



Committed To Nursing Excellence



2014 NURSING ANNUAL REPORT





Dr. Penque and Joanne Newcombe, RN, VP Patient Care Services, celebrate with members of the nursing staff as they learn that Magnet designation has been achieved

Welcome To The South Nassau 2014 Nursing Annual Report



I am delighted to report that this was the year we earned Magnet designation! Our nurses were recognized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center for their outstanding patient care and clinical outcomes. I'm proud to congratulate every member of our team on achieving this impressive and important distinction for our hospital, our staff and the communities we serve.

Our direct care nurses are pillars of excellence, providing the strong foundation and support we need to bring our professional practice model to life. They deliver what our hospital is most proud of... exceptional patient care. Their dedication to our patients and their families, our community and each other is clear and, as a result, they exceed expectations, earn awards and achieve excellent patient outcomes. Here are just a few examples of their many successes:

- ▶ Patients in our critical care units have had no central line associated blood stream infections for over a year
- ▶ Many of our nurses volunteer for medical missions overseas, providing hope and healing to patients across the globe
- ▶ Our BSN rate is at 65%; our certification rate is 32%
- ▶ Research and evidence-based practice are at the forefront in South Nassau, thanks, in part, to the efforts of our Nursing Research and Evidence-based Practice Council, which takes the lead on incorporating nursing research into our daily patient care and, to our nurse researchers, who share their work at local and national venues

This has been an incredible year. Going forward as a Magnet organization, we will continue to make significant contributions to our community by keeping patients healthy and safe. We will shine even brighter, encouraging our already outstanding nursing team to reach even greater levels of excellence.

Remembering the words of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, "For us who Nurse, our Nursing is a thing, which, unless in it we are making progress every year, every month, every week, take my word for it, we are going back," this report illustrates how her words are embraced in spirit and are apparent in daily practice among our nurses.

In good health,

Sue Penque, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, NE-BC

Senior Vice President/Chief Nursing Officer, Patient Care Services and Spiritual Care Services

Transformational Leadership

Transformational leadership creates valuable and positive organizational change. At South Nassau, our nurses are encouraged to use their clinical expertise and nursing knowledge to identify areas that need improvement and then, to lead the way, inspiring their colleagues to also assume leadership roles... adapting, evolving and growing in pursuit of health care excellence.



South Nassau's Patient Care Services Nurse Administrators

South Nassau Achieves Magnet Recognition



Magnet recognition, the highest national credential for nursing excellence and quality patient care, serves as the gold standard for nursing practice. Following a 3-year Magnet journey, that was both exciting and energizing, South Nassau is proud to announce that our nurses have earned Magnet status, joining a select group of nursing professionals in about 7% of health care organizations in the U.S., who are also part of the Magnet community. Only 5 hospitals on Long Island, and only 2 in Nassau County, are Magnet facilities. Without question, patients who choose South Nassau receive the highest caliber nursing care.

We attained Magnet designation in recognition of our exceptional nursing care and collaboration with other members of the health care team. Magnet nurses demonstrate leadership, autonomy, professionalism, excellent nursing quality indicators and patient satisfaction, as well as a dedication to nursing research and evidence-based practice. Characteristics of Magnet nurses include perseverance, commitment to patient safety, doing the "right thing," involvement in the community and continuous



South Nassau RNs celebrate as they accept Magnet designation at the American Nurses Credentialing Center Magnet Conference in Dallas

learning. Commitment to going beyond the usual interventions makes a Magnet nurse and South Nassau provides an environment that allows Magnet qualities to flourish.

Twenty-four of our nurses, from novice through expert, travelled to Dallas to participate in receiving and celebrating this honor. Joining thousands of RNs in becoming part of this prestigious group was an incredible source of pride.



Jacki Rosen

South Nassau Honors Nurse Jacki Rosen As Nominee For Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council Nurse Of Excellence

Jacki Rosen, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC, clinical nurse specialist, was named South Nassau's nominee for the 2014 Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council Nurse of Excellence Award. Jacki was honored for her leadership, mentoring and support of our nurses in providing care to patients with complex psychosocial problems.

