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NEWS RELEASE

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(For immediate release)

FMC OFFERING SATELLITE CLASSES TO FMC EMPLOYEES THROUGH XAVIER UNIVERSITY FOR CNL/MAS TER'S DEGREE

LANCASTER, Ohio (AUGUST 22, 2008) – Fairfield Medical Center is always looking at new ways to provide more efficient and high quality health care to its patients. One of the most recent undertakings is developing a new role called the Clinical Nurse Leader or CNL. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) in collaboration with leaders from the education and practice arenas developed this particular role to oversee the care coordination of a distinct group of patients while at the same time, actively providing direct patient care in complex situations. According to the AACN, “This master's degree-prepared clinician puts evidence-based practice into action to ensure that patients benefit from the latest innovations in care delivery. The CNL evaluates patient outcomes, assesses cohort risk, and has the decision-making authority to change care plans when necessary, and is a leader in the health care delivery system.”

Fairfield Medical Center recognized that having more CNLs would be very beneficial to our patients and community as a whole. After making this decision, Fairfield Medical Center needed to decide next how nurses in our community would receive CNL/master's degree training. After visiting Xavier University, Robin Sheets, MSN, Clinical Nurse Leader, and Cynthia Pearsall, Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer at Fairfield Medical Center, came to the conclusion that the solution was to partner with Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio to receive the proper training and education via satellite.



Robin Sheets, MSN, Clinical Nurse Leader, commented, “We were impressed at the knowledge and eagerness of Xavier's soon to be grads. We had not thought about precepting their students because of the geographical obstacle. However, Dr. Susan Schmidt, Chair of the Department of Nursing at Xavier University, called us in early July to tell us that there was a possibility to offer the program at Fairfield Medical Center. Dr. Schmidt stated that they had the technology to satellite their CNL classes up to us. To this day we have eleven students signed up for Xavier's program. There are also four other students who

are or will be attending Otterbein College for their CNL.” Classes are slated to start on Monday, August 25, 2008. “We will receive the teleconference in the Administrative Conference room right here at FMC, it is very exciting and such a great program to offer our Nurses at FMC,” said Sheets after being asked what the program meant to her. For more information, please call Robin Sheets at (740) 689-6716.

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