Six MercyOne Central Iowa Nurses named to Great Iowa Nurses list

MercyOne Central Iowa is proud to announce six of our registered nurses have been named to the 2020 list of 100 Great Iowa Nurses, an annual award recognizing nurses for their courage and commitment to patients and the nursing profession.

In total, 20 registered nurses from across MercyOne’s statewide system and its affiliated facilities were named to the list. The 2020 honorees represent the health system’s diverse services and specialties, and have demonstrated outstanding commitment to providing the high-quality, compassionate and personalized care for which MercyOne is known.

“We are proud to see our nurses recognized as part of this prestigious list for what we appreciate about them every day – their unwavering commitment to providing compassionate, personalized care and leadership in delivering our Mission to transform the health of our communities."

– Linda Goodwin, Chief Nursing Executive and Operations Officer

Each year, the 100 Great Iowa Nurses program asks for patients, coworkers, friends and family members to nominate outstanding nurses for recognition. Recipients are selected based on the meaningful contributions made to their patients, colleagues and the nursing profession, in addition to being viewed as mentors to other nursing professionals. Honorees are also selected for their courage, competence and commitment to the field of nursing.

MercyOne is a proud sponsor of the 100 Great Nurses statewide program, a collaboration of the Iowa Nurses Association, Iowa Nurses Foundation and the University of Iowa College of Nursing. For more information about 100 Great Iowa Nurses, visit greatnurses.org.

2020 MercyOne Central Iowa Honorees

Kim Carstens, Des Moines Cancer Center
Erin Feilmeier, Clive Rehabilitation Hospital
Theresa Hamm, Des Moines Medical Center
Christine Hinshaw, Newton Medical Center
Stacey Hurst, Clive Sleep Center
Pamela Pertzborn, Des Moines Medical Center

More Honorees
The following nurses from affiliates of MercyOne Central Iowa were also among the honorees this year:

• Angela Ehler, Van Diest Medical Center
• Brenda Finneman, Monroe County Hospital
• Mindy Royster, Boone County Hospital

Nurses Week special events, May 3–9

We are celebrating annual Nurses Week, May 3-9, 2020, at MercyOne. Our nurses and the many roles they play – caregiver, advocate, teacher, encourager – inspire everyone, especially in today’s world. MercyOne nurses strengthen the circle of care for the patients and families we serve.
Nurses Week  Continued from previous page

Our tradition has been to provide a big celebration during Nurses Week to recognize the key role nursing staff play in our organization. In light of the current situation and restrictions in place, our annual celebration may seem light this year. Plans call for a larger celebration this fall.

Monday, May 4 – Friday, May 8

• Downtown snack station – From 2-4 p.m., at the catering window outside the auditorium of MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center’s East Tower, snacks and treats will be available to clinical staff. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, water bottles from Community Choice Credit Union will also be given out.

• Focused recognition – Cards will be available all week for recognizing deserving nurses. Once again, MercyOne Des Moines and West Des Moines Medical Centers are partnering with Community Choice Credit Union during Nurses Week. Community Choice has created a special digital page to complete a Focused Recognition card online – MercyOneNurses.com. Any nurse who fills out a card or is recognized will receive a water bottle.

• Nurses Week surprise and delight – Provided by MercyOne Des Moines Foundation, watch for fun surprises delivered throughout the week!

Wednesday, May 6

• West Des Moines snack station – From 11 a.m.-1 p.m., outside The Café at MercyOne West Des Moines Medical Center, snacks and treats will be available to clinical staff, along with Focused Recognition cards and water bottles from Community Choice Credit Union.

Words of wisdom

Everyone has received advice that helped guide decisions. In honor of Nurses Week, here are a few examples of the most meaningful words of wisdom some of our MercyOne nursing leaders have received from those they admire.

“The best advice I ever received about nursing was from my ICU preceptor when I was a new graduate RN, ‘Care for every patient as though they were your own family.’”
- Cindy Penney, VP of Patient Care and Chief Nursing Officer

“The best advice I ever received was from Teri Tipton, CNO of Methodist Health System in Omaha, Neb. – ‘Never let yourself get more than two weeks away from being able to do bedside care.’”
- Alison Bruckner, Administrative Director of Acute Care

“It’s hard to narrow it down to one. The two best pieces of advice that stick out in my mind are, ‘Always treat the patient as you would want yourself and your loved ones to be treated as a patient,’ and ‘Always have a questioning attitude and seek to learn something new every day.’”
- Julie Tuel, Market Director of Critical Care Services

Not all heroes wear capes

Order your T-shirt by May 10

To help raise funds for the MercyOne COVID-19 Response Fund and show support for health care and all essential workers, special T-shirts are available for order online through Sunday, May 10, at MercyOne.org/covid19. The shirts are light green and feature, “Not all heroes wear capes” on the chest.

The COVID-19 Response Fund provides unforeseen and just-in-time needed resources to assist physicians, nurses and caregivers in caring for patients at the Des Moines and West Des Moines campuses. Funds raised provide meals, items for comfort carts for colleagues to share with caregivers, and smaller types of supply expenses.