# Table of Contents

**Welcome**

**Structural Empowerment**
- Wrapped in Innovation
- Every Moment Matters
- A Personal Bond
- Team Code Blue Fish
- Her Mission: Making a Difference
- Four-Plus Decades

**New Knowledge**
- ED Turns Attention to Falls
- Post-Discharge Follow-Ups
- Behavioral Health Responds
- Know Your Numbers Program

**Transformational Leadership**
- 2019 Service Awards Banquets
- 2019 Employees of the Year
- Hartford Healthcare Transition
- St. Vincent’s Employee Picnic
- St. Vincent’s Orthopaedics Team
- Nursing Core Values

**Exemplary Professional Practice**
- Daisy Awards
- Awards & Presentations
- Professional Publications/Research Articles
- Nurses Week
- The Heart of Healthcare
- C-DIFF Bloodstream Infection Rate
- CAUTI Bloodstream Infection Rate
- MRSA Bloodstream Infection Rate
- CLABSI Bloodstream Infection Rate
- St. Vincent’s Mobile Food Pantry
- St. Vincent’s Medical Mission at Home
Welcome to the 2019 Nursing Annual Report

2019 brought many changes to the St. Vincent’s community. We transitioned from a long standing relationship with Ascension Health to a new affiliation with Hartford Healthcare in October. This change has sparked renewed enthusiasm and optimism about the future. Being a part of a local, strong, integrated healthcare network has been a strategic goal for several years. While our team navigated new policies, practices and systems, we held on tight to our Core Values that define us. St. Vincent’s brings the best of our values based, Mission driven, High Reliability culture to the HHC system. As the first and only Magnet hospital within the Hartford Healthcare system, we introduced a highly professional, committed nursing team to the community. Our Shared Governance structure will be a strong foundation for the integration of clinical policies, nursing research and evidence based practice across the system. We look forward to sharing our journey and growing alongside our new nursing colleagues within the state.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our patients, our community and each other. I am very proud of this incredible nursing team. I hope you will join me in celebrating all of the individual and collective accomplishments this past year and I look forward to our bright future together as part of a growing, thriving system.

Sincerely,

Dale Danowski MBA, BSN, RN
Vice President, Patient Care Services, Chief Nursing Officer,
St. Vincent’s Medical Center
Wrapped in Innovation
Sleeping Sacks for the Homeless

Melissa (AKA Missy) White, RN and Dianne Urban, CST work in the Operating Room. An idea was born while watching an Operating Room page on social media. There were members of the group that came up with the idea of crafting sleeping sacks out of their large instrument tray wrappers. Both Missy and Dianna felt that was a wonderful way to give back to the community as well as help reduce our carbon footprint. These wrappers are normally discarded, however they are water resistant and would hold in body heat. Dianne and Missy took several of the wrappers home and was able to put them together to create a sleeping sack. After making the sleeping sacks they donated them to a shelter that was happy to put them to good use. We are very proud to have these innovative healthcare workers at St. Vincent’s Medical Center.

Missy White (left) and Dianne Urban
Every Moment Matters
at St. Vincent’s Medical Center

In the fall of 2019, it was time to select candidates to be featured in Hartford HealthCare’s Every Moment Matters campaign. The highlighted employees were Values Award recipients and would be prominently displayed throughout the Medical Center.

The photo shoot to capture them in action was quite the production, with hair, makeup, lights and props. One of our featured nurses, Karen Katrinak, shared a very special thank you, after the fact, that touched us all deeply.

We did the photo shoot last Wednesday and I went to see my mom afterwards. She was a patient on our unit. She was so impressed with the makeup and she asked if I got the person’s name. I’m more tom-boyish and she was thrilled to see me made up.

My mom passed away the next evening on our floor. I couldn’t have been luckier having her taken care of by my second family.

Thank you again and it brought my mom joy knowing I was part of this project.
A Personal Bond  
Beyond the Patient

The process of establishing a conservator and placement was slow for a long-term patient with Autism. Eileen Callahan, RN, the case manager on 9 North, established a special bond with one patient in particular and wanted to make his stay more personal, especially around the holidays and special occasions. Ellen listened to his concerns, questions and wonderful personal stories - even texting when she was not available in person, keeping him updated on the progress of his placement.

