



# 2024 NURSING ANNUAL REPORT

**RWJBarnabas**  
HEALTH | Robert Wood Johnson  
University Hospital

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**Our mission:** We are an academic health system, partnering with  
our communities to build and sustain a healthier New Jersey.

**RWJBarnabas**  
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FROM OUR CHIEF NURSING OFFICER



In serving as your Interim Chief Nursing Officer, it is truly a privilege to work alongside such a highly skilled and compassionate nursing team at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH). It's also an honor to celebrate the many incredible achievements made throughout 2024, a number of which are highlighted within these pages. These accomplishments are a testament to the hard work and the passion you bring to your roles and your patients every day.

When I ask both seasoned and newer nurses across the hospital what makes RWJUH nursing so special, a common denominator always rings true: the moments in time when they've made a true difference in their patients' lives. These powerful moments can never be underestimated. They're at the heart of our profession, and they're the foundation of our mission, vision and values. As one system and one family, we cherish "mission moments" and encourage each other to share the stories of where we see them in action. Through our values of accountability, compassion, curiosity, empathy, excellence, kindness, respect and teamwork, we build on this foundation every day to bring out the very best in our profession.

And speaking of "best" – RWJUH continues to advance nursing practice, not only in our region but across the country and beyond. We're so proud that your efforts have earned the 2024 Press Ganey Human Experience NDNQI® Award for Outstanding Nursing Quality as the top performer out of 70 academic medical centers in this category. In addition, RWJUH is one of only 23 organizations internationally to achieve six or more consecutive Magnet® designations by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Year after year, you embrace the philosophy that Magnet is not just a designation, but a culture and a way of life – one that extends beyond nursing to encompass our entire interdisciplinary team. We're deeply thankful to all our colleagues who work alongside us.

Nursing is both a science and an art, uniquely combining evidence-based care with the heart and compassion inherent to this noble profession. In the coming months, I look forward to meeting each of you to hear your stories and learn more about what makes our profession so special for you. These are the elements that define us as we grow together, learn from one another and support each other in every challenge and success.

I believe the best is yet to come, and I am excited about the amazing things we will achieve as we continue to evolve and strengthen our team and our profession.

With gratitude,

**Maureen Harding, MSN, BSN, RN**  
Senior Vice President and Interim Chief Nursing Officer  
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital



**Maureen Harding, MSN, BSN, RN**  
Senior Vice President and Interim Chief Nursing Officer



**Suzanne Spernal, DNP, APN-BC, RNC-OB, CBC**  
Senior Vice President, Women's Services



**Nicole M. Hartman, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC**  
Vice President, Nursing Clinical Excellence



**Arlex Matulac, MSN, RN, NE-BC**  
Vice President, Perioperative Services



**Lydia Weber, DNP, RN, ANP-BC, HNP**  
Vice President, Clinical Effectiveness and Patient Safety



**Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN**  
Assistant Vice President, Oncology/Wound Care Services, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital & Associate Chief Nursing Officer, Cancer Institute of New Jersey



**Kathy Easter, MSN, RN, CCRN**  
Assistant Vice President, Nursing Excellence



**Georgia Harrison, DNP, RN, CCRN**  
Assistant Vice President, Intensive Care Neuro, Trauma, Medical & Ortho Services



**Patricia James, DNP, RN, CCRN, NE-BC**  
Assistant Vice President, Inpatient Cardiovascular Services



**Minnette Markus-Rodden, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC**  
Assistant Vice President, Nursing Science



**Claudia Pagani, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, NPD-BC**  
Assistant Vice President, Center for Professional Development, Innovation & Research



**Nancy Rizzuto, DNP, MSN, APRN, CCRN**  
Assistant Vice President, Heart and Vascular Service Line



**Jennifer Silva, DNP, RNC-NICU, NE-BC**  
Assistant Vice President The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital



**Winsome West, MSN, MBA, RN**  
Assistant Vice President, Adult Emergency Department, Nursing Observations and Clinical Operations





# Transformational Leadership

## New Professional Governance Structure Broadens Nurse Engagement

To make nursing professional governance more accessible to nurses throughout the hospital, RWJUH revamped its existing structure in ways that have facilitated greater participation, engagement and convenience.

Previously, the Shared Governance Council convened for an eight-hour meeting once each month to cover quality indicators and all other topics relevant to nursing. The new structure balances this content over several days, enabling nurses to better plan unit coverage in order to attend. It also helps ensure that nurses who are closest to the point of care can drive change.

Quality committees now meet on the third Wednesday of each month, and the fourth Wednesday is slated for a two-hour Staff Advisory Council (SAC) meeting attended by nurse chairs and co-chairs from each unit. These nurses then return to the unit to share knowledge from SAC and implement ideas as part of their own two-hour Unit-Based Council meeting held both in person and via video conferencing participation. The night shift also has a dedicated SAC meeting to address opportunities specific to their shift.

“I really appreciate that clinical nurses at the bedside and throughout the hospital have a forum to share any issues or concerns, and there’s a structured process in place to address them,” says SAC Co-Chair Emily Yang, RN, a clinical nurse on 2 Core. “As a newer nurse, serving on the SAC has also helped me gain insight on how different units function and ways we can adapt these perspectives to further ensure safe, confident, effective care.”

When Yang and SAC Chair Lissette Malek, BSN, RN, bring input back to their units, everyone is willing to participate to take ideas to the next level. This might include forming task forces or committees, or volunteering for specific roles.

“It really feels like a family here; we come together with shared values to collaborate in ways that help our patients and the community,” explains Malek, a clinical nurse on 4 Tower. “I’m so happy to be a part of it, and I can’t imagine being anywhere else.”

As highlighted through a “You Said, We Did” standing agenda item, Malek and Yang have seen many SAC recommendations coming to fruition and making a positive difference for the RWJUH team. For example, every unit now has a medical director accessible to nurses 24/7, enhancing efficiency and providing a comfort level similar to having a unit-based hospitalist.

“Our goal is to ensure that our nurses’ voices are heard in a more meaningful way, which is truly the essence of the nursing profession,” says Nicole Hartman, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, Vice President, Nursing Clinical Excellence at RWJUH. “Nurses have the opportunity to share their concerns and successes while learning from each other. This ultimately makes it easier to deliver the very best care for our patients.”



*“Fridays gained new meaning for me as I worked alongside my mentee this semester. While answering her questions, I practiced self-reflection. While making introductions, I practiced communication and collaboration. While showing her the skills of a nurse, I practiced being a teacher. Although we practice these skills every day as leaders, having a mentee serves as a reminder that leaders should always be striving to teach others what excellence is and look inward to navigate how to do so authentically.”*

- Samantha Margulies, BSN, RN-BC, Assistant Director, Surgical Oncology and RWJUH Pathway to Nursing nurse mentor

**Mentorship Program Illuminates Pathways to Nursing**

Research shows that when patients have concordance with their health care providers – including perceived connections related to racial and ethnic backgrounds – outcomes may improve.

Recognizing a need for a more diversified nursing workforce that broadens concordance, RWJUH submitted an application for a Pathway to Nursing project that earned 2024 Health Equity and Nursing Innovations funding from AARP, the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN), and the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action. Projects were funded based on their ability to offer promising solutions to strengthen and diversify the nursing workforce through innovative nurse recruitment and retention strategies that establish and sustain healthy, equitable work environments.

“Our goals are to increase the number of Hispanic nurses to more closely align with the population we serve while enhancing leadership skills among our nursing assistant directors through mentorship opportunities,” explains Mindy Markus-Rodden, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC, Assistant Vice President of Nursing Science, who developed the performance improvement project in collaboration with co-leads Claudia Pagani, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, NPD-BC, Assistant Vice President, Center for Professional Development, Innovation and Research (CPDIR), Nicole Rolston MSN, RN, Nursing Education Specialist and Nicole Hartman, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, Vice President, Nursing Clinical Excellence.

With funding facilitated through the RWJ University Hospital Foundation, the Pathway to Nursing project has enabled high school students from the New Brunswick School of Health Sciences and Technology to shadow nursing mentors on the units, gain exposure to other nursing roles and participate in interactive educational experiences such as simulation lab sessions. Two cohorts launched in 2024, engaging 23 students.