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Leadership In Professional Organizations

- ▶ **Sue Penque, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, NE-BC**, senior vice president/chief nursing officer, patient care services and spiritual care services, is a member of the national editorial board for the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) publications
- ▶ **Joanne Newcombe, BSN, MHA, RN, NE-BC**, vice president, patient care services, is the secretary for the Greater New York Nassau Suffolk Organization of Nurse Executives and Leaders (GNYNSEL) as well as a member of the Board of Directors/Chair of the Program Committee. She is also a member of the New York Organization of Nurse Leaders and Executives (NYONEL) Communication Committee
- ▶ **Peter L. Fromm, MPH, RN, FAHA, FACHE**, service line administrator, Center for Cardiovascular Health, holds the following positions in the American Heart Association (AHA):
 - Member – Long Island Region Board of Directors
 - Member – Emergency Cardiovascular Care Committee, Dallas (National/Global)
 - Vice Chair/Chair Elect – Systems of Care Subcommittee, Dallas (National/Global)
 - Member – Mission Lifeline EMS Standards Workgroup, Dallas (National)
 - AHA representative to The Joint Commission Comprehensive Cardiac Center Technical Advisory Group, Chicago (National)
- ▶ **Patricia Mulvaney-Roth, MSN, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, clinical nurse specialist, behavioral health, is a professional reviewer of abstracts and judge of posters for the American Psychiatric Nursing Association's annual conference
- ▶ **Margaret (Peg) O'Donnell, DNP, FNP, ANP-BC, FAANP**, senior nurse practitioner, is the Southern New York State Representative, American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) and the Region 7 Director, Nurse Practitioner Association New York State
- ▶ **Jacki Rosen, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, clinical nurse specialist, is a member of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association Institute for Safe Environments Advisory Panel



Dr. Penque

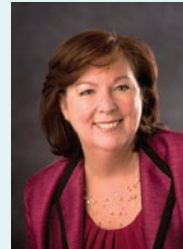
Nurse Leaders Honored



- ▶ **Lori Edelman, MS, RN, CEN, NE-BC**, director, emergency services, was named to the class of "50 around 50" by *Long Island Business News* in honor of her achievements and contributions to the residents of Long Island



- ▶ **Peter Fromm, MPH, RN, FAHA, FACHE**, service line administrator, Center for Cardiovascular Health, was elected a fellow of the American Heart Association in recognition of his leadership, service and contributions to the care of patients



- ▶ **Margaret (Peg) O'Donnell, DNP, FNP, ANP-BC, FAANP**, senior nurse practitioner, was named "Nurse Hero" by *Long Island Business* magazine. Peg was recognized for her dedication to healing and contributions to health care

Urgent Care Center Opens

Nurse Leaders **Lori Edelman, MS, RN, CEN, NE-BC**, director, emergency services and **Lisa Busso, BSN, RN**, nurse manager, emergency department, were instrumental in planning for the operational development and opening of our Urgent Care Center in July.

Located in Long Beach, NY, the center provides immediate, urgent care for local residents. The nurses coordinated an interdisciplinary health care team that was tasked with:

- ▶ Full risk assessment of processes, operations and community needs
- ▶ Development of policies and procedures
- ▶ Dissemination of the center's scope of practice to the institution, community and our local emergency medical services



Lori Edelman and Lisa Busso

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

29% Reduction In Clostridium difficile Infections

Infection prevention and control is a patient safety priority in our hospital. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the pathogen *Clostridium difficile* (C. difficile) is linked to over 14,000 American deaths every year and continues at historically high levels.

Paula Zweig-Cohn, MS, RN, CIC, director of infection prevention and control, led our hospital-wide multidisciplinary effort to review and assess evidence-based practice measures to reduce the spread of C. difficile. She was instrumental in guiding process changes in cleaning and patient isolation. **Judith Goldstein, MD**, and clinical pharmacist, **Carl Zipperlen, BS, RPh**, continued their team management of our Antibiotic Stewardship Program. **Dr. Penque** and **Joanne Newcombe, RN**, spearheaded the "Keep It Cleanest Campaign."