This patient enjoyed sharing his jokes, artwork of comic strips and guitar music with Eileen. They took walks together around the hospital campus. Eileen had another ritual with this patient over the course of several months... bringing him a Dr. Pepper each day, "'cause he needs his doctor a day!" Eileen also makes sure that this patient celebrated holidays and gifted him with his favorite rock band t-shirt. She came up with different activities to keep him connected to his family and also arranged visits with his dog, Jo-Jo. Eileen goes above and beyond, demonstrating compassion and respect for her patients.
Team Code Blue Fish
Dives in for the Community

Every summer since 2015 the Emergency Department has participated in the Swim Across the Sound from Port Jefferson, NY, to Captains’ Cove in Bridgeport, CT.

Team Code Blue Fish includes nurses, techs, and PAs from the emergency department. Each year they organize a basket raffle, raising more than $7,000 annually towards the entry fee for the team to swim. For the last two years, the team has swum in honor of our family and friends who are battling or lost their battle with cancer. The "Honor Board" includes pictures, names, and notes about our loved ones. This board accompanies the team on their boat throughout the competition.

The Swim Across the Sound Foundation provides cancer education, screening, and prevention programs at low or no cost for the under-insured and uninsured. They also provide cancer patients with specific medication needs and transportation. As an emergency department, we recognize the needs of the community we serve and take great pride in raising money for the foundation. The feelings of pride, accomplishment, and perseverance are shared among the team members each year. We look forward to continuing to participate in this event for many years to come.

Team Code Blue Fish takes to the water in the 2019 SWIM Across the Sound marathon from left to right: Jose Collado, ERT; Elisa Dacosta, ERT; Jaime Bonner, RN; Ann Gorton, ERT; Jaime Chila, RN and Alex Vuola, PA.
Her Mission: Making a Difference in Santa Maria De Jesus

The village of Santa Maria de Jesus in Guatemala has much to be thankful for. One of them is our very own Ellen Miller, RN. Ellen, a member of St. Mary’s church in Ridgefield, has been traveling with Helping Hands to improve the living conditions of this village. Ellen has worked tirelessly to help provide them with clean water to help stave off the parasitic infection that many villagers suffered with. She also realized that the education for this community needed assistance.

Ellen reached out to Mary Staudt, chair of Catholic Action, St. Mary’s social outreach committee, about the education needs of Santa Maria de Jesus. Mary and Ellen were able to provide scholarships, structural improvements on the school building, Spanish-language books, and projectors for the students and teachers to utilize.

Below are pictures of the classroom, and the children, giving Ellen thank you notes in appreciation of all of her hard work.
Four-Plus Decades with Their SVMC Family

**Rita Santacroce: 41 years**
I have been a cardiac telemetry nurse for more than 41 years. My niche has always been cardiology. I am PCCN certified and Geriatric certified. I am a level two nurse and the most senior on our level 6. I enjoy working at the bedside with the patients and getting to know them. I enjoy seeing some of our patients being discharged with good outcomes. I have met many good friends along the way and most of them are dear to me and I call them my work family. I wouldn’t want to work anywhere else. I am very proud of our Magnet Hospital and being an employee of the Hartford Healthcare organization.

**Diana McNeil: 41 years**
I stayed at St. Vincent’s for 41 years because I always loved the work I did, the patients I cared for and especially the work I do today. At times it was difficult with all the changes I have been through, but the work has always been fulfilling. I love the sense of family that St. Vincent’s has brought to me. I work with so many amazing people who have become some of my best friends and extended family. I can definitely say that I love my job and remain humbled by coworkers who have made me a better version of myself.
ED Turns Attention to Falls
New Initiatives Lower Rate

Understanding that when a patient arrives to the ED they are likely having the worst day of their life, the staff in St. Vincent’s Emergency Department takes patient safety seriously. Many factors can contribute to a patient’s fall risk upon arrival, such as being in a new and unfamiliar environment, gait disturbance, history of falls, altered mental status, and more. The patient’s fall risk is continuously assessed throughout the ED visit. And staff has worked tirelessly to decrease the fall rate.

In 2019, the Falls Committee was instrumental in facilitating the use of new, yellow fall risk signage and bracelets. The ED received 18 new Stryker stretchers with bed alarms, ensuring additional safety for our high-risk patients. Other safety tools include: non-skid socks, keeping the stretcher in low position, ensuring the call light and all patient belongings are within reach, and hourly rounding.

The result of these new initiatives helped the ED obtain its lowest fall rate EVER! The ED continues to focus on falls through discussion at daily huddle. Each fall is reviewed after the fact to determine if anything more could have been done to prevent the fall. Hourly rounding has been extremely beneficial in ED falls prevention, along with continued awareness. Cheersto an even better FY 2020!