“The first cohort will conclude with students presenting their innovative ideas at an event attended by nursing mentors, staff, parents, teachers and community members,” adds Dr. Markus-Rodden. “It’s been amazing to see how this project has brought everyone together for such an enriching, mutually beneficial experience.”



**Structural Empowerment**

**Nurse-Planned Events Make Learning Fun**

Throughout 2024, RWJUH nurses planned health fairs and events that provided education for their colleagues, patients and the community in fun, creative ways. At each of the following events, attendees received raffle tickets for engaging in learning and nurses earned evidence-based practice activity credits for participating.





### Take Me to the Movies

To recognize Healthy Aging Month, the RWJUH team has typically held a staff resource fair in the fall with a focus on older adults. In 2024, nurses expanded this program to the local community and integrated falls and injury prevention resources. This Older Adult Resource Fair was coordinated by Donna Prete, MSN, NPD-BC, NE-BC, GERO-BC, RN-BC, Nursing Professional Development Specialist, Center for Professional

Development, Innovation and Research (CPDIR), Elizabeth Russer, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, PCCN, Nursing Professional Development Specialist-Simulation Coordinator, CPDIR, and Diana Starace, Trauma and Injury Prevention Program Coordinator, with participation from departments across the hospital.

Featuring the theme “Take Me to the Movies,” the fair shared information, resources and services offered by RWJUH and local community organizations with 230 attendees. Each table selected a movie to engage participants – for example, the Emergency Department used “The Yellow Brick Road” to highlight safe mobility practices, and the Fall Prevention and Mobility Committee featured a falls crime scene investigation based on the movie “Clue.” The event included musical performances, a tai chi demonstration, snacks and raffles.

“Staff, visitors and community members truly enjoyed the event,” says Prete. “The expanded format and collaboration among nurses and other disciplines provided an opportunity to bring more awareness to the needs of older adults while sharing valuable health resources.”

### Safety Tips and Treats

In a collaborative annual effort spearheaded and supported by the Nursing Safety Committee, a Nursing Safety Fair welcomed more than 200 nurses, ancillary staff members and nursing students to enjoy Halloween-themed “safety stations” with poster presentations, raffles, candy and giveaways. Tables creatively staffed by committees and departments from across the hospital focused on topics such as needlestick safety, handwashing, workplace violence prevention, falls prevention and equipment safety.

“The event provided practical safety reminders while educating attendees about processes they may not have been as familiar with, such as filling out equipment repair forms and incident reports,” says case manager Raegina Hawkins, BSN, RN, CCM, who served as the fair’s Co-Chair together with fellow case manager and Co-Chair Imnas Williams, MSN, CMSRN, CCM, NATCEP, HHA. “Plus, presenting information in a fun way helps people better retain what they learn.”

### An Ortho/Neuro Extravaganza

RWJUH celebrated Ortho/Neuro Week with a slate of educational presentations that culminated in an Ortho/Neuro Carnival staffed by 50 hospital volunteers and attended by more than 200 people. Every station at this experiential learning event featured evidence-based content approved by experts from throughout the hospital. Participants enjoyed interactive, carnival-style educational games ranging from Joint Commission Fishin’ and SSI Ring Toss to Peri-Op Pop and Infection Prevention Jenga. The Rehabilitation team also staffed three tables with themes such as The Rolling Bones.

“Our staff really made this event a success, and it was wonderful to see all the smiling faces,” says Orthopedic Coordinator Kyala Hayes, MSN, RN, ONC, CSSGB, who organized the carnival. “This event was a great example of how we can work together to make the world a better place, one day at a time. You could see the attendees’ love for their specialty, passion for learning and desire to make patient care even better.”



Elizalde Dizon  
2 East Orthopedics



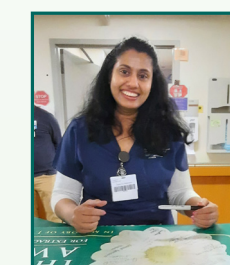
Amanda Castro  
Operating Room



Mary Ann Aduna  
2 Core



Lori Prussack  
Pediatrics



Priya Abraham  
Respiratory  
Care Unit



### BEE Award Recipients



Erika Garcia  
Ambulatory Surgical  
Pavilion



Diane Durante  
Operating Room



Robert Dukes  
2 Core



Jake Galati  
Float Pool



Nesha Shiwdin  
4 North



Tiangle Nyally  
Pre/Post Anesthesia  
Care Unit



Jolyvette Suarez  
6 Tower



Donna Lankford  
Emergency  
Department



# 2024 NURSE EXCELLENCE AWARDS RECIPIENTS



**Transformational Leadership**  
Rebecca Ramos, MS, RN, PED-BC  
Center for Professional Development,  
Innovation and Research  
Amanda Alvarado, BSN, RN, BMTCN, OCN



**Structural Empowerment**  
Trauma and Critical Care Committee  
Emergency Department



**Exemplary Professional Practice**  
Verdane Simeon-Bennett, MSN, RN-BC  
Neuro Critical Care Unit



**New Knowledge, Innovations,  
and Improvements**  
Mae Zoltowsky, BSN, RN, CBN, CPHQ  
Bariatric Service



**Magnet Nurse of the Year**  
Sabina Thomas, BSN, RN-BC  
2 East Orthopedics



**Sherry Stein Advanced Practice  
Provider Award**  
Sarah Maute, DNP, ACNP-BC, CCRN  
Medical ICU Advanced Practice Providers



**Friend of Nursing**  
Engineering Department



**Physician Award**  
Patricia Martin, DO

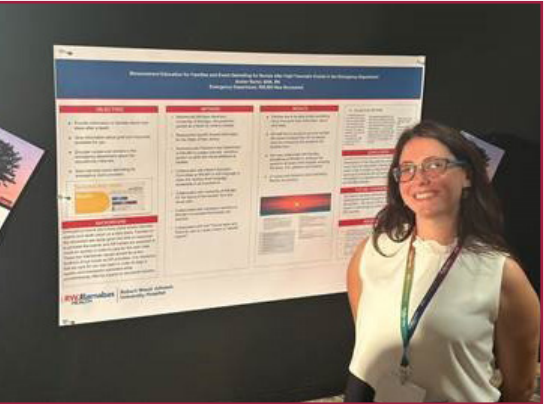


**Nursing Technician/  
Technologist Award**  
Blady Saavedra  
Ambulatory Surgical Pavilion

**Advanced Practice Provider Fellowship Graduates**  
Philip Ash, MS, PA-C | Leah Bradford, DNP, ACNPC-AG



Lizabeth Barba, BSN, RN  
Emily Sapiezynski, BSN, RN, CEN



Amber Bartol, BSN, RN



Kristen M. Dudas, MSN, RN, CCRN-CSC



Laura Pachella, DNP, RN, AGPCNP-BC, AOCNP

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Ambulatory Surgical Pavilion  
2024 OR Excellence Award in the  
Employee Engagement & Safety category,  
Outpatient Surgery Magazine

Lizabeth Barba, BSN, RN  
Emily Sapiezynski, BSN, RN, CEN  
NJ Emergency Nurses Association Team Award

Amber Bartol, BSN, RN  
Best Poster in Injury Prevention and Education, NJENA

Emily Bleich, BSN, RN  
RWJUH Shock Trauma Hero Award

Erin Dougherty, BSN, RN  
RWJUH Shock Trauma Hero Award

Kristen M. Dudas, MSN, RN, CCRN-CSC  
NJLN DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators

Sri Kota MSN, BA, APN, AGNP-C, AOCNP  
Khooshbu Patel MSN, BA, FNP-C, RN, AOCNP  
Recipients of DEI Grant, Rutgers Cancer Institute

Joseph Law, BSN, RN, TCRN  
Rutgers University - IDEA Grant (Pediatric Stop the Bleed)

Laura Pachella, DNP, RN, AGPCNP-BC, AOCNP  
RWJBH Advanced Practice Provider Advocacy Award

Felicia Vargas, MSN, RN-BC  
Synergy in Action Advocacy Award



Educational Achievements

The following nurses obtained an Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) degree in 2024

