healthcare industry can streamline processes, improve patient care and reduce costs for hospitals, clinics, insurance companies and medical device manufacturers.

End

Notes to editors:

The Lean Learning Center was founded in 2001 to address the gaps and barriers that are holding back companies from successful lean transformation. In combination with corporate partner Achievement Dynamics, a provider of management consulting, the companies provide a full complement of lean transformation services. Industries served include manufacturing, healthcare, public utilities, retail, aerospace, communications, technology, investment equity, service and more. To request a curriculum brochure or for more information, call 248-478-1480 or visit www.leanlearningcenter.com

Northeast Health was formed in 1995 by the merger of Samaritan Hospital and The Eddy and joined by Albany Memorial Hospital in 1997. Serving 15 counties in the Capital Region of Upstate New York, it is the region's most comprehensive, not-for profit network of healthcare supportive housing and community services, serving approximately 350,000 people each year. It is the sixth largest private-sector employer in the region and employs over 4,000 individuals.