



**GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR**

**Ministry for Health & Civil Protection**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

PR NO: 300/2011

DATE: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011

**THE GHA's 5<sup>th</sup> STAFF AWARDS CEREMONY**

**The GHA is holding its 5<sup>th</sup> annual Staff Awards Ceremony at the John Mackintosh Hall on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 6.00 pm.**

GHA staff and their families will attend the ceremony to receive awards for their long service with the GHA. In addition there will be eight special awards given to GHA staff in recognition of outstanding individual and team performance in 2010/11.

These awards have been the subject of nominations from patients, relatives or carers of patients, and GHA staff, and are in the following categories:

- GHA Support Services Employee of the Year – Behind the Scenes
- GHA Support Services Employee of the Year - Frontline
- GHA Nursing Assistant/Auxiliary Nurse of the Year
- GHA Qualified Nurse of the Year
- GHA Allied Health Professional of the Year
- GHA Ward/Department of the Year
- GHA Doctor/Dentist of the Year
- GHA Employee of the Year

A specially convened Staff Awards Committee has had the difficult task of selecting this year's winners. The Awards Committee was made up of staff volunteers from the majority of the main professional groups in the GHA with a cross-section of grades and staff from all levels of the organisation being represented. The names of the award winners will be revealed at the ceremony.

Minister for Health and GHA Chairperson, Yvette Del Agua, who will be presenting the awards, said:

*The GHA's Staff Awards Ceremony is fast becoming an important date in the GHA's social calendar, and rightly so! It affords the GHA a rare opportunity to give recognition and reward to members of staff for their many years of service to the Health Authority. It also allows us to pay special tribute to eight employees or teams whose contribution has been outstanding or exemplary in one way or another.*

*The beauty of the eight special award categories is that the source of the nominations is wide and varied. I am delighted to report that this year we have had an unprecedented number of nominations with a total of 112 nominations received relating to 46 staff. The successful nominees can be proud of and will derive great satisfaction from the fact that they have been nominated not only by their peers, but also by their patients and the relatives or carers of their patients. The delivery of patient care can sometimes be a thankless task but being singled out for special recognition by those you have committed your life to caring for and serving can be the most rewarding of experiences.*

*I take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the recipients of the long-service awards, the winners of the eight special awards, whose names will be revealed at the ceremony, and the 46 staff across all disciplines who were nominated and all those who will be participating in or supporting this worthy event in any way.*

The GHA also wishes to acknowledge a public debt of gratitude to Hassans, Bentley Property Services Ltd and Gibmaroc Ltd for donating the prizes for the individual awards. Their generosity has served to raise the profile of the awards and to enhance the value of the whole programme in a significant and meaningful way.

**Note for Editors:**

A photo opportunity will be available will available throughout the ceremony. Members of the Press are requested to arrive 10-15 minutes before the start at 6.00 pm.