Name	College
Randall Grois, ASN, RN	Mercer County Community College

The following nurses obtained a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree in 2024

Name	College
Maya Aoun, BSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Angelique Aspilli, BSN, RN	William Paterson University
Marina Bekheet, BSN, RN	Kean University
Kurt Capra, BSN, RN	Western Governors University
Amanda Castro, BSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Kangni Chen, BSN, RN	Rutgers, The State University of NJ
Keily DeLeon, BSN, RN	Rutgers, The State University of NJ
Alyssa Feliciano, BSN, RN	University of Texas Arlington
Lauren Fontana, BSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Kaitlyn Glodzik, BSN, RN	Salisbury University
Raegina Hawkins, BSN, RN, CCM	Post University
Carmeria Hunter, BSN, RN	Capella University
Jospeh Johnson, BSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Louise Labang, BSN, RN	Georgian Court University
Stephanie Lagana, BSN, RN	Walden University
Margaret Lin, BSN, RN	William Paterson University
Marisse Maderal, BSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Lisette Malek, BSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Lynn McCabe, BSN, RN, CPN	Western Governors University
Evelyn McNelis, BSN, RN	Rutgers, The State University of NJ
Maria Mercado, BSN, RN	William Paterson University
Madeline Parisi, BSN, RN	Grand Canyon University
Patricia Ruego, BSN, RN	William Paterson University
Ginine Sanon, BSN, RN	William Paterson University
Carly Snyder, BSN, RN	Felician University
Peeranat Suksuchee, BSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Andrea Tito, BSN, RN	University of Arizona Global Campus
Emily Unverricht, BSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Kaitlyn Valendo, BSN, RN	Seton Hall University
Anne Vrubliauskas, BSN, RN	Rutgers, The State University of NJ
Eleanor Wells, BSN, RN	Penn State University

The following nurses obtained a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree in 2024

Name	College
Jennifer Aguilar, MSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Geralene Angeles, MSN, RN, CCM	Drexel University
Heidy S. Aviles, MSN, RN, CCRN	Seton Hall University
Kathleen Dela Cruz, MSN, RN	Montclair State University
Makayla Delvin, MSN, RN	Chamberlain University
Maria Diloia, MSN, RN, CCRN	Thomas Edison State University
Floredith Dobos, MSN, RN	Aspen University
Jessica Fisher, MSN, RN	Grand Canyon University
Yanin Galindo, MSN, RN	Walden University
Maria Christina Ilac, ACNPC-AG, RN, CCRN	Rutgers, The State University of NJ
Diloram Kamilova, MSN, RN	Hunter, CUNY
Alisha Lewis, MSN, RN	William Paterson University
Robin McManus, MSN, RN, CCM	Chamberlain University
Moira O'Donnell, MSN, RN	Thomas Edison State University
Ankur Patel, MSN, RN, CCRN	Rowan University
Kristin Rutan, MSN, RN, CCRN	Rowan University
Manju Sharma, MSN, RN	Post University
Ingrid Sokolsky, MSN, RN	Thomas Edison State University
Felicia Vargas, MSN, RN-BC	Chamberlain University

The following individual obtained a Master's degree (non-nursing) in 2024

Name	College
Hantz Fontaine, MS, MBA, PA-C	University of Wisconsin Eau Claire

The following nurses obtained a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree in 2024

Name	College
Tamika Anglin, DNP, PMHNP-BC	Chamberlain University
Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN	Purdue Global University
Christian Catiis, DNP, RN, CCRN-CSC-CMC	Rutgers, The State University of NJ
Sonia L. Edwards, DNP, RN	Wilkes University
Stacy L. King, DNP, RN	Regis College
Joanne Mercurio, DNP, APN-BC, CNOR, CRNFA	Regis University
Sandia Royal, DNP, MPA, RN, CCRN, CNRN	Rutgers, The State University of NJ
Joanna Yohannes-Tomicich, DNP, ACNP-BC	Rutgers, The State University of NJ



Professional Nursing Certifications

Congratulations to the following nurses for achieving certification in their specialty in 2024

Name	Specialty
Brenda Acquah, BSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Rubavathi Anand, BSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Sofia Arenas, MSN, FNP, APOHN	Family Nurse Practitioner
Melissa Bayan, BSN, RN, CCRN	Critical Care Registered Nurse
Bianca Bruno, MSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Erin Carr, MSN, RN, CCRN, NE-BC	Nurse Executive Board Certified
Leonard Cassady, BSN, RN, CPAN	Certified Post Anesthesia Nurse
CoriAnne Cha, BSN, RN CPAN	Certified Post Anesthesia Nurse
Sussan Chacko, MSN, RN, CCM	Certified Case Manager
Joyce Coakley, AAS, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Rebecca Colinco, BSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC	Medical-Surgical Board Certified
Aileen Coloma, BSN, RN, CCM	Certified Case Manager
Katherine Corlett, MSN, RN, CPNP-PC	Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care
Michele Dickson, BSN, RN, CAPA	Certified Ambulatory Perianesthesia Nurse
Leslie Doll, BSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Kristen M. Dudas, MSN, RN, CCRN-CSC	Cardiac Surgery Certified
Hannah Estrada, BSN, RN, CNOR	Certified Nurse - Operating Room
Jullian Grant, BSN, RN, PCCN	Progressive Care Certified Nurse
Dana Hanson, BSN, RN, CNOR	Certified Nurse - Operating Room
Georgia Harrison, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, CCRN	Nurse Executive Advanced Board Certified
Raegina Hawkins, BSN, RN, CCM	Certified Case Manager
Maria Christina Ilac, ACNPC-AG, RN, CCRN	Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certified in Adult Gerontology
Justin James, BSN, RN, CCM	Certified Case Manager
Joseph Johnson, BSN, RNC-EFM	Registered Nurse Certified in Electronic Fetal Monitoring
Maura Jones, BSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Julia Jordan, BSN, RN, CCRN	Critical Care Registered Nurse
Anna Jucan, BSN, RN, CCM	Certified Case Manager
Mark Karasin, DNP, AGACNP-BC, RNFA	Registered Nurse First Assistant
Skylar Keller, BSN, RN, CCRN	Critical Care Registered Nurse
Eira Kho, BSN, RN, PCCN	Progressive Care Certified Nurse
Lisa Lane, MSN, RN, CAPA	Certified Ambulatory Perianesthesia Nurse
Joseph Law, BSN, RN, TCRN	Trauma Certified Registered Nurse
Eric Lawrence, BSN, RN, CSC	Cardiac Surgery Certified

Name	Specialty
Alisha Lewis, MSN, RN	Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
Carolina Llanos-Cramer, BSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Jessica Lorenzo, BSN, RNC-EFM	Registered Nurse Certified in Electronic Fetal Monitoring
Beth Morpeth, BSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Aizhana Musaev, BSN, RN, CCRN-CSC	Cardiac Surgery Certified
Samantha Onorati, BSN, RN, CCM	Certified Case Manager
Ugochinyere Onwuzurike, BSN, RN, CCRN	Critical Care Registered Nurse
Claudia Pagani, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, NPD-BC, NE-BC	Nurse Executive Board Certified
Taniesa Palmer, BSN, RN, CCRN	Critical Care Registered Nurse
Rafel Polinski, MSN, RN, CPAN	Certified Post Anesthesia Nurse
Dennis Rogovoy, BSN, RN, ACM	Accredited Case Manager
Manju Sharma, MSN, RN	Family Nurse Practitioner Board Certified
Audra Smires, BSN, RN, CCRN	Critical Care Registered Nurse
Mary Smith, BSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Abigail Vasquez, BSN, RN, PCCN	Progressive Care Certified Nurse
Maria Villanueva, BSN, RNC-MNN	Registered Nurse Certified in Maternal Newborn Nursing
Michelle Waga, BSN, RN, PCCN	Progressive Care Certified Nurse
Brittany Welsch, BSN, RN, CPN	Certified Pediatric Nurse
Armi Anne Joharah Wison, BSN, RN, CPEN	Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse
Chaonan Xu, BSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC	Medical-Surgical Board Certified





