



**Kathi Lencioni**  
SHARP  
Mesa Vista Hospital

Kathi Lencioni has spent over 30 years of her career working in medical acute hospitals. Most recently, she's worked with Sharp, starting in 2002, at Sharp Grossmont Hospital. And in no time, after working there for only four years, she was promoted as Chief Executive Officer of Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital.

Sharp Mesa Vista is a 149 bed psychiatric hospital located in San Diego; Kathi oversees the entire operation! She is also the CEO of the Sharp McDonald Center, a 16 bed chemical dependency hospital. The hospital is run successfully as a result the hard work and expertise of Kathi and her team of professionals.

There are many challenges in the healthcare industry, but Kathi believes that the most prevalent and ongoing challenge is that of patient safety. "Patient safety is a priority. At Sharp, we always focus on the patients and the family experience. We want to be the best in the universe for patients to receive care, doctors to practice medicine, and employees to work."

One of the greatest realizations that Kathi says that she's had in her career in healthcare is that people desire to make philanthropic donations to mental health hospitals. Her hospital's first gift was for \$250,000 from an extremely generous donor: this money helped in transforming the outdoor gardens. Since then, Professor Marianne McDonald donated \$3.0 Million in honor of her 15 year old daughter who died of a drug overdose. Sharp renamed the chemical dependency hospital in her name. Kathi says that they continue to have grateful patients and donors that show great interest in helping with their philanthropic efforts.

"Keeping a positive attitude," is Kathi's secret to success. "...some good advice that I got along the way to kill 'em with kindness - you catch more bees with honey. It's all about relationships."