

Nursing update



Success at the bedside

On April 28, a group of bedside nurses came together to design a bedside shift report process. That process was implemented on May 15 and has been happening faithfully since then.

As part of a presentation that system CNO Carla Yost was asked to share with Ascension's senior leaders next month, she ran a comparison between the April and November data for Via Christi Hospital St. Francis. The results showed improvements in a number of areas. Two of the most notable, says Yost: "The number of patients giving us nines and tens on the HCAHPS survey went up from 70.9 to 73.7 and the number of serious safety events went down, dropping from .79 and .52 per 10,000 patient days.

"Similar results are being seen throughout all of our Via Christi hospitals," says Yost, noting there may be other contributing factors, "I believe the bedside shift reports have played a major role. At the very least, I know it's been well-received by patients and visitors because I've heard it on my rounding."

To hear an audio recording of one Via Christi patient's impression, go to viachristi.org/nursing.

A heartfelt tribute to CCU, 6E nurses at St. Joseph

"Coach" Leale Carlson, who had been hospitalized at Via Christi Hospital St. Joseph, died Dec. 7. In addition to thanking the physicians who provided her care, the family included in her obituary "Much appreciation to the nurses in the CCU and 6E at Via Christi Hospital St. Joseph."

That's care that leaves a lasting, healing memory. Thanks to everyone who had a hand in her care.

Thanks from a Via Christi teammate

Kim Frangenberg's husband, Ray, recently was transferred from Via Christi Hospital St. Teresa to the Neurocritical Care Unit at St. Francis for a cardiac condition because CCU was full. "I know cardiac isn't Neuro's primary focus, but the staff was great," says Kim. She was pleased that once his heart rate was stabilized, the staff made sure that he received a meal as well as timely care.

Kathy Richardson, the unit clerk, and two nurses, Bryllan Gill and Leslie Jones, were all calm, professional and made sure to keep Kim involved and informed. "I just wanted to thank your staff for their excellent care during this stressful time!" wrote Kim, who serves as student education coordinator for the Education department. "I truly appreciate all that they did for him!"

Banner recruitment month

Fifty registered nurses and 23 CNAs were hired in December! Please welcome them as they join your units!