Appointments		
Florence Chukwuneke, MSN, RN, AGPCNP-BC, CNRN	Member	New Jersey State Stroke Care Advisory Panel
Nicole Hartman, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC	Member	Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders (PONL); Emerging Nurse Leaders Committee
Timothy Murphy, MSN, RN, TCRN, CEN, FAEN	Immediate Past Chair	Education Committee Trauma Center Association of America
Nicole Rolston, MSN, RN, NPD-BC	Board Vice Chair	Neighborhood Health Services Corporation
Emily Sapiezynski, BSN, RN, CEN	Member	Emergency Nursing Education Collaborative
Olga Simonovsky, BSN, RN, CCM	BSN Instructor	Chamberlain University
Courtney Vose, DNP, MBA, RN, APRN, NEA-BC, FAAN	Member	Advocacy Committee of the New Jersey Organization of Nurse Leaders
Courtney Vose, DNP, MBA, RN, APRN, NEA-BC, FAAN	Vice Chair	Expert Panel on Building Health Care System Excellence of the American Academy of Nursing

Community Outreach	
Geralene Angeles, MSN, RN, CCM	Fund-raising -NSC of RWJUH-NB, Volunteer for the Diocese of Trenton Churches
Amber Bartol, BSN, RN	Stop the Bleed: Somerset County Houses of Worship, Freehold Township Houses of Worship
Megan Carr, BSN, RN, PCCN	Emergency Project-Mission
Florence Chukwuneke, MSN, RN, AGPCNP-BC, CNRN	Middlesex County Dept. of Health and American Heart Association; Regency at Monroe Men’s Club
Aileen Coloma, BSN, RN, CCM	Socks/Slippers Collections for the Homeless in ED
Jennifer Cruz, BSN, RN, CCRN	Jack’s Basket - Regional Lead Parent/Basket Delivery Parent for Children Born with Down Syndrome
Natalya Dorum, BSN, RN	Community Outreach for Kids Need More
Catherine Filippelli, MSN, RN, FNP, CEN, TCRN	Trauma Nursing Care, University of Dododoma, Tanzania
Catherine Filippelli, MSN, RN, FNP, CEN, TCRN	Trauma Care Delivery, Dododoma Regional Referral Center
Ursula Gowran, BSN, RN, CCRN	Red Cross- Service to the Armed Forces- Emergency Communications Message Caseworker
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP	Member, Hunterdon Central Regional High School, Girls Basketball Booster Club, Flemington, NJ

Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP	Volunteer Catechist, Children’s Faith Formation, Our Lady of Lourdes, Whitehouse Station, NJ
Raegina Hawkins, BSN, RN, CCM	Socks/Slippers Collections for the Homeless in ED
Michelle Incalcatera, BSN, RN, CCN	South Bound Brook Sports Club Soccer
Justin James, BSN, RN, CCM	Class Parent Volunteer Monmouth Junction Primary School
Stacy L. King, DNP, RN	GMM-Guyana Mission
Joseph Law, BSN, RN, TCRN	Stop the Bleed: Somerset County Board of Agriculture, Middlesex Fire Academy, McKinley Elementary School – New Brunswick, NJ
Rowena Lim, DNP, MBA, RN	Ronald McDonald “Caring Cook” program and Ronald McDonald “Adopt a Family” program
Claudia Pagani, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, NPD-BC, NE-BC	Volunteer, Clothing Drive for the ED
Alicja Pawelec, BSN, RN	Fundraiser and Participant for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society “Light the Night”
Rebecca Ramos, MS, RN, PED-BC	Volunteer, Camp Nurse, Camp STAR-Youth Amputee and Limb Difference Retreat. Fombell, PA
Nicole Rolston, MSN, RN, NPD-BC	American Cancer Society Fundraising - Brooklyn NY
Nicole Rolston, MSN, RN, NPD-BC	Blood Pressure Screening - St. Mark’s Episcopal Church Senior Ministry
Thalia Thomas, MPA, MSN, RN, CCM	Member of Itiah Angels for Learning
Dawn Tortajada, MSN, RN, PNP-BC	Breast Cancer 5K Walk
Courtney Vose, DNP, MBA, RN, APRN, NEA-BC, FAAN	Senior Leader Outreach, Elijah’s Promise
Imnas Williams, MSN, RN, CCM, NATCEP HHA-I	Socks/Slippers Collections for the Homeless in ED
Sherene Wilson, MSN, RN, CCM	Advanced Care Planning Vision Board Education







## Exemplary Professional Practice

### Nursing Perspectives from the Night Shift

Once family members bid their goodnights, patients have their evening medications and the busy pace of the shift change subsides, a unique rhythm settles into the night shift – at least until the early morning hours.

Work can typically be completed with fewer interruptions, but it also often requires a certain level of creativity and flexibility.

“Accessing resources that are more readily available during the day can be challenging, such as rapid feedback from a hospitalist or private physician groups, so we work together closely and creatively to keep things moving,” says Tamara Alexander, BSN, RN, OCN, night shift clinical nurse on 5 North. “The teamwork at night is on another level; we quickly notice when someone needs a moment or could use a hand, and we do everything we can to help each other.”

Alexander notes that accessing supplies used to be particularly challenging, but RWJUH recently implemented a process in which dedicated supply room staff restock each unit at night. The opportunity for nurses to provide input at night Staff Advisory Council (SAC) meetings has also resulted in positive change. For example, nurses shared that patients admitted in the evening from the Emergency Department were often hungry, and this feedback helped facilitate the development of a 7-11 p.m. night menu – along with higher patient satisfaction scores.

### Patient Support

It’s a misconception that patients sleep through the night; in reality, uninterrupted sleep is uncommon. While nurses strive to cluster care for fewer interruptions, most units require vitals every four hours, and patients may need medications and bathroom assistance. In addition, patients often need extra attention at night, when family members are not present and worries can spike.

“It’s not unusual to see nurses spending extra time with patients, providing unrushed care and reassurance,” says night shift Clinical Nursing Supervisor Nanayaa Breedy, RN, BSN. “As we build special connections with patients during these quieter moments, it’s also easier for us to observe when something feels off. We then can relay this to the day shift so they can keep a close eye out for anything concerning.”

### The Right Flow

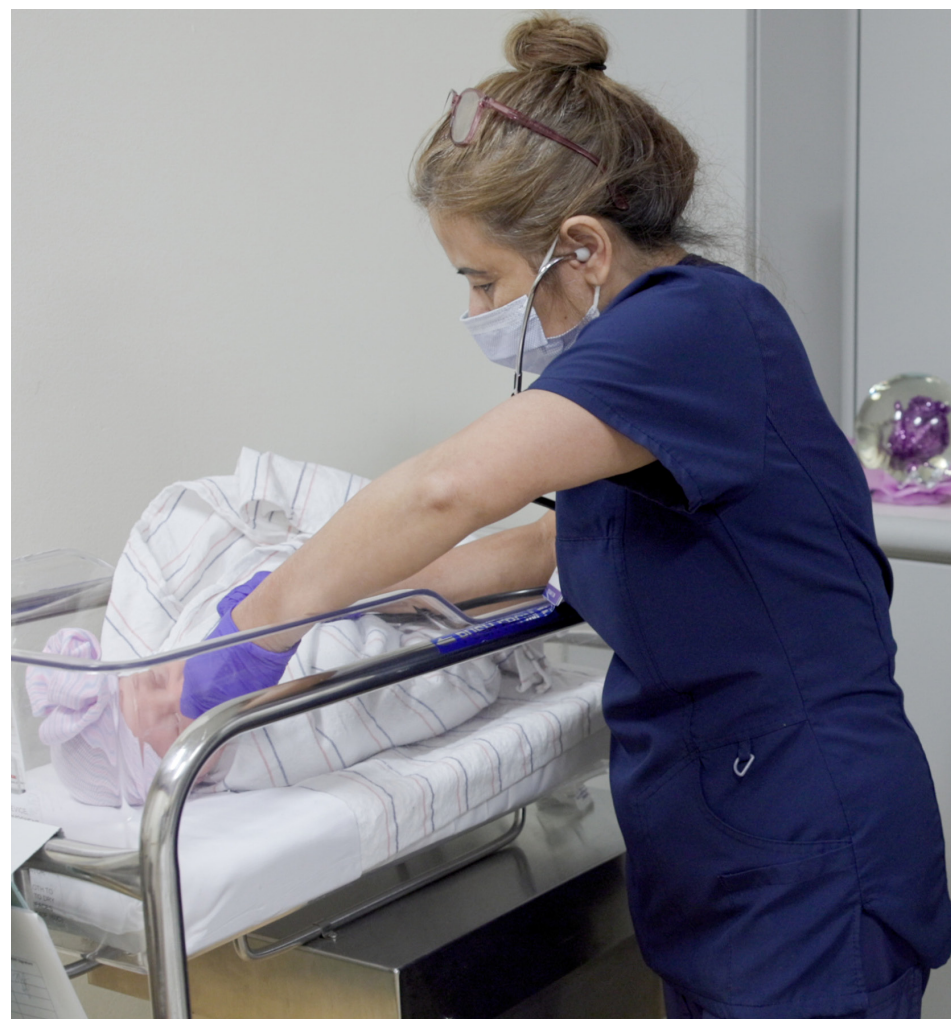
For night shift nurses, finding their own rhythm is important, too – and that means the right sleep/wake and shift schedules that serve both their work and personal lives. Camaraderie shines on this level as well, with some nurses going out for breakfast together after their shift. Other times, it’s the simple things that make all the difference.

