

2019 Nursing Clinical Excellence Award Winners

Please join us in recognizing our nursing staff who have been named recipients of the 2019 Annual University of Pennsylvania Health System Nursing Clinical Excellence Awards. The winners were selected by the Clinical Advancement and Recognition Committee at Penn Medicine at Rittenhouse based upon nominations submitted by their colleagues and managers.

Dianne Lanham Award for Leadership Winner

Meethu Thomas, BS, RN, Clinical Nurse II: Penn Rehab

The Dianne Lanham Award recognizes the importance of leadership competencies as a component of nursing practice at the point of direct care. Leadership is exemplified by the nurse's ability to serve as a change agent and by exhibiting excellent professional interpersonal relations.

Nomination: As one of the first members and the current chair of the newly created Night Shift Unit Council, Meethu ensures her coworkers are cared for and have a voice to leadership when problems are identified. Under her leadership on night shift council, the group created a "pay it forward" system to strengthen teamwork among staff.

Rosalyn J. Watts Award for Community/Patient/Family Relationship Winner

Malikka Saeed, BSN, RN, Clinical Nurse II: The Specialty Hospital at Rittenhouse

The Rosalyn J. Watts Award acknowledges nurses who improve the lives of those in need through selfless, courageous, creative and compassionate acts. The nurse forms therapeutic relationships with patients, their families and the community, which supports a culture that values diversity and promotes inclusion.

Nomination: Malikka has influenced the way the staff looks at diversity. She is a founding member of the organization's Cultural Competence Committee and facilitated the first cultural committee workshop entitled, "So, Just What is Ramadan?" to all disciplines at Good Shepherd Penn Partners. In addition, Malikka worked on a communication initiative (SPEACS 2) in an effort for patients to effectively communicate with their providers.

Helen McClelland Award for Research and Innovation Award Winner

Ellen Crockett , BSN, RN, CRRN, Clinical Nurse II: Penn Rehab

The Helen McClelland Award is given to nurses that exhibit an attitude of clinical inquiry that integrates evaluation and utilizes research and/or the evidence based practice process, in the delivery of patient care. The nurse is committed to the development of innovative strategies to provide best practices.

Nomination: Ellen is an invaluable member of the Brain Injury Recovery Center (BIRC). Certified as a Rehabilitation Registered Nurse and one of the few nurses on the BIRC to have been certified as a Brain Injury Specialist, Ellen collaborates with members of the interdisciplinary team to ensure high-quality, evidence based, holistic care to her patients. Currently, Ellen is working on a quality improvement project to secure a space for family to grieve or share concerns on the unit.

Lillian Brunner Award for Exemplary Practice Winner

Galyna Vorokhib, BSN, RN, Clinical Nurse II: The Specialty Hospital at Rittenhouse

The Lillian Brunner Award is given to nurses who demonstrate the highest quality of patient care and influence peers to enhance their nursing practice by acting as a role model resulting in improved quality patient care. The nurse sees the "Big Picture" while collaborating with an interprofessional team to establish appropriate outcomes. The nurse links initiatives/projects to Penn Medicine Quality Blueprint

Imperatives.

Nomination: Galyna utilizes the interdisciplinary team to advocate for all patients. Her assessment skills along with her “gut-feeling” with years of experience as a healthcare provider has shown positive outcomes for many patients in her care. In her daily interactions, Galyna is able to provide not only nursing support and knowledge but emotional guidance to staff working directly with patients.

Victoria L. Rich Award for Transformation Leadership Entity Winner

Nina Renzi ,BSN, RN, CCRN, Patient Safety Manager: Good Shepherd Penn Partners

The Victoria L. Rich Award for Transformational Leadership is awarded to an exceptional nurse leader at Penn Medicine that inspires, motivates and influences others to improve patient care and fosters a culture of organizational excellence. This nurse leader combines scientific knowledge, best practices, compassion and the most advanced technology to solve complex system-wide problems.

Nomination: Although Nina has had many roles within Good Shepherd Penn Partners, she is currently the Patient Safety Manager. She works effortlessly to ensure patient safety is at the forefront of everyone’s mind as she helps develop educational huddles in all settings. Nina was instrumental in initiating trach change and central line safety initiatives which have eliminated trach change sizing issues as well as drastically decreased CLABSIs.