

October 12, 2023

LCHS Team Members Recognized at Nursing Excellence Ceremony

LOWVILLE, NY— Lewis County Health System nursing team gathered Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at the Tug Hill Estates in Lowville to bestow recognition upon their nurse peers at the Nursing Excellence Ceremony. Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Nurse Aides, Certified Nursing Assistants, and Friends of Nursing were recognized by their peers for excellence, leadership, and clinical practice while at the same time consistently meeting the ICARE values of Lewis County Health System: Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, Respect, and Compassion.

The nursing team also presented Registered Nurse Gale Grunert with the Nursing Leadership Lifetime Achievement Award for her thirty-five-year commitment to nursing. Mrs. Grunert has held many roles at LCHS throughout her career, including staff RN on East Wing, Nurse Manager, Quality Manager, Director of Case Management, Interim Director of Nursing, and her current role as Clinical Resource Manager.

“Gale’s dedication and commitment to excellence have profoundly impacted staff, patients, and residents at Lewis County Health System,” stated Marcy Teal, Chief Nursing Officer at LCHS. “The nursing team will miss her knowledge, work ethic, kindness, and most of all her friendship.”

Gale has experienced many changes in healthcare and nursing over her 35-year career. She says, “Change is what you make of it.” Mrs. Grunert encourages her peers to embrace change and make the most of every learning experience while serving others.

Lewis County Health System congratulates all the award recipients highlighted below:

Nursing Leadership Lifetime Achievement Award

The Lifetime Achievement Award bestows honor for dedication to nursing excellence, leadership, and sustained contributions to the nursing profession and the communities served by LCHS.

Recipient – RN Gale Grunert

Nursing Excellence

Registered Nurses in this category were nominated by their peers for practicing excellence and utilizing exemplary skill and knowledge in caring for patients and residents daily. These nurses regularly promote the use of evidence to improve their practice and overall nursing standards at LCHS.

Recipients - RNs Jackie Pate, Tina Dicob, Tracie Davoy, Stephenie Hunziker, Megan Stockman, and Katrina Becker.

Nursing Leadership

The Nursing Leadership Award recognizes Registered Nurses who demonstrate exemplary leadership with a proven record of achieving and sustaining excellent outcomes.

Recipients - RNs Jackie Simmons, Tina Gigliotti, Jennifer Jantzi-LaFlesh, Nola Pominville, Shannon Der, and Tina Bates.

Rising Stars

Rising stars are Registered Nurses in practice for less than two years who have made an impact since joining the LCHS nursing team. Their peers nominated the RNs for demonstrating personal and professional growth with passion for their work.

Recipients - RNs Elizabeth Lawrence and Amy Godlewski.

LPN Excellence

Licensed Practical Nurses were nominated by their peers for their consistent participation in providing high-quality care. They are considered valuable team members and have made critical departmental contributions.

Recipients – LPNs Tammy Thompson, JoEllen Lafontaine, Tracey Koss, Julie Fairbanks.

CNA/NA Practice Excellence

Certified Nurse Aides and Nursing Assistants were nominated by their peers for excelling in time management, prioritization, care for patients and residents, and providing departmental support.

Recipients – CNA/NAs Brooklyn Cobb, Rachael Baslow, Tina Johnson, Jill McBain, and not in photo Wes Brown and Melinda Smith.

Friends of Nursing

The individuals selected in the Friends of Nursing category have shown significant support to the nursing profession at LCHS. The nursing service nominated the staff for demonstrating effective partnership and collaboration with the nursing team to improve patient and resident outcomes.

Recipients - Marcie Buell, Jennifer Boucher, Samantha Woodhouse, Lori Peters, Barry Fairbanks, and not in photo Sage Stanford.

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NURSING LEADERSHIP

RNs - Jackie Simmons, Tina Gigliotti, Jennifer Jantzi-LaFlesh, Nola Pominville, Shannon Der, Tina Bates



LPN EXCELLENCE

LPNs - Tammy Thompson, JoEllen Lafontaine, Tracey Koss, Julie Fairbanks



NURSING EXCELLENCE

RNs - Jackie Pate, Tina Dicob, Tracie Davoy, Stephenie Hunziker, Megan Stockman, Katrina Becker



CNA/NA PRACTICE EXCELLENCE

CNA/NAs - Brooklyn Cobb, Rachael Baslow, Tina Johnson, Jill McBain, and not in photo Wes Brown, Melinda Smith



RISING STARS

RNs - Elizabeth Lawrence, Amy Godlewski



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CNO Marcy Teal with RN Gale Grunert



FRIENDS OF NURSING

Marcie Buell, Jennifer Boucher, Samantha Woodhouse, Lori Peters, Barry Fairbanks, and not in photo Sage Stanford