Above and beyond the call of duty

Trust’s annual nursing and midwifery awards celebrate the work of nurses, midwives and clinical support workers

Stevenage – 18 October 2010 – The hard work and dedication of the Trust’s nursing, midwifery and healthcare staff was honoured on Thursday (14 October 2010) at a special awards ceremony. Nurses, midwives and clinical support workers from the Lister, QEII and Hertford County hospitals, along with their colleagues from the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre, came together to celebrate their outstanding contribution to patient care.

The chief nursing officer for England, Dame Christine Beasley was joined by Margaret Berry, acting chief nurse for NHS East of England, the Trust’s chief executive, Nick Carver and 300 members of the Trust’s nursing and midwifery teams at Tewin Bury Farm Hotel in Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

Ten employees walked away with the highest accolade they could receive – an award based on the judgement not only of the expert panel of judges, but also of their own colleagues.

Salli Lovett, Sharon Lerpiniere, Mary Pollen, Pauline Bailey, Tracey Radnall, Jan Coker, Karen Cameron, Julia Willis, Lesley Jarman and Mary Emson were all presented with winners trophies.

But, according to the Trust’s director of nursing, Sue Greenslade, all 28 nominees deserved a special mention for the outstanding contribution they had made to patient care. Ms Greenslade said: “Each year we celebrate the contribution our nursing and midwifery staff make in providing high quality care. All of the nominees shortlisted have proved they are among the very best our profession has to offer.”
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“As a team, nurses, midwives and support workers have delivered outstanding care to patients in the last twelve months – time and time again. Great nursing is about combining a complex set of skills – both technical and clinical – along with a deep understanding of patients’ needs and the ability to care for them, before then using those skills with integrity in making a genuine difference to patients.

“Due to fantastic quality of the nominations we received this year, making the final selection for each award was really hard – indeed the judges were unanimous in their comment that everyone nominated deserved recognition. It makes me enormously proud, not just of these individuals, but of the contribution our nurses and midwives make every single day.”

The award winners in each category, along with those highly commended, are set out below.

**Florence Nightingale Award**

This award aims to reflect the qualities of Florence Nightingale in the modern nurse. Those nominated have shown the ability to make a difference through using clinical audit and research to improve patient experiences. Nominees have shown a dynamic approach to evidence based care and the promotion of research based practice.

**Winner - Salli Lovett (night bed manager, Lister hospital)**

Salli is an inspirational nurse and an excellent role model. In her role as night bed manager, she offers excellent support to both the nursing and medical teams – improving the quality and standard of patient care we deliver as a Trust. She goes the extra mile to support her colleagues, often through difficult events delivering care at every opportunity. Her teaching benefits patient care directly, and her audits provide the evidence needed to sustain the improvements.

*Highly commended: Joanna Chugg*
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Mary Seacole Award
Nominees for this award have demonstrated that they are able to go above and beyond the call of duty. Those nominated are known for their promotion of nursing in a positive manner. In addition, the qualities of care and compassion demonstrated by Mary Seacole are outstanding in those nominated for this award.

Winner - Sharon Lerpiniere (rheumatology nurse specialist, Lister)
Sharon has worked to develop the rheumatology nursing service for the last nine years. The care she delivers is selfless, patient-focussed and over and above that required by her job description. She supports arthritis patients tirelessly through clinics and helplines.

Louyse Bourgeois Midwifery Award
Midwives nominated for this award demonstrate an outstanding compassionate approach to the care of mothers and their babies. Nominees have shown a positive contribution to the role of midwifery within the Trust and demonstrate excellent progress in midwifery care.

Winner - Mary Pollen (midwife clinical governance co-ordinator – a Trust-wide role based at the Lister)
Mary works tirelessly to ensure that guidelines within maternity are evidence-based and sharing best practice with the wider team. She works hard to ensure the best outcomes for women and babies. Mary’s outstanding leadership skills ensure the people around her feel enabled to move projects on with the aid of her logical thought processes and her supportive approach to all she does.

Highly commended: Sarah Haberland

Clinical Support Worker Award
Clinical Support Workers assist registered nurses in the planning, implementation and evaluation of nursing care. They work collaboratively and co-operatively with others to meet the needs of patients and their families. Nominees have shown an outstanding enthusiastic, positive approach.
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Winner - Pauline Bailey (clinical support worker, Lister)
Pauline has worked with us for 15 years - she is very much liked by her patients; she has a lively personality and interacts very well with patients especially those with dementia and confusion. Pauline is always ready for a challenge and enjoys working as a team member to support the patients whilst in hospital.