ED Fall Rate: # of Falls per 1,000 Patient Encounters
Post-Discharge Follow-Ups
Result in Better Outcomes for HF Patients

The team on Level 6 knew Heart Failure (HF) is the leading cause of re-hospitalization within 30 days of discharge. The team also knew that follow-up appointments within seven days of discharge are an effective intervention for reducing readmissions. The seven-day follow-up appointment is a key quality metric for the Get with the Guidelines-HF (GWTG-HF) program by the American Heart Association.

To increase adherence to scheduling the seven-day follow up appointment for HF patients prior to discharge from the hospital, a process improvement project was initiated. An evidence-based quality improvement method was used to address the variable number of scheduled post discharge seven-day follow up appointments in an academic medical center. The initial three-month analysis showed favorable outcomes with improvement from 43% to 91%.

Key interventions were initiated to maintain this high level of compliance, including:

- Concurrent review of all HF patients
- Daily identification of HF patients during rounds
- CSA direct scheduling of appointments into the office E.H.R.
- Direct oversight by Nicole Simpson, MSN, NEA-BC, Nurse Manager and Laine Romanoski, BSN, RN, clinical leader
- Twice weekly fallout review with individualized corrective action plans

The process was refined from September 2018 to December 2018, when direct scheduling went live. Pre-intervention data from January 2018 to July 2018 revealed adherence to seven-day or less follow-up appointment from a low of 43-64% to 91% in Q1 CY 2019. Final results for CY 2019 showed maintenance of this improvement to 92%, which is 29% above the National Rate of 63%.

Sustainability of compliance for scheduling follow up appointments for this patient group was achieved by engaging leaders and staff in a continuous process improvement initiative.
Behavioral Health Responds to Rise in Falls

The Westport Behavioral Health unit was experiencing an increase in falls, so a group of RNs gathered to discuss the current process and identify areas of improvement.

Typically, when a patient arrives at the unit, the fall risk is assessed using either the Humpty Dumpty Scale for the Adolescent/Child unit or the Hendricks scale for adults. If a change in status is noted by the Fall scale, then the fall protocol is implemented and the RN notifies the team, which also includes the patient’s guardian.

The group that met — Ariana Rick, RN, Linda Scillia, RN, and Raye McCollum-James, Coordinator of Quality and Safety — examined the current fall protocol.

Changes were made to help decrease the fall rate by:
- Implementing the daily assessment of the patient’s fall risk
- Prominently posting fall signage
- Providing patients with colored socks for fall risk identification
- Updating the IROC’s in Cerner
- And most importantly, providing fall education to the patient

If a fall occurs while the patient is an inpatient, the falls protocol is immediately implemented. At the Westport Campus they also review the fall data in the Performance Improvement Committee and also the Behavior Health Quality Council. Based on these initiatives, the unit’s fall rate decreased significantly.
Know Your Numbers Program
Recognized By CHA and Department of Health

St. Vincent’s Medical Center was one of two hospitals in Bridgeport to receive the 2019 Connecticut’s Hospital Community Service Award from the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) and state Department of Public Health for the Know Your Numbers program.

Marilyn Faber, RN (coordinator of the Parish Nurse Program) has been the lead RN on this initiative at St. Vincent’s since its inception. It has been her passion to help the underserved in the community.

St. Vincent’s Medical Center and Bridgeport Hospital are lead hospitals for Greater Bridgeport’s Health Improvement Alliance (HIA). Since 2003, HIA has focused on improving health outcomes in the greater Bridgeport area through a collective impact approach that brings together healthcare, academic, and not-for-profit partners. One outcome of this collaboration has been Know Your Numbers (KYN), which has provided free health screenings for the underserved population in local food pantries since 2014.

Since 2014, Get Healthy CT and the Greater Bridgeport Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes Task Force have worked together to bring free health screenings directly to the patrons of local food pantries and soup kitchens. The mission of the Know Your Numbers campaign is to empower community residents with information about their health status and educate them on how to reduce their risks of chronic disease.

Since starting seven years ago, the KYN team has screened more than 3,000 people. These screenings are made possible through the work of dedicated volunteers from Bridgeport Hospital, St. Vincent’s Medical Center, local nursing students from Fairfield University and Sacred Heart University, nurse volunteers and other partners. A typical screening includes BMI, waist circumference, blood pressure, A1C, nutrition education, physical activity tips and referrals to local clinics for follow-up care.

