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## **PEDIATRIC HOME SERVICE EARNS JOINT COMMISSION'S CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTION FOR ASTHMA PROGRAM**

ST. PAUL, Minn. (July 16, 2007) – Pediatric Home Service (PHS) announced that it earned the Joint Commission's Certificate of Distinction in Disease-Specific Care for its Pediatric Asthma program. The certification was earned with no Requirements for Improvement. The PHS Pediatric Asthma program is the only program independent of a hospital or health care organization to have this Joint Commission certification in the United States. This is PHS' third consecutive Certificate of Distinction in Disease-Specific Care awarded to PHS asthma program since 2003.

PHS was first accredited as an organization in 1994 and has participated in five Joint Commission surveys; PHS is now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year of consecutive Joint Commission accreditation. PHS asthma service is provided by Registered Perinatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care Practitioners who are also Certified Asthma Educators.

Susan Wingert, CEO of PHS, said "We seek accreditation for our organization because we want to be the best, and we view obtaining Joint Commission accreditation as another step toward excellence." Wingert notes that accreditation is attainable only through the cooperation and communication of all staff members. "Everyone here at PHS plays a valuable role in working to meet the standards," added Wingert. "We are all proud to work in an accredited organization."

Founded in 1951, the Joint Commission is dedicated to continuously improving the safety and quality of the nation's healthcare through voluntary accreditation. PHS, which provides pediatric home care (respiratory, infusion therapy, etc.) services, earned accreditation after the Joint Commission found that it had demonstrated compliance with the Joint Commission's national standards for home care organizations.

Pediatric Home Service, based in St. Paul Minn., is an independent pediatric home care company that is committed to *taking care of the child* by providing specialized health care services to technology-supported children in their home. In business since 1990, PHS has partnered with healthcare professionals and family caregivers to deliver care to children with special medical needs. For more information about PHS, visit [www.pediatrichomeservice.com](http://www.pediatrichomeservice.com) or call 651-789-3259.

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