Paula Zweig-Cohn, RN, third from left, director of infection prevention and control, with the interdisciplinary leaders of the C. difficile team. Not pictured: Eileen Mahler, MSN, RNC, NE-BC, director of nursing education: professional development, practice and research, Laura Richter, MBA, RN, assistant vice president of clinical and ancillary services and Carl Zipperlen, BS, RPh, clinical pharmacist

As a result of these interventions, the hospital was successful in reaching its goal of reducing the rate of C. difficile infections below the New York State benchmark. There was a 29% reduction in the rate as compared to 2013.

C. difficile prevention requires true teamwork and the entire health care

team has a part to play. Our nurses will continue to lead the way, evaluating the most current processes and identifying additional opportunities to further decrease C. difficile infections.

Transitional Care Unit (TCU) Created On F2

The South Nassau TCU was created for patients 65 years and older who no longer require acute inpatient services but continue to need specialized medical, nursing and rehabilitative care prior to discharge. The staff's goal is to help each patient reach their maximum level of functioning in order to make a safe transition from hospital to home.



Nurse leaders of the Transitional Care Unit team

A multidisciplinary team, under the leadership of **Joanne Newcombe, RN**; **Laura J. Richter, MBA, RN**, assistant vice president of clinical and ancillary services; **Charito Patel, BSN, MHA, RN, NE-BC**, director of nursing, transitional care unit; and **Nancy Adler, BSN, RN, CHFN**, nursing professional development educator, was responsible for:

- ▶ Developing position descriptions and competencies for leaders and staff

- ▶ Creating policies and procedures based on sub-acute and long term care regulations
- ▶ Educating staff on the clinical documentation system and care of the sub-acute patient
- ▶ Planning the physical space and layout of the unit

Their diligent work ensured a successful opening of the TCU.

GEM Awards: Nurse Leader Nominees

The following nurse leaders were nominated for a GEM award, *Nurse.com's* prestigious annual nursing excellence award, which honors outstanding nurses across the country:

- ▶ **Sue Penque, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, NE-BC**, Advancing the Profession
- ▶ **Lisa Busso, BSN, RN**, Patient and Staff Management
- ▶ **Eileen Mahler, MSN, RNC**, Education and Mentorship
- ▶ **Jacki Rosen, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, Education and Mentorship

Structural Empowerment

Through structural empowerment, nurses at South Nassau are able to achieve the highest levels of clinical excellence along with personal and career fulfillment. They are supported by shared governance councils, policies that promote continued education and a culture that encourages collaborative decision-making, community service, patient advocacy and the advancement of nursing practice.

National Nurses Week: In Celebration Of Magnet

National Nurses Week is always a special time at South Nassau. It's our opportunity to honor the critical role nurses play on the health care team. This year's celebration was even more meaningful because we earned our Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Every nurse at South Nassau contributed to our Magnet achievement in his or her own unique way. The dedication, innovation and passion of our nurses are a tremendous source of pride for our hospital. Nurses Week was the perfect opportunity to acknowledge the many contributions that nursing makes to excellent patient care at South Nassau and to thank our nurses for helping the hospital achieve Magnet status.

During a touching ceremony, the Nightingales serenaded, and each RN pinned an RN colleague with a Magnet pin. Several local politicians were on hand to honor our nurses for their achievements and for the outstanding patient care that they provide to our community. Our traditional closing ceremony, the recitation of the Florence Nightingale Pledge, was a solemn moment as our nurses once again committed to the ideals of nursing.



STRUCTURAL EMPOWERMENT

Infusion Nurses Society 24th Annual Seminar

The 24th Annual Metro Chapter of Infusion Nurses seminar, hosted by the South Nassau IV team, featured topics that were well received by nurses from all over Long Island. Noted expert, Dr. William Jarvis, formerly of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, spoke about "Preventing CLABSI in 2014 in an Era of Zero Tolerance." Additionally, South Nassau's Dr. Rachel Piechowiak presented "An Interventional Radiologist's View of Vascular Occlusions."