“A cup of tea and a quick snack at 3 a.m. is the pick me up that always gets me through,” says Breedy. “I have to give a shout out to the cafeteria for staying open late at night. My mom was a night shift nurse on 5 Tower years ago, and she still talks about how much that meant to her.”

“We embrace flexibility to do the best we can,” adds Alexander. “I’ve worked in a number of places, and this is one of the strongest nursing teams you’ll ever see.”







### Press Ganey Honors RWJUH Nursing Quality

RWJUH was awarded the 2024 Press Ganey Human Experience NDNQI® Award for Outstanding Nursing Quality in the Academic Medical Center (AMC) category. This accolade positions RWJUH as a national leader in the field of nursing, elevating the profession and raising the bar on standards of care.

Established by the American Nurses Association in 1998 and now a Press Ganey solution, the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators® (NDNQI®) is the leading comprehensive nurse-sensitive indicators platform that collects and analyzes nursing data. This data is submitted by more than 2,000 facilities, including 95% of Magnet®-recognized facilities, enabling them to benchmark and assess their impact on clinical quality, patient outcomes and nurse workforce engagement measures.

“Many parameters impact outcomes, from the skill and experience of nurses to specific quality improvement measurements,” says Kathy Easter MSN, RN, CCRN, Assistant Vice President, Nursing Excellence at RWJUH. “By submitting data to NDNQI, we can drill down to the unit level to determine how we are performing compared to hospitals like us across the country – in this case, academic medical centers with 500 or more beds.”

Of more than 70 AMCs that were evaluated, RWJUH was the highest performing hospital. Rankings were determined by evaluating 17 quantitative and qualitative quality and workforce measures, including falls, pressure injuries and infections as well as nursing skill mix, degree and certification rates, turnover and experience.

“This prestigious national award demonstrates something we already know – our nurses are simply the best,” adds Easter. “In addition to being caring and kind, they relentlessly pursue clinical excellence through their evidence-based practice. Their goal is to provide safe, patient-centered care of the highest quality, and we’re very proud of their remarkable work.”

**Congratulations to our dedicated nurses!**

New Knowledge,  
Innovations and Improvements





### Transatlantic Journal Club Builds Enduring Bridges

As part of the Magnet4Europe initiative to advance nursing care around the globe, RWJUH was one of 130 U.S. Magnet® hospitals to establish a nearly five-year twinning relationship with a counterpart in another country – in this case, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust in the United Kingdom. But the pair is one of the few internationally to continue formal efforts to build on this relationship after the Magnet4Europe initiative officially concluded.

“Nursing is a global practice with many common threads across countries,” says Kathy Easter, MSN, RN, CCRN, Assistant Vice President, Nursing Excellence at RWJUH. “Even when an ocean separates us, we thrive on sharing knowledge and learning different perspectives that impact nursing practice and evidence-based care.”

The strong bond between the two hospitals inspired the creation of a Transatlantic Journal Club in 2024. This process was guided by a Steering Committee comprised of Easter, Linda Tamburri, MS, RN, APN, CCRN, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Magnet/Quality, Mindy Markus-Rodden, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC, Assistant Vice President of Nursing Science, and their counterparts at the Trust in London.

With support from medical librarians at RWJUH Somerset and in London, the team established a process for monthly virtual meetings to review and discuss a journal article that relates to nursing practice. All nurses are invited to attend, with one from each hospital serving as moderators to introduce the article and guide the discussion.

Six Transatlantic Journal Club meetings were held in 2024, with topics such as nursing assessments of patient health literacy, increased mortality in elderly patients admitted with hyponatremia and disincentives to ethics consultation requests.

“These meetings have generated rich discussions, including how to apply our journal club insights to clinical practice,” says Tamburri. “Our hope is that the ideas we generate will ultimately lead to joint research projects, further strengthening our bond and its benefits.”



### One-on-One Transatlantic Connections

In addition to these structured discussions, the two hospitals also initiated RCTs – randomized coffee trials – to facilitate connections between individual U.S. and UK nurses. Interested nurses from throughout each hospital completed a survey and were matched in 20 pairs following data review by a medical librarian. Each pair found a time to connect virtually, spending an hour discussing topics of their choosing, ranging from professional nursing practice to personal interests.

After the paired meetings, participants completed a survey about their experience and results were presented at a subsequent journal club.

“We’ve built enduring professional friendships through Magnet4Europe, and we wanted more team members to have that same opportunity,” explains Tamburri. “The RCT discussions were a wonderful way to share perspectives and connect on a more organic level with a nurse counterpart in another country.”

### Nurse-Driven Research Continues to Expand

Research is gaining momentum at RWJUH, with nurses at all levels engaged in various projects.

“The culture is shifting to make research more top of mind,” says Mindy Markus-Rodden, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC, Assistant Vice President of Nursing Science at RWJUH. “Enthusiasm for all forms of research-based efforts is expanding, including greater participation in the Nursing Inquiry Council.”

As part of her many nurse-scientist functions, Dr. Markus-Rodden introduced several editions of an email-based nursing research report in 2024 to make research concepts less intimidating, promote research opportunities and share ways for nurses to get involved.

Nine nursing research studies were underway at RWJUH in 2024, some with manuscripts submitted for publication and others with podium presentations at national conferences. Seven clinical nurses were actively involved in research studies. In addition, ten DNP candidates were working on evidence-based practice projects in collaboration with Dr. Markus-Rodden.

“It’s fulfilling to bring the current evidence to clinical nurses and support them as they ask new questions and seek out innovative solutions,” she explains. “In working with nurses at the bedside, I better understand their work environment, and vice versa. This type of collaborative relationship helps ensure that our research is shaped to be as adaptable as possible to clinical care.”



### Research Spotlight: The Impact of MyChart Education on Patient Experience

Guided by principal investigator Dr. Markus-Rodden, this IRB-approved interdisciplinary research study involved 2 East Orthopedics and Medical-Surgical nurses, Nursing Professional Development Practitioner Sandia Royal, DNP, MSN, MPA, RN, CCRN, CNRN, Nursing Assistant Vice President Georgia Harrison, DNP, RN, CCRN, and two Robert Wood Johnson Medical School students, Sivani Alla and Rahul Kukreja.

The project’s primary goal was to facilitate an increased use of the electronic health record portal by hospitalized patients to improve patient experience, care coordination and communication. The research study utilized an online survey designed to acquire information regarding a patient’s experience during their hospital stay with or without the Epic MyChart patient portal, and to assess their perspectives of efficiency and engagement with patient-provider interactions after patient portal usage.

“In the past, there has been limited research on the utilization of patient portals among hospitalized patients,” says Dr. Markus-Rodden. “This initiative has provided an additional opportunity for inpatients to better understand their medications and other health parameters prior to discharge, further contributing to patient safety.”

