

# Nursing update



## So much for which to be thankful

Carla Yost recently had a chance to visit with nurses serving at Via Christi Behavioral Health on Orme while making rounds to ensure that they had the staffing and resources they needed to care for patients. After being assured that they did, she asked them about what they were thankful for this year.

“Our house supervisors – they do a great job,” said Ashley Ayers, RN. “They do,” said her colleague Tanya Lever, RN, adding that “actually, all our supervisors are great advocates for us.”

Tanya said she’s thankful that she and her colleagues have had a voice in the design of their new unit which is now under construction at Via Christi Hospital St. Joseph. That resulted in at one positive change: Moving the handicapped-accessible rooms closer to the elevator.

Anna Wagner, RN, and Linda Reekie, BHT, were particularly grateful for family, friends and their colleagues. And they all agreed with Becky Walker, RN, that one of the biggest blessing is the opportunity to work in a unit that reminds you daily how truly blessed you are.

“They are so many things to be thankful for—my job, my health, that I have a car and other things that so many of our patients don’t,” Becky said, recalling how thrilled one patient who arrived with no belongings was to go home with clothing that she and her colleagues rounded up for him from their own family’s closets.

So true, said Ashley, who was grateful to find a nursing position when she and her husband moved to Wichita so he could do his residency in family medicine. “Working here has made me so much more grateful for what I’ve got.”

It was the kind of conversation, says Yost, “that made this nurse’s heart fill with gratitude as well.”

## Speaking of gratitude

During recent rounding in the Emergency Department, Kris Hill, chief nursing officer for Via Christi Hospital St. Francis, was stopped by Curt Meinecke, MD, who relayed his thanks for the help provided by Trauma team member Amanda Banda, RN.

Dr. Meinecke was needing to start a Massive Transfusion Protocol, but didn’t know where to find it. ED charge nurse Kate Short quickly retrieved the policy was covered during the ED Competency Days she recently had attended. She then called in Amanda for help, who immediately jumped in and started the protocol.

“The team was tremendously grateful for her expertise and skill set,” said Kris, adding that Dr. Meinecke jokingly noted that “she even seemed to enjoy it.”

What a great example of team work and knowing your resources!