Community Service And Education

- ▶ **Lynn Bert, MSN, FNP, RN, NE-BC, AE-C**, nurse manager pediatrics, taught classes on choking prevention and the Heimlich maneuver at the library and high school in Baldwin, NY
- ▶ Lectures were offered to our community on topics such as heart health, diabetes self-management, melanoma awareness, screening for early detection of cervical cancer and staying psychologically healthy



- ▶ **Sharon Eriksen, RN**, pediatrics; **Randy Pellew, MSN, FNP, RN, CEN**, emergency department; and **Lynn Bert, RN**, traveled to the island of Jamaica on a mission trip

- ▶ More than 800 flu shots were provided to adults in our local communities
- ▶ **James J. Murphy, MSN, RN, NP-C, CCRN**, adult nurse practitioner, cardiac services, participated in a medical mission to Guatemala

Inpatient Journey To Excellence Winners



E3 received a 96% overall rating and demonstrated improvement in several categories, 1st quarter



F4 was honored for having significant improvements in customer service, 2nd quarter



D2E scored well above the 90th percentile in several areas, 3rd quarter

Outpatient Journey To Excellence Winners



Pediatrics/ASU were honored for their outstanding customer service and improvement in all categories, 1st quarter



E3 and Radiation Oncology were recognized for improving in five categories, 2nd quarter

STRUCTURAL EMPOWERMENT

Presidential Recognition For South Nassau Nurse

Sharon Eriksen, RN, pediatrics, received the President's Volunteer Service Award for her commitment to civic participation and for making service a central part of her life. Sharon received a special pin and congratulatory letter from President Obama.



Sharon Eriksen

Student Nurses Club Initiated

A group of dynamic and passionate student nurses employed by South Nassau have created a Student Nurses Club. Mentored and advised by **Alison Gelfand, BA, RN**, assistant nurse manager, staffing office and **Joan Gallagher, BS, RN-BC**, nursing professional development educator, the club is co-chaired by patient care technician Megan Hackett and nursing assistant Heidi Bates, two of our staff members who are student nurses at Molloy College. Activities of the group include:

- ▶ Delivery of a presentation by a panel of recent RN graduates who spoke about their participation in the South Nassau specialty training programs
- ▶ Networking to provide mutual support and sharing of ideas
- ▶ Preparing for the transition to graduate RNs at South Nassau

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



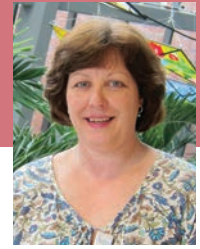
Katherine DeMelis, MSN, RN, Excellence in Nursing Education



Eileen Harris, BSN, RN, Excellence in Nursing Practice



Margaret Pfeiffer, BSN, RN, CCRN, Excellence in Transformational Leadership



Patricia Thomsen-Early, MSN, RN, Excellence in Community Service

NURSING AWARDS



Jennifer Marcellino, RN, WCC, Excellence as a Novice Nurse



Patricia Mulvaney-Roth, MSN, RN, PMHCNS, BC, Excellence in Nursing Research



Margaret (Peg) O'Donnell, DNP, FNP, ANP-BC, FAANP, Excellence in Advanced Nursing Practice

GEM Awards

The *Nurse.com* Nursing Excellence GEM Awards honor outstanding nurses in a variety of categories.

▶ NOMINEES



Eileen Harris, BSN, RN, Clinical Practice



James Murphy, MSN, RN, NP-C, CCRN, Volunteerism and Service



Tiffany Thalappillil, BSN, RN-BC, Rising Star



Tracy Thorn, BSN, RN, CEN, Rising Star

▶ FINALIST

Patricia Thomsen-Early, MSN, RN, Home Care, was recognized as a 2014 Nursing Excellence GEM award finalist in the Home, Community and Ambulatory Care category and she was honored for her compassion, leadership and significant contributions to professional nursing practice through community service.