(from left) John Murphy, MD, CEO, Nuvance Health and chair, CHA board of trustees; Marilyn Faber, parish nurse coordinator, St. Vincent’s Medical Center; Dawn Rudolph, president and CEO, St. Vincent’s; Bill Hoey, vice president, Mission Services, St. Vincent’s; Nancy Hamson, director, Strategy and Community Health Improvement, Yale New Haven Health; Michael Ivy, MD, interim president and CEO, Bridgeport Hospital; Gina Smith, manager, Community Health Improvement, Bridgeport Hospital; Joe Petreycik, Cardiac Rehabilitation and Stroke program coordinator Bridgeport Hospital; and Barbara Cass, chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch, CT Department of Public Health.
2019 Service Awards Banquets
Celebrate Employee Milestones

The Service Award banquets for St. Vincent’s employees celebrating milestone anniversaries was held in September, 2019.

A breakfast banquet appreciated employees with five years of service. A dinner banquet honored employees reaching higher milestones starting at 10 years.

continued on next page
2019 Employees of the Year
Recognized across the Fairfield Region

The 2019 Employees of the Year were celebrated at the dinner banquet:

Heather Weimann
Manager, Supply Chain
St. Vincent’s Medical Center

Patricia Dennis, RN
Manager
St. Vincent’s Behavioral Health

Margaret Viciomino
Patient Navigator Services
St. Vincent’s MultiSpecialty group

Sheri Filanowski
Administrator School Health
St. Vincent’s Special Needs Services

Patricia Dennis, RN
Manager
St. Vincent’s Behavioral Health

Margaret Viciomino
Patient Navigator Services
St. Vincent’s MultiSpecialty group
Hartford HealthCare Transition
An Exciting New Era Begins

Day one as part of the Hartford HealthCare family was a day filled with celebration, surprises, swag and more. Employees and visitors were welcomed to the Medical Center flanked with balloons, beautiful new signage, free coffee and more. Our newly combined leadership team was on hand eager to join forces, meet staff, and usher in a new era for St. Vincent’s.

The official signing ceremony was a poignant one, as Hartford HealthCare was presented with St. Vincent’s Pledge book, a beautiful leather-bound keepsake filled with employee signatures pledging to keep our founders’ flame alive.

Our founders, the Daughters of Charity, passed this flame to St. Vincent’s upon their departure in 2014.

Hartford HealthCare CEO Jeffrey A. Flax signs his pledge to keep the flame alive.

New Fairfield Region President Vincent DiBattista welcomed staff in the wee hours of Day One.
St. Vincent’s Employee Picnic
(Almost) up on the Roof

It would take more than 30 mile-per-hour wind gusts to blow away our Employee Picnic up on the roof of the visitors’ garage. However, the blustery conditions did result in a last minute scramble moving everything from the roof down one level. It was all hands on deck to move and reset grills, tables, chairs, the DJ, photo booth and more. Thank you to the scores of people from every department who answered the picnic panic call.

This year’s picnic was lots of fun with great food, friends, and colleagues. Our new HHC flavors were featured in the form of custom logo cupcakes and Italian ice served up by Micalizzi’s in our new brand colors.
St. Vincent’s Orthopaedics Team
Looking Forward to Joint Effort

I was very excited when I heard about the new changes that Hartford HealthCare would be bringing to our orthopaedics at St. Vincent’s. There were significant changes from our normal practice. We would now have patients up and ready for OT at 6:30 AM and discharged early. I was a little bit skeptical about how it would work and if patients would participate. With an awesome ortho team, we proved it was possible and it felt great discharging patients in the targeted time frame. It was exciting to put these new changes into practice.

~ Mini Ajay, RN

When the Hartford HealthCare merger started to take shape, it was exciting to see changes to the ortho program and the investment into SVMC as a hospital. I am so proud to be a part of this team and eager to be part of this system bringing a new, high-end level of orthopaedic care to Fairfield County. I want to be part of making something good even better!

~ Dana Stumpf, RN

I was thrilled to transition to Orthopaedics as a specialty and hone in on my skills. Hartford HealthCare was bringing more of a constant practice over the constant change that we were accustomed to seeing so frequently. It was nice to know that we would be part of a system whose name is recognized in our community and beyond.

~ Jenna Calderone, RN
Nursing Core Values

**TRUST**
The environment at St. Vincent’s promises that everyone will receive the highest level of safe, compassionate, physical, emotional and spiritual care. We trust that we work in a safe and healthy environment where we are supported and encouraged to care for ourselves and each other.