Highly commended: Jane Marsden, Lynn Dubberley and Yvonne Shea

Innovation Award
To strive for excellence and continuous improvement is a key Trust value. Nominees for this award have implemented an innovation in practice, for example in streamlining services or ensuring that nursing time is being used effectively.

Winner - Tracey Radnall (modern matron for day surgery and lead manager for sterile services – a Trust-wide role based at the Lister)
Tracey’s contribution to the Trust has been immense and is demonstrated clearly by the quality of service now offered by all the areas she manages. She has achieved this through sharing best practice, staff integration, motivation and acting as a role model for all her staff. This has been reflected by the high level of training undertaken and the decrease in absence from the workplace. Her teams are motivated to achieve the highest standards they can, which is a testament to her management, leadership and people skills.

Highly commended: Sarah Myers, Heidi Cook, Sharon Downer, Jacqui Attrill, and Dagmar Louw

Special Achievement Award
Nominees for this award have shown that they take a lead on effective quality care. They are noted for being a positive professional role model and they have made outstanding progress in their field. Those nominated for the special achievement award have shown their ability to make positive changes.
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Winner - Jan Coker (Endoscopy Staff Nurse)
Jan has been used her passion for knowledge and education to produce a vast array of documents to help educate the wider team and maintain knowledge and standards and procedures. She has a very supportive and encouraging manner and is always approachable with any enquiry. Jan delivers exceptional care to the patients of the endoscopy unit – her patients leave the unit assured that they have been given the best care and that they are well informed as to the outcome of their procedure. She has delivered a massive commitment to the endoscopy unit and has been a credit to herself and the Trust.
Highly commended: Mary Emson, Beverly Aldwinckle and Linda Wright

Leadership through Advocacy Award
This award aims to reward our inspirational leaders who are excellent role models and have the ability to lead and empower others. Nominees have shown an ability to achieve successful change to benefit patients. They have also demonstrated a visionary approach to patient care.

Winner – Karen Cameron (lead nurse/modern matron for theatres and critical care, Lister)
Karen supports her own and other teams with great enthusiasm and drive to deliver the best possible service for patients. She has an ability to network and build relationships and her drive to move services forward is always evident. Karen has a very calm and sensible approach to addressing challenges and communicates clearly what actions are needed to resolve issues in a very supportive way. Karen is a huge support to her colleagues and well respected among her peers. She always demonstrates a clear leadership vision, and she treats and respects her team with dignity and expects this to be continued across all levels.
Highly commended: Kay Bell, Vanessa Grinstead and Josie Howley

Patient Experience Award
This award acknowledges the contribution that nurses and midwives make to the experience of patients. Nominees demonstrate an ongoing contribution to patient care using a consistent approach to quality standards. Those nominated for the award have engaged with service users to enhance the patient experience.
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Winner - Julia Willis (Registered Nurse, Lister)
Julia is passionate about the care that is provided to patients with learning difficulties in acute care – especially those who need to attend the endoscopy unit at the Lister. She has worked with the local primary care trust to identify gaps in services provided for patients with learning difficulties. She cascades information and has built a guide for endoscopy services aimed at helping people with learning difficulties which has been presented at a nurse’s conference.
Highly commended: Sandra Jackson, Sue Ward and Annette Stokes

Director of Nursing Award
The Director of Nursing Award goes to two staff this year:

Lesley Jarman (lead nurse/modern matron for radiology – a Trust-wide role based at the Lister)
Lesley has worked tirelessly to improve the privacy and dignity of patients not only in her own department but across the Trust. She has been instrumental in designing a revolutionary new gown that delivers greater privacy and dignity for patients than ever before. The prototype gown design is now being trialled by a leading supplier in the UK. If successful, it will be offered to all organisations across the country.

Mary Emson (Trust’s named child protection nurse – a Trust-wide role based at the Lister)
Mary receives this award for her steadfast commitment to safeguarding vulnerable children. She is an exceptional individual who is committed totally to child protection. An inspirational leader, Mary has strived continuously to improve the service for vulnerable children throughout a particularly difficult year.

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For more information on this press statement, please call Peter Gibson, head of public affairs on: 01438 781522 or Sue Thaw, public relations officer on: 01438 285940 (both direct lines); for out-of-hours, please page the duty press officer on 07659 103839.