STRUCTURAL EMPOWERMENT



Nursing Council Achievements

Nursing councils at South Nassau promote collaboration, shared decision-making, staff satisfaction and control over nursing practice.

Nursing Practice and Quality Council

- ▶ Conducted an ongoing review and revision of organization-wide and Patient Care Services policies and procedures
- ▶ Conducted monthly patient care quality peer review sessions
- ▶ Reviewed opportunities and developed initiatives needed for Magnet recertification in collaboration with the Nursing Education and Professional Development Council
- ▶ Collaborated with the Nursing Research and Evidence-based Practice Council and the Nursing Education and Professional Development Council for a workshop on strengthening our unit-based councils

Nursing Education and Professional Development Council

- ▶ Developed and evaluated a needs assessment that was distributed to all nursing staff
- ▶ Revised the Preceptor Program
- ▶ Created a learning opportunity called "Hospital Room of Horrors" as a Halloween Happening

Holistic Nursing Council

- ▶ Created a holistic/self-care section in the library
- ▶ Provided stress management and encouraged members to share techniques with their colleagues



Frontline Supportive Staff Practice Council

- ▶ Identified issues with a personal care product for patients that led to a change in product
- ▶ Collaborated with our Food and Nutrition Department to provide insight and feedback on our patient menu items
- ▶ Identified and resolved issues with damaged linen

Informatics Council

- ▶ Enhanced and standardized use of the patient Plan of Care
- ▶ Assisted in communicating to end users the need for Meaningful Use Stage 2 accreditation, which was achieved by the hospital
- ▶ Developed an Opioid Screening Tool and nursing orders to enhance patient safety when delivering opioid medications
- ▶ Developed a tool for the assessment and documentation of our patients' special needs

Unit-Based Councils Achievements

Unit-based councils are a forum to improve patient care and enhance processes on a unit level. Some of the projects of the councils were:

- ▶ F3 and CCU developed a policy for assessment and tube feeding of the patient with a jejunostomy
- ▶ D3 worked on increasing the rate of certified RNs
- ▶ ICU and CCU established a patient ambulation initiative
- ▶ E2 identified the goal of improved communication between shifts and they are working on enhanced handoff procedures
- ▶ Perioperative focused on self-scheduling and is in the process of creating a structure to achieve this

Exemplary Professional Practice

Earning Magnet status is a tremendous achievement. It validates what we already knew, that the nurses at South Nassau demonstrate exemplary professional practice, effectively integrating the art and science of nursing. South Nassau nurses are frontline decision makers who directly influence positive patient outcomes. They are collaborators: building relationships with patients, families, and other members of the health care team to achieve excellence. And, our nurses are researchers and scientists who use current evidence and seek out new data to advance practice with a focus on sustaining and improving our rigorous standards of quality and safety.

Awards, Accreditations And Recognitions

- ▶ Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center
- ▶ Hospital Safety Score® of "A" by The Leapfrog Group
- ▶ *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Hospitals Rankings for 2014-2015, South Nassau ranked 19th among all hospitals in the New York metropolitan area as well as 18th in the state of New York, recognized in eight specialties
- ▶ American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With the Guidelines® – Stroke Gold Plus Performance Achievement Award and the Target: Stroke Honor Roll 2014
- ▶ Get With The Guidelines® – Heart Failure Bronze Quality Achievement Award
- ▶ The Joint Commission: Top Performer on Key Quality Measures®
- ▶ Home Care Elite™ Top 500 listing of the best home health care providers in the nation (ninth consecutive year)
- ▶ Aetna Institute of Quality® Cardiac Care Facility for our Cardiac Medical Intervention and Cardiac Rhythm Disorder Programs
- ▶ Home Health Quality Improvement "Go for the Gold" 2012–2014 campaign – Gold Medalist
- ▶ The New York State AMT Children of Hope Foundation *Torch of Life* Award
- ▶ Becker's Hospital Review 2014 listing of "100 Hospitals With Great Women's Health Programs" in the United States
- ▶ New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative Obstetrical Improvement Project's 2013 Quality Improvement Award
- ▶ The Joint Commission Disease-Specific Care Certifications:
 - End Stage Renal Disease
 - Joint Replacement Hip
 - Joint Replacement Knee
 - Wound Care
- ▶ The Joint Commission: Advanced Certification as a Primary Stroke Center



