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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Roberta Kaemmerling Brings Vast & Varied Healthcare Experience to Tucson**  
*New Chief Operating Officer of Carondelet St. Mary's Focused on Staff Retention*

**TUCSON, Ariz. – (June 16, 2010)** – Carondelet St. Mary's Hospital has added a seasoned healthcare veteran to its administrative team. **Roberta "Berta" Kaemmerling** has been appointed as the new Chief Operating Officer for the hospital.

Kaemmerling brings 25 years experience to this critical role. She will serve as a key leader in charge of staffing, training and operations on the west side campus. She has formerly held roles as an acute care nurse, a service line executive for surgical and cardiovascular services, and as Chief Nursing Officer in not-for-profit and for-profit acute care hospitals.

Kaemmerling also served as a Naval Reserve Officer and was on active duty on the USNS Mercy during Desert Storm. She was selected to be a member of Sigma Theta Tau, National Nursing Honorary. While working for Vanguard Health Systems, Kaemmerling was awarded the *Chief Nursing Officer of the Year* and lauded as a member of the *Management Team of the Year*.

During her quarter-century career, Kaemmerling has developed a reputation for instituting creative staffing models, decreasing length of stay for patients, increasing staff retention, and for her ability to grow and expand patient programs and services.

"Berta's experience and perspective will be vital for Carondelet St. Mary's as the hospital continues to expand its offerings to the Tucson community and enhance its reputation for a commitment to high quality and compassionate patient care," said Winnie Fritz, Chief Executive Officer of Carondelet St. Mary's and Carondelet Holy Cross Hospital in Nogales, Ariz.

Kaemmerling earned her B.S. in Nursing from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. She graduated from University of Texas with a Master of Science in Nursing Degree and majors in Emergency Nursing and Healthcare Administration.

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*Carondelet Health Network, located in Tucson, Arizona, is a Catholic, non-profit health care system dedicated to responding to the health care needs of Southern Arizonans. With a Mission to Heal, Carondelet was founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet 130 years ago. Carondelet Health Network entities include Carondelet St. Mary's Hospital, Carondelet St. Joseph's Hospital, Carondelet Neurological Institute, and Tucson Heart Hospital in Tucson, and Carondelet Holy Cross Hospital in Nogales, Arizona. Other Carondelet services include twenty primary care and specialty locations, an ambulatory surgery center and outpatient services. Carondelet Health Network is a ministry of Ascension Health, the nation's largest Catholic, non-profit health care system. In FY 2009, Carondelet provided \$43,993,042 or 8.1 percent net revenue in Community Benefit to improve the health of our community and increase access to health care. More information about Carondelet Health Network, Carondelet Medical Group and Carondelet Neurological Institute is available at [www.carondelet.org](http://www.carondelet.org).*