DaVita Honored by AARP

DaVita Inc. , announced that it is one of 15 companies being recognized this year by AARP as the best employers for workers over age 50. "At a time of widespread reports of questionable corporate practices, these companies have shown a better side of business," said AARP President James Parkel, in announcing this year's best companies.

(Photo: http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20020729/DAVITALOGO)

Kent Thiry, Chairman and CEO of DaVita stated, "The honor reaffirms the outstanding progress our team of 12,000 caregivers has made toward becoming the Employer of Choice in the dialysis industry. We cherish the experience, wisdom, and durability of our teammates over 50, they are helping us become one of the nations best places to work for people under 50."

AARP's criteria for the awards include recruiting, corporate culture, career development and training, continued opportunities, compensation, benefits (including health insurance), and retirement savings programs. AARP initiated its exemplary practices search by inviting employers to outline their innovative policies toward 50 and over workers. An outside group of experts on aging workforce issues assisted in the development of criteria. A research consulting firm analyzed the individual applications and recommended the top choices. Companies with 50 or more employees were eligible to apply.

DaVita is a leading provider of dialysis services in the United States for patients suffering from chronic kidney failure. DaVita owns and operates kidney dialysis centers and home peritoneal dialysis programs in 32 states, as well as Washington, D.C. It currently operates 493 outpatient dialysis facilities serving approximately 44,000 patients.

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