COMPARISON
TO NEW YORK
STATE
BENCHMARKS

HOME CARE PATIENT SATISFACTION

Overall rating of care

Exceeded benchmark for the majority of the last eight quarters

OUTPATIENT SERVICES

Teamwork between nurses, doctors and other staff

Exceeded national benchmarks for the majority of the last eight quarters

COMPARISON
TO NATIONAL
BENCHMARKS

EXEMPLARY PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

South Nassau First In New York To Earn End-Stage Renal Disease Certification From The Joint Commission

South Nassau is proud to be the first hospital in New York to earn the Joint Commission's End-stage Renal Disease Specialty Certification. To earn this certification, South Nassau's inpatient dialysis unit and Outpatient Dialysis Center (located in Oceanside, NY) underwent an on-site review by surveyors with expertise in dialysis care. Our dialysis nurse leaders coordinated preparation for this survey. The certification was awarded to South Nassau for its compliance and



Dr. Penque with members of the award winning dialysis team

continuous dedication to the national standards for health care quality and safety as recommended by the commission's

Disease-Specific Care Certification Program. It demonstrates our commitment to the highest level of care for our dialysis patients.

Safe Motherhood Initiative

The website of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) District 2 featured South Nassau's Women and Children's team as one of five Star Performers in New York State among 91 participating hospitals in the Safe Motherhood Initiative. Our team was recognized for scoring above average in all elements of the Culture Assessment Survey, a reflection of our dedication and commitment to supporting a culture of patient safety and quality improvement.



Women and Children's team



EXEMPLARY PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Torch Of Life Award

The New York State Ambulance Medical Technicians Children of Hope Foundation presented the Torch of Life Award to South Nassau, the only hospital in Nassau County to receive the honor. Our teams from the Emergency Department and Women and Children's Services were honored for their actions in saving the lives of newborns and for their significant role in the Safe Haven Program, which makes it possible for birth mothers to receive the care and support they need as well as ensuring the safety and well being of newborn infants.



South Nassau nurse leaders accept the Torch of Life Award

Preventing Hospital-Acquired Pressure Ulcers

The nursing teams on F3 and F4 achieved ZERO hospital-acquired stage 2+ pressure ulcers. This achievement is directly attributed to the efforts of our outstanding nurses and their dedication to providing superior patient care.



Nurse leaders and the F4 team celebrating their achievement of zero hospital-acquired pressure ulcers for over a year



Dr. Penque, Joanne Newcombe and the F3 nursing staff enjoying their accomplishment of almost a year without any hospital-acquired pressure ulcers

PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

Courtesy/respect of nurses

Explanation of new medicines

Pain well controlled

Likelihood to recommend SNCH's Emergency Department

D4 Inpatient behavioral health unit patient satisfaction

Exceeded national benchmarks for the majority of the last eight quarters

COMPARISON
TO NATIONAL
BENCHMARKS

New Knowledge, Innovation And Improvement

Acquiring new knowledge, and then using that knowledge to implement innovations and improvements, is an integral part of nursing at South Nassau. Our nurses are given ample opportunity to develop professionally and further their education. Involvement in nursing research is encouraged and valued. This commitment to learning ensures that our nurses are informed by the most current research and evidence-based practice and they, in turn, participate in planning for improvements, recommending policy changes and introducing new programs that advance nursing practice.



