



For information:
Colleen Swanson
218.999.1454
colleen.swanson@granditasca.org

For Immediate Release

October 6, 2009

New Chief Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Joins Grand Itasca Staff

Grand Rapids –Brian M. Lenzmeier, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), joined Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital as chief nurse anesthesiologist in late September.

After 14 years of service, Major Lenzmeier retired from the army nurse corps in early June. While in the Army Nurse Corps, Lenzmeier worked as a registered nurse and provided care to patients at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, in Washington, DC. In 1999, he was sent to Seoul Korea, where he was the Head Nurse for Army Nurse Corps at the 121st General Hospital. Returning to Texas in 2000, Lenzmeier again served as a Head Nurse for the Army Nurse Corps in the Perioperative Orthopedic Surgical Services Department at the William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, Texas.

After completing his nurse anesthetist training in 2004, Lenzmeier was deployed to Baghdad, Iraq and later to the Joint Special Operations Command in Afghanistan. After completion of his overseas tour, Lenzmeier returned to the Joint Special Operations Command at Ft. Bragg, NC where he held the position of Senior Nurse Anesthetist.

Lenzmeier received his Bachelors in Nursing from Seattle University in Seattle, Washington in 1995. In 1998, he completed his Masters in Health Services Administration from Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. He returned to school at the University of Texas Health Science Center in 2002 where he completed a Masters in Nursing and furthered his interest in anesthesia nursing.

Dr. Steven Lader, Anesthesiologist at Grand Itasca, commented on the addition of Lenzmeier by saying, “Brian brings a great deal of clinical and leadership experience to his position and will be an excellent addition to the surgical team at Grand Itasca.”

Kathy Lall, Acting Vice President of Patient Care, said, “Having had an independent practice during his entire military career, Lenzmeier is versatile and skilled in all aspects of anesthesia techniques. His overseas deployments

have also allowed Mr. Lenzmeier to increase his anesthetic management skills in trauma. We are very glad that he has decided to join Grand Itasca.”

“I look forward to working at Grand Itasca,” says Lenzmeier. “After visiting Grand Itasca, I liked the staff, the growing surgical community and the organization.

Lenzmeier and his wife Dawn will make their home in Grand Rapids. His family also includes two daughters, Nicolle, 13, and Danielle, 10. In his spare time, Brain enjoys outdoor activities, water sports, and flying.

Grand Itasca has two medical anesthesiologists as well a team of five certified registered nurse anesthetists on staff.

Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital is a non-profit, integrated delivery system that employs nearly 600 people. The integrated clinic and hospital, described as a “modern expression of hospitality and healing” is home to over 40 physicians and other providers including specialists in Orthopedics, Ob/Gyn, Pediatrics, Podiatry, Radiology, Urology, and Acute Rehabilitation

#