



Immediate Release

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Christiana Care Health System Nurse Josie Robinson, RN, Wins Inaugural DAISY Award for Excellence

(WILMINGTON, Del. – Oct. 27, 2014) – When Emergency Department nurse Josie Robinson, RN, CEN, arrived for her shift at Christiana Hospital on the morning of October 21, she had no idea of the wonderful surprise that awaited her. Nursing leaders and colleagues met Robinson at the nurses’ station to present Christiana Care Health System’s first DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses.

The DAISY Award, launched by Christiana Care’s Professional Nurse Council in August, recognizes patient- and family-centered care, said Diane Talarek, MA, RN, NE-BC, senior vice president of Patient Care Services and chief nursing officer at Christiana Care, in announcing the award. “Nurses are at the bedside, in the exam room and in patient homes day in and day out providing care,” she said. “The DAISY Award provides the perfect forum to recognize and celebrate the positive impact our nurses have on the lives of others.”

The Professional Nurse Council will present The DAISY Award to an extraordinary Christiana Care nurse each month. Robinson, a nurse at Christiana Care since 2005, is the inaugural winner.

“I cannot think of anyone more worthy of receiving the first DAISY Award at Christiana Care than Josie,” said Karen Toulson, MSN, MBA, RN, CEN, NE-BC, director of Clinical Operations for the Emergency Department and Observation Unit at Christiana Hospital.

“Josie is incredibly knowledgeable and is a clinical leader in trauma,” said Toulson. “Many of her peers look to her for guidance, and she’s always approachable, accessible and ready to help. When it comes to our patients, Josie is a tremendous advocate. We are very lucky she chose to work at Christiana Care.”

Nominating Robinson was Kathy Capozzoli, the mother of a young patient Robinson treated in the Emergency Department. When Capozzoli brought her son to the ED at Christiana Hospital in August, she “was sure he was going to die.” He had been treated unsuccessfully for pneumonia

at another hospital, and also suffered from Sturge-Weber Syndrome, a rare congenital neurological and skin disorder that includes physical disfigurement.

In her nomination, Kathy wrote, “When we came into the ED, I was alone and very afraid. Josie was our nurse and for the first time, a health care worker looked past his appearance and treated him professionally and with compassion.”

Kathy’s son faced a long road. “I was alone, scared and devastated,” said Capozzoli. “People kept asking me if they could call someone and I told them I have no one. Immediately, my thoughts went to Josie as her visits had become daily. They called her from the ED to come and support me through the most difficult time of my life. I don’t know what I would have done without her.”

The family of J. Patrick Barnes created DAISY – an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System – in 1999 to honor his memory with a tribute to the skillful and compassionate care he received from his nurses during his hospitalization. The family established The DAISY Award as a way to say thank you to nurses everywhere. Today, more than 1,700 healthcare facilities in every state and 11 countries honor nurses with The DAISY Award.

Highlighting the impact that nurses like Robinson have daily in patients’ lives is the heart of The DAISY Award, said Allison Steuber, MSN, RN III, CEN, who chairs the Professional Nurse Council. “With DAISY, we can honor outstanding nurses throughout the year.”

About Christiana Care Health System

Christiana Care Health System is one of the country’s largest health care providers, ranking as the 22nd leading hospital in the nation and 12th on the East Coast in terms of admissions. A not-for-profit teaching hospital affiliated with Thomas Jefferson Medical College, Christiana Care is recognized as a regional center for excellence in cardiology, cancer and women’s health services. Christiana Care is home to Delaware’s only Level I trauma center, the highest capability center and the only one of its kind between Philadelphia and Baltimore. Christiana Care also features a Level 3 neonatal intensive care unit, the only delivering hospital in Delaware that offers the highest level of non-surgical care to the most critically ill newborns. Christiana Care includes two hospitals with 1,100 patient beds, a home health care service, preventive medicine, rehabilitation services, a network of primary care physicians and an extensive range of outpatient services.

For more information about Christiana Care, visit www.christianacare.org/howeare.

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