



**For Immediate Release
May 18, 2009**

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CleanMed 2009 Showcases Green Advances in Health Care Sector
*Premier Sustainability Conference for Health Care Offers Opportunities to
Learn, Network and Explore Cutting-Edge Practices*

(Chicago) More than 600 green health care proponents will convene May 18-20 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago for CleanMed 2009, a global conference that seeks to inspire and activate environmentally preferable advances in health care.

“Sustainable health care practices are continuing to expand, even in these challenging economic times,” said Peter Diamond, CleanMed coordinator, of Health Care Without Harm, one of the conference sponsors. “Health care leaders recognize the link between human health and a healthier environment. As a result, they are increasing efforts to reduce their environmental footprint because they recognize that the well-being of communities they serve depend on it.”

Now in its sixth year, CleanMed continues to be the most authoritative and comprehensive educational and networking event for health care leaders, materials/purchasing managers, Environmental Health & Safety staff, nurses and providers, architects, designers, and medical and building product vendors concerned with sustainability. The conference provides a cost-effective opportunity to learn about the latest trends, tools and technologies while connecting with the people, products and resources at the forefront of this movement. Highlights include:

- Keynote addresses by the Centers for Disease Control’s Howard Frumkin, MD, MPH, DrPH, and Kaiser Permanente’s Ray Baxter, PhD
- A wide selection of educational panels and poster sessions
- Exhibits by more than 70 pre-screened green vendors
- Awards and recognition for green health care leaders
- Sustainable health care job board and networking opportunities
- Pre-and post-conference sessions, including sustainability training for healthcare professionals

“There will be something for everyone at this year’s CleanMed,” stated Anna Gilmore Hall, co-executive director of Health Care Without Harm. “We have tried to make it affordable to allow as many health care personnel to come as possible. And we have a great location in Chicago, which is not only a great city to visit, it is a leader in the nation’s greening effort.”

Because Chicago has a reputation as one of the greenest cities in America, the conference will specifically spotlight local initiatives. The program includes opening remarks by Chicago Department of Environment Commissioner Suzanne Malek-McKenna and a plenary panel of Chicago hospital leaders, as well as a pre-conference tour of the state’s first LEED Gold Certified health care building.

Pre-conference and post-conference sessions also provide hands-on training on topics such as renewable energy, waste tracking, designing the regenerative hospital and sustainable facility management, among other topics. For a conference overview, visit www.cleanmed.org.

Basic conference registration is \$350. Groups of five or more from the same organization receive a \$50 discount per ticket. Pre- and post-conference sessions are additional. For more information, visit www.cleanmed.org or contact Laura Wenger at (847) 592-7978.

Health Care without Harm, an international coalition of more than 473 organizations in 52 countries, is working to transform the health care sector, without compromising patient safety or care, so that it is ecologically sustainable and no longer a source of harm to public health and the environment.www.noharm.org.

CleanMed is the premier global conference on environmentally sustainable health care. CleanMed 2009 is the 6th international conference to catalyze environmental improvements in the health care sector. CleanMed's mission is to accelerate the health care sector's commitment to environmental sustainability and regenerative health to improve the health of people and the environment.www.cleanmed.org.

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