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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. James Mercy Hospital Diabetes Education Program Receives Accreditation

November 18, 2011...Hornell, NY...St. James Mercy Hospital Diabetes Self Management Education Program recently attained accreditation by the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE). Diabetes education, provided by diabetes educators, is a collaborative process through which people with or at risk for the disease can learn how to modify behavior and successfully self-manage diabetes and its related conditions.

Bonnie Button, RN, CDE (Certified Diabetes Educator), Diabetes Education Program Coordinator for St. James Mercy Hospital, has worked diligently to get this program accredited to increase access to critical diabetes education services in and around the Hornell area. "I am very pleased that our program has received accreditation by the AADE," stated Ms. Button. "This demonstrates to our community that we offer a high quality program where patients can receive invaluable education and support related to diabetes self management. The program gives people with diabetes the knowledge, skills and tools they need to successfully manage their diabetes and avoid many of the complications associated with the disease."

"We are proud to recognize Bonnie Button for her recent accomplishments, as she has successfully passed the examination to achieve certification as a diabetes educator," stated Trish Uldrich, Chief Nursing Officer at SJMH. "Over the past year Bonnie has

shown great dedication in her personal development and additional success in obtaining accreditation of the diabetes education program at St. James Mercy Hospital.”

St. James Mercy Hospital has the only accredited program in its 15-mile primary service area. The American Association of Diabetes Educators began the accreditation program in 2009, and was created, in part, to encourage diabetes education where the patient is seeking care.

For more information on St. James Mercy Hospital's Diabetes Self Management Education Program, call 607-324-8787.



Bonnie Button, RN, CDE, Diabetes Education Program Coordinator

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