**COLLABORATION**
We are committed to cultivating an environment that fosters open communication, collaboration and teamwork. We play a pivotal role in best serving our patients and families. Sharing knowledge, decision-making, innovations and feedback are all ways that, together, we produce exceptional outcomes in a dynamic and challenging environment.

**CARING**
St. Vincent’s is committed to building a healthcare system where patients get the right care and the best care every time. We are inspired to see our roles beyond tasks and technology to the true heart of nursing...caring. Caring behaviors are evident in the way we care for our patients and families, ourselves, and our colleagues.

**KNOWLEDGE**
We believe in creating an environment that promotes professional growth, development, supports the mission and vision ensures high quality, safe care and best outcomes. St. Vincent’s invests financially in continuing education and tuition assistance, and supports national certification so nurses may experience personal and professional satisfaction as well as career advancement. Helping our patients feel empowered make informed decisions about their care and treatment requires expertise and knowledge. We use our knowledge to empower others and drive change.

**SPIRITUALITY**
At St. Vincent’s, spirituality is incorporated into everything we do. We recognize that a person’s spirituality and beliefs are very personal. Honoring that individuality allows us to maintain a culture of caring by always respecting the dignity and diversity of each person. We take pride in listening and responding to the needs of each individual.

**SCIENCE**
Through the application of science, which is best described as advancing nursing practice through the use of assessment, problem solving, knowledge, experience, research and the integration of evidence into practice, our outcomes have continually improved. Nursing research is supported and conducted through our Nursing Shared Governance Councils.

**SAFETY**
Our commitment to a culture of safety stems from the teamwork and leadership of all disciplines. Practices are evidence-based and patient-centered. We are patient advocates in assuring patient safety. Continual emphasis on safety and high quality care is recognized and rewarded.

**INNOVATION**
Creativity through courageous innovation is a core value at St. Vincent’s Medical Center. We are challenged every day to develop innovative ideas that will result in improved efficiency, safety, quality, service and professional practice. Innovation is accomplished by inspired and visionary nurses who are committed to excellence and to moving the organization forward to meet the challenges of an ever-changing healthcare environment.
Karen Viores, RN  Short Stay Center (SSC)
Karen went above and beyond to get a Korean translator to schedule appointments for a patient in SSC with two different doctors gathering all radiology results while taking care of her patient post procedure. Nominated by Donna Kelly, RN

Marlene Martins, RN  Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU)
Marlene is a fantastic nurse who always makes her patients a priority, has a positive outlook and shows empathy in all situations. Nominated by Lauryn Moran, RN

Stacey Piotrowski, RN  Float
Stacey is always kind and willing to lend a hand. She stayed with a patient one evening so he did not have to be restrained. She is helpful, just awesome! Nominated by Margaret
## Awards

### 2019 Nursing Excellence Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Support</td>
<td>Carole Desrouilleres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Mentorship</td>
<td>Kara Tzanetis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Toni Berry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteerism &amp; Service</td>
<td>Ikeolapo Opayemi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Practice</td>
<td>Grace Rubio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan L. Davis Leadership Award</td>
<td>Lisa Jelliffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Bridgeport Medical Association Recognition Award</td>
<td>Beth Hare</td>
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### Nurse Executive Advanced by ANCC (NEA-BC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nurse Executive Advanced by ANCC (NEA-BC)</th>
<th>Nurse Executive Advanced by ANCC (NEA-BC)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Dwyer</td>
<td>Lori Broadbent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Loiz</td>
<td>Linda Plectic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooke Karlsen</td>
<td>Deborah Gilbey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Simpson</td>
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### Bachelor of Science in Nursing

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Science in Nursing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Bellemare</td>
<td>Twanna Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Frenzel</td>
<td>Maria Valliantis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rochelle Gibson</td>
<td>Ann Ballas</td>
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### Master’s Degrees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master’s Degrees</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linda Ruggiero</td>
<td>Ann Conlon, RN ED</td>
<td>Rachel Bouteiller, RN ED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Harper</td>
<td>Holly DeSimone, RN ICU-PCU</td>
<td>Ellen Miller, RN 9 North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrie McFarland</td>
<td>Grace Kombe-Fondo RN 10 East</td>
<td>Lauren Oliveira, RN 9 South</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jill McTighe, RN ED</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Edward Ostrowski, RN ICU-PCU</td>
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<td>Sa’Mone Russell, RN CVU</td>
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### St. Vincent’s Values Recognition

