Highland Hospital Clinical Pharmacist Residency Program Earns National Accreditation
6-Year Endorsement Places Competitive Program among Best in Region

OAKLAND, CA (May__, 2013) – Alameda Health System (AHS) today announced Highland Hospital’s Clinical Pharmacist Residency Program earned national recognition and accreditation from the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). The program was accredited for six years instead of the standard three-year accreditation. Highland Hospital is one of only four hospitals in Alameda County with a clinical pharmacist residency program.

“What sets us apart from other programs in our region is that we offer training in both inpatient acute care and ambulatory care practice. This accreditation validates not only the high quality care we provide to the community, but the competitive education we provide to aspiring clinical pharmacists,” Diana Thamrin, Highland Hospital pharmacy residency director said. “The six-year certification offers a competitive advantage to both the health system and to highly qualified candidates who choose our program for their training.”

Close to 80 highly-qualified residency candidates applied for three positions during a recent intake. With the exception of one placement, which is affiliated with Touro University in Vallejo, CA, residents are selected using algorithms and software to place qualified pharmacists in the competitive program. Interested applicants can get more information about applying to the program at ASHP’s website: http://www.ashp.org/menu/Residents.aspx.

Highland Hospital is a member of Alameda Health System. For more information about the organization's care and services, please visit http://www.alamedahethsystem.org/ or http://www.highlandahs.org/.

###
About Alameda Health System (AHS)

Alameda Health System (AHS), formerly Alameda County Medical Center (ACMC), a major public health care provider headquartered in Oakland, California, is recognized as a world-class patient and family centered system of care. The heart of its mission – caring, healing, teaching and serving all – sums up the AHS core objectives to promote wellness and eliminate disparities within the diverse communities it serves in Alameda County. As a regional and national leader in health care safety and excellence, AHS aims to optimize the health of all Alameda County residents by multiplying access points to its best-in-class care.

AHS creates positive patient experiences. Service and community engagement are a priority and the system offers programs that deliver value to individuals across all patient populations regardless of their social or economic status. Quality, financial strength and development of the workforce are also system hallmarks that ensure continual improvement to every aspect of our reach in the community.

A major economic force in Alameda County, AHS employs nearly 3,000 people including over 500 physicians at six facilities. These include Highland Hospital, a major regional trauma center and teaching hospital, John George Psychiatric Hospital, an acute and emergency care facility in San Leandro, California; Fairmont Hospital, an acute rehabilitation hospital and skilled nursing facility, also in San Leandro; and four ambulatory wellness centers in Oakland as well as in Newark and Hayward, California.