



1000 Highway 28
Jasper, TN 37347
423-837-9500
www.grandviewmedicalcenter.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 27, 2008

Contact: Jamie Lawson
423-837-3425
Jamie.Lawson@CapellaHealth.com

Passion for Patient Care Brought Swilley to Grandview

Thirty-four-year nursing veteran leads Hospital's Med/Surg/ICU Department

JASPER, TN – The eyes sparkle and the tone changes in her soft, yet authoritative voice as she describes her passion. And her passion is getting back to the most basic tenet of nursing: caring for patients and leading, teaching, and instilling within others that same principle. Meet Shirley K. Swilley, the Director of the Medical-Surgical/ICU department at Grandview Medical Center.



Swilley recently came to Grandview with over 34 years of nursing experience already nestled comfortably and neatly organized within her considerable intellect. She was valedictorian of her high school class, earned her nursing degrees from Southern University and the University of Tennessee Chattanooga, both Cum Laude. For many of her career years before coming to Grandview, she was in nursing administrative positions, serving as nurse manager, director of education services, and as a vice president of client services among others. It was her desire to go “back to basics” that brought her to Grandview.

“I missed the patient contact,” Swilley said. “Although a lot of what I was doing in those upper management levels was important and rewarding, it did not feel like the type of nursing that drew me to the profession in the first place.”

As the Director of Med/Surgical Department, Swilley is responsible for inpatient nursing care and the growth and education of her nursing staff.

“Nurses here have an opportunity to interact with patients and their families in roles that make differences in lives forever,” Swilley said. “In a lot of cases, our patients are our own families, friends or neighbors. This career is to care for and help educate these patients and their families to appropriately make life choices. A nurse’s work is serious, sometimes thankless, but always rewarding – if the person is committed to what they do.”

Swilley said she enjoys working in a community hospital like Grandview because it “feels like the nursing and ancillary staff work together as a team”.

“People expect they are going to be clinically cared for while here,” Swilley said. “We have to make sure we give them compassion as well. This is the standard I hold nurses to who are under my charge.

“We have some great nurses here. My job as the director is to remove obstacles that prevent them from doing their job of supporting, encouraging and providing care to our patients.”

A Kentucky native and a true coal miner’s daughter, Swilley enjoys just about any activity that involves the outdoors enthusiast: skiing, canoeing, camping, biking, diving just name a few. Outside her work at Grandview, the activity she says she may be most proud of is her involvement as a squad leader with Tennessee 1 – Disaster Medical Assistance Team, a consortium of volunteer physicians, nurses and health care professionals who can quickly respond to disaster areas and provide medical care. The group works under the auspices of the federal National Disaster Medical System and can rapidly deploy for any type of disaster that requires medical response beyond the capabilities of the local system.

About Grandview Medical Center

Grandview Medical Center, a member of Capella Healthcare’s family of hospitals, is a fully accredited 70-bed licensed hospital located in Jasper, Tenn. The hospital serves Marion, Sequatchie counties in Tennessee and north Jackson County in Alabama. Grandview Medical Center also operates the Marion County Ambulance Service; North Valley Medical Plaza, a 24-hour emergency department and outpatient clinic in Dunlap; and Mountainview Treatment Center, an adult inpatient psychiatric program located on the grounds of Grandview Medical Center. For more information, please visit www.grandviewmedicalcenter.com.

###