Study results showed that by providing training on how to use the MyChart account, patients increased their knowledge about their care plan. Patients were able to utilize MyChart information to ask clarifying questions, share updated and accurate test results with supporting family members and have more autonomy in their daily care. Information gathered from this study will be used to develop recommendations regarding MyChart utilization and user education.

Orthopedic Coordinator Kyala Hayes, MSN, RN, ONC, CSSGB, and clinical nurse Sabina Thomas, BSN, RN-BC, will share findings from this study at the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses (NAON) Annual Congress, and the study has also been submitted for publication.





### Community Support Fosters Nursing Professional Growth

The generosity of community partners and the RWJ University Hospital Foundation continues to foster strong nursing professional growth across RWJUH. This unwavering commitment supports important initiatives that advance nursing excellence in professional practice and underscores the critical role the nursing team plays in delivering compassionate, high-quality patient care.

Nursing scholarships awarded by the Betty Wold Johnson Center for Nursing Education assist those who are pursuing degrees and furthering their education in nursing practice. In addition, funding support helps nurses attend regional, national and international nursing conferences, where they expand their knowledge in current evidence-based practice while networking with other nursing professionals. These opportunities empower the RWJUH team to stay at the forefront of nursing, returning with innovative best practices that directly enhance patient care and improve outcomes. Conference funding also supports nurses who are selected to deliver presentations at these programs, enabling them to share their expertise with nursing colleagues across the country and beyond.



### Nursing Scholarships

For 2 East Orthopedics clinical nurse Katelyn Ribeiro, RN, receiving a nursing scholarship through the Betty Wold Johnson Center for Nursing Education Scholarship Awards has been instrumental in her professional growth. She is currently attending Chamberlain University, working on her MSN to become an adult gerontology acute care nurse practitioner.

“The scholarship has allowed me to further my education, expand my knowledge in orthopedic trauma care and integrate advanced clinical practices into patient care,” says Ribeiro. “This support not only enhances my ability to provide evidence-based, compassionate care, but it also

inspires me to contribute to the nursing profession through mentorship and leadership. I am deeply grateful for this investment in nursing excellence and the positive impact it has on both caregivers and patients.”

### Conference Support

Cardiovascular ICU clinical nurse and Magnet Ambassador Council Chair CJ Dudek, BSN, RN-BC, attended the 2024 ANCC National Magnet Conference® in New Orleans through funding from the Foundation. As a first-time attendee, she was thankful to learn from and network with her colleagues and fellow nurses from around the world.

“Being able to attend the conference and see thousands of like-minded nurses striving to improve nursing care and the profession as a whole was inspiring,” says Dudek. “It’s a reminder of why nursing is an incredible field with so many who have so much to offer.”

“Through the conference, I realized how much potential I have as a nurse,” she adds. “The diverse topics, nursing innovations and networking opportunities all have served to help me improve my practice. I also recognized how many great things we already do – and continue to do – each and every day.”

### Sharing Knowledge

Audrey C. Kleet, DNP, MBA, ACNP-BC, CCRN, NEA-BC, Administrative Director, Advanced Practice Providers, received funding from the Foundation to attend two professional conferences where she shared knowledge through presentation opportunities.

At the 2024 American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) National Conference in Nashville, Kleet gave a poster presentation on “Flush with Cash or Where’s My Stash?” At the 17th Annual Advanced Practice Provider Leadership Summit, also in Nashville, she presented “Crunch the Numbers: Growing Your Value Proposition as an APP” and in collaboration with Anthony Patten, PA-C, participated in a panel session on “Advanced Practice Leadership Topics,” where she co-presented “1+1 = Synergistic Leadership.”

“In attending these conferences, I’ve learned best practices from advanced practice providers at other health systems and academic medical centers while networking with colleagues near and far,” says Kleet. “I’m very grateful to the Foundation for supporting my professional growth and, in turn, enabling me to bring important information and new ideas back to our organization.”



### In Appreciation

RWJUH and the Nursing Division greatly appreciate the generosity of the following donors who in 2024 supported the advancement of nursing practice, contributed to nursing professional growth and provided equipment to enhance quality patient care.

#### AARP

#### Ann Earle Talcott Fund

#### The Auxiliary of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

#### The Edward W. and Stella C. Van Houten Memorial Fund

#### Gorrie Family Foundation

#### Turock Family Foundation

#### The Walter and Louise Sutcliffe Foundation

#### The Willard T. C. Johnson Foundation, Inc.





Scholarships

Betty Wold Johnson Center for Nursing Education Scholarship Awards

Master of Science in Nursing:

Rebecca Colinco, 8T	Chamberlain University (Nursing Informatics)
Michele Dickson, SDS	Thomas Edison University (Education)
Maria Diloia, Trauma, ICU	Thomas Edison University (Education)
Mugdha Kandalgaonkar, CCU	Rowan University (Adult Gerontology Acute Care NP)
Cassady Leonard, PACU	Rutgers School of Nursing (Nursing Leadership)
Albiond Marku, ED	Thomas Edison University (Nursing Informatics)
Glenda Mendoza, 5N	William Paterson University (Nurse Family NP)
Genevieve Nitzsche, ED	Chamberlain University (MSN-Education)
Funmilayo Ogundare, CCU	Chamberlain University (Psychiatric Mental Health NP)
Ankur Patel, RRT	Rowan University (AGACNP)
Katelyn Ribeiro, 2E	Chamberlain University (Adult Gerontology Acute Care NP)
Jasleen Sevilla, ED	Rowan University (Psychiatric Mental Health)
Gabriella Song, 6T	Walden University (MSN-NP)
Lanlen Soriano, CPDIR Nourish Program	Walden University (MSN/Family NP program)
Dylan Villanueva, 6N	Rutgers School of Nursing (Nursing Informatics)
Fancy Zeng, RRT	Walden University (Adult Gerontology Acute Care NP)

Doctorate in Nursing ( DNP/PhD)

Mini Jijo, CCL	Aspen University (DNP)
Samantha Newman, ED	Rutgers School of Nursing (Adult Gerontology Acute NP)
Sarika Patel, CPDIR	Rutgers University (DNP)
Michael Schaier, Admission Unit	Rutgers University (DNP)

Katherine Wright Gorrie Scholarship Awards

Certification

Dana Hanson, OR	Delaware County Community College (RNFA Program)
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Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Jocelyn Amores, Surgical Tech	Chamberlain University
Archimedes Atega, 5N	Capella University
Breanna Hundley, RDU	University of Arizona Global Campus
Jennifer Slicner, Peds Hem Onc Outpatient	Western Governors University

Dr. E. Joyce Zimmerman Scholarship Awards

Master of Science in Nursing:

Colleen Binbinon, 4N/BMTU	William Paterson University (Family NP)
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The Turock Family Foundation Pathway to Nursing Program  
for Clinical Care Technicians Scholarship

The Walter and Louise Sutcliffe Foundation & The Edward W. and  
Stella C. Van Houten Memorial Fund

Associate Degree in Nursing:

Jazzlyn Contreras, CCT, 8T	Middlesex County College
Gillian Gregory, CCT, 6T	Middlesex County College
Michelle Hankerson Holly, Bed Controller	JFK Muhlenberg Nursing School
David Matuska, CCT, 2E Ortho	Raritan Valley Community College
Azucena Perez, CCT, 6T	JFK Muhlenberg Nursing School
Reka Richard, Surgical Tech, L&D	Raritan Valley Community College
Edgar Villeda-Nunez, CCT, MICU	Middlesex County College

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Kristen Conti, CCT, RDU	Chamberlain University
Yana Desposito, CCT, CCU	Felician University
Catherine Gordon, CCT, 4T	Chamberlain University
Brandon Mark, CCT, Float Pool	Rutgers School of Nursing
Monica Kate Hizon Mata, CCT, BMTU	Chamberlain University
Samuel Perez Vasquez, CCT, 4T	Chamberlain University
Nesha Shiwdin, CCT, 4N	Chamberlain University

Master of Science in Nursing

Moriba Turay, CCT, MICU	Montclair State University (Pre-licensure MSN in Nursing)
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Health Professional Scholarships