South Nassau Nurse Is First PhD Graduate From Molloy College

Gina Kearney, PhD, RN-BC, AHN-BC, completed her doctoral degree (PhD) in nursing at Molloy College, the first doctoral graduate at Molloy. Dr. Kearney went on to present her doctoral research, "The Relationship Between Weight Locus of Control, Self-Rated Abilities for Health Practices, Self-Compassion, and Weight Loss Outcome among Adults Post-Bariatric Surgery" at the Cleveland Clinic's 9th Annual Obesity Summit, Cleveland.

Healthcare Association Of New York State (HANYs) Pinnacle Award Abstract Submitted

Lori Edelman, MS, RN, CEN, NE-BC, and Joanne Newcombe, BSN, MHA, RN, NE-BC submitted an abstract to HANYs for their Pinnacle Award for Quality and Patient Safety. The abstract theme was "Throughput: Teamwork Makes It All Happen!" HANYs' Pinnacle Award recognizes organizations that play a leading role in promoting improvements in health care delivery in New York State.

Nursing Research Fellows

Our current cohort group of Nursing Research Fellows is participating in an 18-month fellowship program which allows them to conduct research studies while being mentored by experienced South Nassau research nurses. The following studies are planned:

- ▶ **Dena Alberti, BSN, RN-BC:** "Educating Nurses about Self-Care Strategies"
- ▶ **Liz Bachoo-Garib, BSN, RN, OCN:** "The Effect of Pet Therapy on Oncology Patients' Pain"
- ▶ **Janice Campbell, MSN, RN, LCCE:** "Prenatal Networking via Social Networking: A Survey"
- ▶ **Irene Ficaro, BSN, RN, CGRN:** "The Impact of Interpersonal Dynamics on Post Bariatric Women"

Continuing Education/Advanced Degrees

- ▶ **65%** of South Nassau's RNs hold BSN degrees as compared with 57% statewide (HANYs 2014 Nursing and Allied Health Care Professionals Workforce Survey Report)
- ▶ **32%** of our nurses have attained professional certification in their field

Patient Care Services currently has:

- ▶ **58 RNs** enrolled in BSN Programs
- ▶ **43 RNs** enrolled in Masters Programs
- ▶ **8 RNs** enrolled in NP Programs
- ▶ **4 RNs** enrolled in Doctoral Programs

NEW KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

South Nassau First Annual Clinic And Research Day

The Office of Clinical Research sponsored the first annual Clinic and Research Day, which included 34 clinical poster presentations from several disciplines, including nursing, as well as a podium presentation. Said Dr. Penque, "This was the first combined nursing and physician research conference held at South Nassau. It was great to see the collaboration among our physicians and nurses toward advancing research and evidence-based practice."

Our nurses presented the following posters:

- ▶ **Lynn Bert, MSN, FNP, RN, NE-BC, AE-C:** "Project HELP Initiative"
- ▶ **Laurel Book, BSN, RN:** "Attitudes and Beliefs of Perinatal Staff Nurses Regarding Implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative at South Nassau Communities Hospital" Second Place
- ▶ **Madeline Cozzi-Gottlieb, MSN, RNC-OB, FNP-C:** "The Effects of Oral Intake of Clear Fluids During First Stage Labor on Maternal Satisfaction and Neonatal Hypoglycemia"
- ▶ **Katherine Demelis, MSN, RN and Nydia White, BSN, RN, CCRN:** "Nurses in Critical Care Units Taking Grief Support into Their Own Hands"
- ▶ **Margaret Hempstead, BSN, RN, VA-BC, EMT-B:** "The IV Team's Journey with PICCs and Beyond" First Place
- ▶ **Patricia Mulvaney-Roth, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC, and Jacki Rosen, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC:** Podium Presentation, "Using Evidence-Based Research to Develop a Standardized Nurse-Driven Protocol"

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE: IMPROVEMENTS IN PATIENT CARE

- ✓ Patient Falls with injury Hospital level Z- score
- ✓ Percent of surveyed patients with hospital-acquired pressure ulcers Stage 2+ Hospital level Z- scores

Below national benchmarks in the majority of the last eight quarters for these indicators



The CLABSI improvement team, including Dr. Penque, Dr. Linda Efferen, chief medical officer, (back row, second from left) and Dr. Jonathan Altus, co-director, division of pulmonary medicine and critical care (front row, second from left) celebrate more than one year without central line blood stream infections in the critical care units

Current Nursing Research Studies

Jacki Rosen, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC, clinical nurse specialist, is leading a study: Caring Connections "What influence does a Holistic Peer Support Group have on Self-Compassion of Direct Care Nursing staff?" This study measures the effect of the Caring Connections staff support group on self-compassion.

