

PRESS RELEASE:

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Susan Lawrence Becomes OHC Certified

(Hendersonville, N.C.) Susan Lawrence, R.N., COHC, occupational health nurse at [Pardee Urgent Care](#), recently became a certified occupational hearing conservationist (COHC). The certification process involves a series of application steps and verification, completion of a [Council of Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation](#) (CAOHC) approved course, followed by rigorous training. This credentialing is prudent to demonstrate competency in OSHA requirements. The credential establishes a high level of training and practice.

CAOHC is an organization dedicated to the establishment and maintenance of training standards for those who safeguard hearing in the workplace. CAOHC training is done by certified course directors, follows a specific time and content outline, and is pre-registered with the agency. The initial course requires 20 contact hours of lecture and practicum. CAOHC certification offers the occupational hearing conservationist (OHC) credibility and also serves as verification that the conservationist has been trained to the highest standards.



For the most part, an occupational hearing conservation program focuses on noise because it is the most prevalent agent that causes hearing loss in the workplace. More than 18 million workers are exposed to harmful levels of noise. Noise is the only agent that has regulations to prevent it from causing hearing loss. Learning about noise and its effect upon hearing are extremely important elements in occupational hearing conservation.

For more information about the Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation visit them online at www.caohc.org or call (414) 276-5338.

[Pardee Hospital](http://www.pardeehospital.org) is a not-for-profit community hospital founded in 1953. The main hospital is licensed for 222 acute care beds and is the second largest employer in [Henderson County](http://www.pardeehospital.org). The hospital has several locations separate from the main campus, including an adult day services center, a health education center in the Blue Ridge Mall, home care services, a rehab and wellness center, a midwifery program, various family and internal medicine practices, and an urgent care facility. For more information or to find a physician, call 1-866-790-WELL (9355) or visit www.pardeehospital.org.

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