David B. Crabiel Scholarship

Sofia Guadalupe Hernandez Marroquin
Mariana Ovando Martinez
Gilaninys Peralta
Xiomara Perez
Samantha Dayra Rojas Rosales
Samantha Lisett Ruiz
Daisy Jasmine Torres
Eladio Barrio Vazquez

Katherine Wright Gorrie Scholarship

Anthony Nicholas Gomez
Angel Diaz Jarquin
Genesis Jayra Martinez
Jasmine Lozado Morales
Thania Yesnenia Hernandez Sierra



Nursing Education Programs, Conferences, and Certifications	
Attendees	Program
Audrey Kleet	AANP Conference & Poster Presentation
Kathleen Arcidiacono   Nicole Colossi   Kristen Dudas   CJ Dudek Nicole Hartman   Nicole Hewitt   Catherine Hoyt   Lindsey Kennedy Michelle Paoluccio   Rebecca Ramos   Stella Sangiuliano Sabina Thomas   Kimberley Weinberg   Melissa Wilimczyk	ANCC National Magnet Conference
Joanna Yohannes-Tomicich	ANCC Conference Presentation
Jefferson Balo   Angelique Frances   Alfonso Gaité Ursula Gowran   Samantha Knieser	AACN - NTI Critical Care Conference
Nicole Hartman   Patricia James   Claudia Pagani	AONL Health Care Finance for Nursing Executives
Susan Fastenau	APHON Nursing Education
Audrey Kleet	APPex Annual Leadership Summit
Courtney Vose	Beckers Conference
Amber Bartol   Hanna Gerke   Magdalena Spizewski	Emergency Nurses Association Conference
Al Aguilar   Olivia Nicastro   Joanna Yohannes-Tomicich	ANCC Transition to Practice Symposium
Kathleen Arcidiacono   Christina DiFabrizio   Kimberly DiSanto Tasha Dunn   Kathy Easter   Jessica Fisher   Janine Kennovin Sarah Lehr   Suzana Marku   Arlex Matulac   Claudia Pagani Nicole Rolston   Laura Sarris   Jolanta Sojka   Humility Sumayang Courtney Vose	Huron - What's Right in Healthcare Conference
Kathy Easter	Magnet4Europe Conference & Mentorship
Roberto Molino Bond	National Association of Hispanic Nurses Conference
Kathleen Arcidiacono	NJ League for Nursing Conference
Florence Chukwuneke   Adam Ganzman   Kimberly Hollender	International Stroke Conference
Patricia Andrews   Bola Apena   Archimedes Atega   Elizabeth Awuah Sherwin Balasia   Glynis Cox   Esther Osoro   Zackary Reiser Hanna Ryeng-Pezzillo   Lorraine Stewart	ONS Congress
Nicole Hartman	Pennsylvania Organization of Nursing Leaders Annual Conference
Florence Chukwuneke   Kimberly Hollender	World Stroke Congress Conference
Many nurses received support to achieve or renew professional board certification in their nursing clinical specialty.	American Association of Critical Care Nurses - Certification Exam Voucher American Association of Critical Care Nurses - Courses in Essentials of Pediatric Critical Care Orientation American Association of Critical Care Nurses - e-learning courses American Nursing Credentialing Center - Nursing - Initial Certification and Certification Renewal

## Equipment

Department	Purpose
Child Life	GE Healthcare - MRI Sound System (partial)
CPDIR	Laerdal - SimMom ProTech Coverage
CPDIR	Laerdal - SIM Baby Arms
Clinical Engineering	GE Healthcare - MAC VU360 Resting ECG Analysis System (1 machine - adult ED)
Kidney Transplant	2024 Kidney/Pancreas Transplant Symposium)
NICU	International Biomedical - Neoview Video Intubation System and Disposble Blades
NICU	Sylvan Corporation - Transilluminators
Advanced Practice Providers	SimuLab Corporation - Ultrasound Guided Intravenous Access Arm System. Devices for Midline and PICC Line Training
Advanced Practice Providers	SimuLab Corporation - Ultrasound Guided Training Arm for Arterial Puncture & Cannulation
Advanced Practice Providers	APP Acute and Critical Care Symposium - Suturing Session

2024 Research Studies	
Principal Investigator/Co-Investigators	Study Title
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP (PI)	BMSCH Emotional Safety Event Classification Scale Reliability & Validation Study
Minnette Markus-Rodden, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC (Co-PI)	Comparative Efficacy of Two Different Oral Dosage Forms of Acetaminophen for Post-operative Analgesia in Bariatric Surgery Patients

2024 Evidence-Based Practice Projects	
Staff	Project
Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN	Using Color-Coded AM-PAC Scores to Increase Patients' Mobility and Discharge to Home
Sandra M. Deegan, RNC-INPT OB, EFM, CBC	Spinning Babies
Mini Jijo, DNP, APN-BC, PCCN	Implementation of an Evidence-Based Intervention to Identify Risk for Contrast-Induced Nephropathy
Sarika Patel, BSN, RN, CCRN	Integration of Role Delineation to Improve Closed Loop Communication and Intervention Times during Adult Cardiac Arrest Events
Marc Stetson DNP, RN, CPN	Simulation and its Effects on Clinical Judgment in Pediatric Emergencies



Podium Presentations		
Staff	Name of Presentation	Conference Name or Sponsor
Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN	Optimizing Hematologic Oncology Length of Stay: Best Practices to Improve Length of Stay	Vizient National Cancer Service Line Strategic Network Meeting, Virtual
Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN	Optimizing Hematologic Oncology Length of Stay: Best Practices to Improve Length of Stay	Vizient Creating Capacity: Transitioning of High-Risk Patients Collaborative Knowledge Transfer
Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN	Vizient Panel Discussion on Care Transitions Program	Vizient Length of Stay Improvement Community, Virtual
Justin Benton, BSN, RN	QI, EBP, RCT - Alphabet Soup That's Easy to Digest	2024 RWJBH Nursing Research Symposium, Virtual
Florence Chukwuneke, MSN, RN, AGPCNP-BC, CNRN	Stroke Transfer Patients to the Lab	9th Biannual Virtual New Jersey Statewide Stroke Symposium (Sponsored by NJSCAP and NJSCC), Virtual
Dawnmarie DeVito, MSN, RN, CPAN Lisa Schultz, BSN, RN, CPAN	Establishing a “Fast Track” Structure to a Structural Heart Program	2024 ANCC National Magnet Conference, New Orleans, LA
Dawnmarie DeVito, MSN, RN, CPAN	OR Efficiency Task Force Strategies and Resilience in Achieving Goals	OR Manager Conference, Las Vegas, NV
Tasha Dunn, DNP, RN, CCRN	Healthcare Crisis, Challenges and Solutions	Philippine Nurses Association Annual Convention, Edison, NJ
Kathy Easter, MSN, RN, CCRN	Strides Made Against Magnet Standards at Chelsea & Westminster Hospital with Support from our Twin: Robert Wood Johnson	Magnet4Europe Celebration Conference, Leuven, Belgium
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP	BBAM Infection Out! Decreasing Mucosal Barrier-Related Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection	RWJUH-NB Local Quality Fair, New Brunswick, NJ
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP	Expanding the BMSCH Culture of Safety to Define and Classify Emotional Level of Harm	RWJUH-NB Local Quality Fair, New Brunswick, NJ
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP Rebecca Ramos, MS, RN, PED-BC	BBAM Infection Out! Decreasing Mucosal Barrier-Related Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection	2024 RWJBarnabas Health Quality and Patient Safety Forum, Pompton Plains, NJ
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP Rebecca Ramos, MS, RN, PED-BC	BBAM Infection Out! Decreasing Mucosal Barrier-Related Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection	Lois Pollack Pediatric Nursing Conference, Short Hills, NJ
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP	Expanding the BMSCH Culture of Safety to Define and Classify Emotional Level of Harm	Lois Pollack Pediatric Nursing Conference, Short Hills, NJ
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP	Expanding our Pediatric Culture of Safety to Define and Classify Emotional Level of Harm	IHI Forum, Orlando, FL
Kathy Easter, MSN, RN, CCRN	Exchange Program between RWJUH and Chelsea and Westminster Hospital	Magnet4Europe Celebration Conference, Leuven, Belgium
Kathy Easter, MSN, RN, CCRN Jeff O'Neill	9 Facility Hacks to Improve Patient Experience	2024 Health Care Facilities Innovation Conference, Anaheim, CA