Joan Gallagher, BS, RN-BC, nursing professional development educator and Rose Schecter, PhD, RN, associate dean of undergraduate nursing Molloy College, conducted a study: "Enhancing Baccalaureate Nursing Students' Perception of Competence and Confidence during an Alternative Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) Experience: A Pilot Study."

This pilot study explored the effects that three consecutive adult health clinical placements on a DEU would have on baccalaureate nursing students' perception of their growth in competence and confidence regarding clinical practice. The findings revealed that the competence and confidence of the students increased.

The students involved in this study have requested to have their capstone experiences at South Nassau. They also participated in our student nurse intern program. Many are currently working at South Nassau and are looking towards continued employment as RNs.

NEW KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

Best Practice Abstracts Submitted For New York Organization Of Nurse Executives And Leaders (NYONEL) Conference

South Nassau is proud of the efforts undertaken by our nurses who submitted Best Practice Abstracts for the 2015 NYONEL Conference. Abstracts reflected the conference theme, *Nursing Leadership: Transforming Care for the New Health Care Environment*.

- ▶ "Nursing Leadership Collaborative to Reduce Preventable Readmissions from Skilled Nursing Facilities," **Joanne Newcombe, BSN, MHA, RN, NE-BC**, and **Rita Regan, RN, BS, CPHQ**
- ▶ "Enhancing Baccalaureate Nursing Students' Perception of Competence and Confidence during an Alternative DEU Experience: A Pilot Study," **Rose Schechter, PhD, RN**, **Joan Gallagher, BS, RN-BC** and **Marybeth Ryan, PhD, RN**
- ▶ "Multidisciplinary Team for Reduction of Early Elective Deliveries," **Gayle Somerstein, BSN, MPH, MBA, RN**
- ▶ "Reduction of SSI in the Postoperative Hysterectomy and C-section Patients," **Gayle Somerstein, BSN, MPH, MBA, RN**
- ▶ "Decreasing Safety Watches/Sitters Through the Use of a Patient Engagement Program," **Patricia Mulvaney-Roth, MSN, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, **Carla Jackson, MA, RN-BC**, **Jeanne Tetro, RN-BC**

Bringing The Experts To South Nassau

To support the professional development of our nurses, the following conferences and certification review courses were offered on-site this past year:

- ▶ "Neuroscience Nursing Update" Seminar presented by **Cynthia Bautista, PhD, RN, CNRN**
- ▶ ANCC Medical-Surgical Certification Review Course presented by **Paula Gillman, MSN, ANP-BC, GNP-BC, RN-BC**
- ▶ CPAN/CAPA Certification Review Course presented by **Meg Suremond, BSN, RN, CCRN, CPAN, CAPA**
- ▶ Relationship-based Care Workshop and Seminar presented by **Susan Wessel, MS, MBA, RN, NEA-BC** of Creative Health Care Management, an expert in relationship-based care

Nurse-Led Program Receives Grant

The Department of Community Education, led by Dr. Kearney, received a \$15,000 grant from the Cindy and Slomo Silvan Foundation to support the CATCH Program (Check in and Take Charge of Your Health), an educational series addressing the health risks of obesity.



Nurse Research and Evidence-based Practice Council



NURSING MISSION

To provide quality, compassionate nursing care based upon mutual respect for our patients, their families and each other.

NURSING VISION

To empower nursing staff to practice innovatively, influence exceptional clinical outcomes, learn continuously and to create an environment where nurses choose to work and patients want to receive care.