Podium Presentations		
Staff	Name of Presentation	Conference Name or Sponsor
Audrey C. Kleet, DNP, MBA, ACNP-BC, CCRN, NEA-BC	Crunch the Numbers: Growing Your Value Proposition as an APP	APP Executive's Annual Leadership Summit, Nashville, TN
Audrey C. Kleet, DNP, MBA, ACNP-BC, CCRN, NEA-BC Anthony Patten, PA-C	1+1=Synergistic Leadership	APP Executive's Annual Leadership Summit, Nashville, TN
Amanda Lee, MSN, RN, CPNP-AC, PPCNP-BC	RSV Bronchiolitis	New Jersey Chapter of National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, New Brunswick, NJ
Tracy Ann Low, MSN, RN, CCRN	Pediatric Human Metapneumovirus Myocarditis Managed with Veno-Arterial Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (VA ECMO): A Case Report	ELSO Extracorporeal Life Support Organization, Detroit, MI
Minette Markus-Rodden, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC	Leadership Pearls	National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners- NJ Chapter, New Brunswick, NJ
Audrey McIntyre, RN	How do you Set up and Perform Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound	Heart of the Matter: Case-Based and Hands-On Experience for the Echo Lab Team, New Brunswick, NJ
Jeff Paragas, DNP, AGACNP-BC, CCRN	Subarachnoid Hemorrhages	6th Annual Stroke and Neurocritical Care Symposium, New Brunswick, NJ
Rebecca Ramos, MS, RN, PED-BC	Simulation and its Effects on Clinical Judgment in Pediatric Emergencies	21st Annual NCN Regional Pediatric Nursing Conference, Wilmington, DE
Rebecca Ramos, MS, RN, PED-BC	Pediatric Up and Move Project-PUMP	RWJBH Lois Pollack Annual Pediatric Nursing Conference, Livingston, NJ
Reema Soni, MSN, AGACNP-BC	When are Headaches an Emergency	6th Annual Stroke and Neurocritical Care Symposium, New Brunswick, NJ
Julie Tang, MS, PA-C	Nursing Care of the Patient Post Hemicraniectomy	6th Annual Stroke and Neurocritical Care Symposium, New Brunswick, NJ
Dawn Tortajada, MSN, RN, PNP-BC	Presentation on Leukemia	Piscataway High School Chemistry Honor Society, Piscataway, NJ
Courtney Vose, DNP, MBA, RN, APRN, NEA-BC, FAAN	Successfully Leading Through Disruptions – Stop Resistance with Persistence	Huron's What's Right in Health Care, Denver, CO
Kasia Wolan, MSN, RN, CEN, CCRN, CPEN, CTRN, EMT	Pediatric Sepsis	Emergency Nurses Association, Somerville, NJ





Poster Presentations		
Staff	Name of Presentation	Conference Name or Sponsor
Al Aguilar, DNP, ACNP-BC, NPD-BC, CNEcl, CCRN Sarah Maute, DNP, ACNP-BC, CCRN Audrey Kleet, DNP, MBA, ACNP-BC, CCRN, NEA-BC Daniel Genovese-Scullin, MSN, RN Per Rosenkvist, MSN, ACNP-BC, VA-BC, CCRN	RWJUH APP Midline Training Initiative	RWJBH 19th Annual Nursing Research Symposium, Virtual
Geralene Angeles, MSN, RN, CCM	Eye Health - Nursing Safety Monthly Tips for September	RWJUH Annual Nursing Safety Fair, New Brunswick, NJ
Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN	Enhancing Oncology Patient Care Through Geo-localization and Transitions of Care Team Management - A Path to Success	New Jersey League of Nursing Convention, Atlantic City, NJ
Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN	Optimizing Hematologic Oncology Length of Stay: Best Practices to Improve Length of Stay: Best Practices to Improve Care Delivery	RWJBH Quality Fair, New Brunswick, NJ
Kathleen Arcidiacono, DNP, RN, OCN	Using Color-Coded AM-PAC Scores to Increase Patients' Mobility and Discharge to Home	Purdue Global University Nursing Scholarship Awards Ceremony, Virtual
Amber Bartol, BSN, RN	Bereavement Education for Families and Event Debriefing for Nurses After Fatal Traumatic Events in the Emergency Department	New Jersey ENA Annual Conference, Atlantic City, NJ
Florence Chukwuneke, MSN, RN, AGPCNP-BC, CNRN	New Jersey Stroke Coordinator Consortium Barriers to Pre-Hospital Stroke Activation in New Jersey Emergency Medical Services	International Stroke Conference, Phoenix, AZ
Kimberly Disanto, DNP, RNC	Integrating Technology into Pressure Injury Prevention Practice	NPIAP 2024 Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP	Emotional Safety: Preventing Harm in Pediatric Patient and Families	2024 Transforming Quality Conference, Chicago, IL
Brandi Handel, MSN, RN, FNP	Emotional Safety: Preventing Harm in Pediatric Patient and Families	Society of Pediatric Nurses Conference, Phoenix, AZ
Sheila Marie Hernandez, BSN, RN, PCCN	Stress Echo or Nuclear Stress Test: Choose what is Best for your Patient	Heart of the Matter: Case-Based and Hands-On Experience for the Echo Lab Team, New Brunswick, NJ
Michelle Incalcaterra, BSN, RN, CCN	A Data Driven Approach to Acuity based Case Management Staffing	American Case Management Association, Nashville, TN
Anna Jucan, BSN, RN, CCM	Nursing Burnout	RWJUH Annual Nursing Safety Fair, New Brunswick, NJ
Rowena Lim, DNP, MBA, RN	Impact of Team Building Activities and Case Efficiency in Ambulatory Surgical Setting	Association of Peri-Operative Registered Nurses Global Surgical Conference & Expo 2024, Nashville, TN
Minette Markus-Rodden, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC	Establishing a Relationship between Pharmacy-based APNs and School Nurses to Improve the Care of School Children with Asthma	Reinkemeyer Research Conference, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ
Minette Markus-Rodden, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC	The Relationship between School Nurse Presence and Student Social Risk Factors on Chronic School Absenteeism	RWJBH 19th Annual Nursing Research Symposium, Virtual
Sarika Patel, BSN, RN, CCRN	Integration of Role Delineation to Improve Closed Loop Communication and Intervention Times during Adult Cardiac Arrest Events	RWJBH 19th Annual Nursing Research Symposium, Virtual
Rebecca Ramos, MS, RN, PED-BC	BBAM Infection Out! Decreasing Mucosal Barrier Related Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infections	21st Annual NCN Regional Pediatric Nursing Conference, Wilmington, DE

Poster Presentations		
Staff	Name of Presentation	Conference Name or Sponsor
Ariana Solfaro, BSN, RN	Antibiotic Use for Otitis Media in Pediatric Emergency Rooms	RWJBH 19th Annual Nursing Research Symposium, Virtual
Maria Linda Uy-Ibe, BSN, RN	Stress Echo or Nuclear Stress Test: Choose what is Best for your Patient	Heart of the Matter: Case-Based and Hands-On Experience for the Echo Lab Team, New Brunswick, NJ
Abigail Vasquez, BSN, RN, PCCN	A Theoretical Framework for Acute Care Nurse Stress Appraisal: Application of the Transactional Model of Stress and Coping	RWJBH 19th Annual Nursing Research Symposium, Virtual
Imnas Williams, MSN, RN, CCM, NATCEP	Needlestick Injuries among Healthcare Workers	RWJUH Annual Nursing Safety Fair, New Brunswick, NJ

**Publications**

Maryann Brookes, BSN, RN, CCRN  
Georgia Harrison, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, CCRN  
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Kathy Easter, MSN, RN, CCRN  
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Colleen Price, DNP, RN, APN, AGACNP-BC  
Elizabeth Russer, MSN, RN, PCCN  
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Donna Prete, MSN, NPD-BC, NE-BC, RN-BC, GERO-BC  
Nicole Rolston, MSN, RN, NPD-BC  
Linda Tamburri, MS, RN, APN, CCRN  
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