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<tr>
<th>St. Vincent’s Values Recognition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kim Burrows, RN 6 South</td>
<td>Jennifer Nascimento, APRN 7th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judith Dolan, RN 9 East/BHU</td>
<td>Karen Katrinak, RN 9 North</td>
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<td>Ashley Chapman, RN 7 North</td>
<td>Lynne Lesiw, RN 9 North</td>
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<tr>
<td>William McCon RN Case Management</td>
<td>Eileen Callahan, RN Case Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ascuncion Calo-Patino, RN 10East</td>
<td>Ascuncion Calo-Patino, RN 10East</td>
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**Note:** The text appears to be a list of names and roles associated with various nursing awards and recognitions. The list includes names of individuals from different departments (clinical support, education & mentorship, research, volunteerism & service, nursing practice) and recognition categories such as Susan L. Davis Leadership Award and Greater Bridgeport Medical Association Recognition Award. Additionally, there are lists of names associated with Master’s Degrees and St. Vincent’s Values Recognition, indicating a variety of roles and recognitions within the nursing profession.
Presentations

**Lynn Orser:** (May 21, 2019) What’s Driving Your Chapter, Co-presenter National Teaching Institute (NTI) Orlando, FL

**Lynn Orser:** (November 14, 2019) Structural Heart Interventions, Fixing Leaky Valves and More, Merrimack Valley Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses Fall Conference, Westford, MA

**Mary Porter:** (November, 2019) You are the Key to HPV Cancer Prevention for Dental Hygienists” Annual conference of the American Dental Hygienists Association

**Milner, K. A., Cosme, S., Goncalves S.A. & Marmo, S.:** (November 20-22, 2019) Visitation Practices in Magnet and Pathway to Excellence Facilities with Adult Intensive Care Units (podium presentation) at Helene Fuld Health Trust National Institute, Cleveland, Ohio.


**Buonocore Denise:** (4/25/2019) Get with the Guidelines for Heart Failure: Continue Improvement for Heart Failure Follow Up Appointments, Poster Presentation, St. Vincent’s Medical Center Science Symposium


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**Nursing Professional Development by ANCC (RN-BC)**
Colleen Lawlor

**Medical Surgical Nurse Certification by ANCC (RN-BC)**
Margaret Murolo

**Trauma Certified Registered Nurse by BCEN (TCRN)**
Jeremy Ihasz

**Certified Dementia Practitioner by the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (CDP)**
Mary Ellen Gavin

**Critical Care Registered Nurse by AACN (CCRN)**
Danielle Reardon

**Progressive Care Certified Nurse by AACN (PCCN)**
Savanua Dewitt-Smith

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certified Emergency Nurse by BCEN (CEN)</td>
<td>Rachel Bouteiller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certified Nurse Operating Room by CCI (CNOR)</td>
<td>Shawn Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Wound Care Associate by American Board of Wound Management (CWCA)</td>
<td>Joanna Tenenbaum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orthopedic Nursing Certification by ANCC (ONC)</td>
<td>Karen Platt</td>
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<td>Jenna Calderone</td>
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<td>Mini Ajay</td>
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<td>Dena Dzialo</td>
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<td>Valerie Itah</td>
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<td>Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Board Certification by ANCC (RN-BC)</td>
<td>Ariana Rick</td>
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<td>Chidinma Gubor</td>
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<td>Certified Rehabilitation registered Nurse by RNCB (CRRN)</td>
<td>Lori Carroll</td>
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<td>Kara Tzanetis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Nurse Leader by CNC (CNL)</td>
<td>Michelle Harper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oncology Certified Nurse by The Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (OCN)</td>
<td>Sarah Coulter</td>
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</tbody>
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Professional Publications/Research Articles:


Awards
Susan Goncalves: Fellowship, Open Educational Resources Faculty Fellow
Fairfield, CT, Sacred Heart University
2019-2020

Susan Goncalves: President of University Academic Assembly Recognition Award
Fairfield, CT, Sacred Heart University
August 26, 2019

Susan Goncalves: 2019 National Compassionate Caregiver of the Year (NCCY)® Award
Boston, MA
Honorable Mention
August 2019

Book Chapters/Textbooks


Special Recognition
Denise Buonocore: AACN Lifetime Member Award
Chair of the AACN Certification Board of Directors
If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

~ John Quincy Adams
Nurses Week at St. Vincent’s Medical Center

National Nurses Week featured many activities, including the hospital’s annual awards and recognition reception, a daily blessing of the hands service, food trucks, a complimentary night shift coffee bar, and other treats. Associates and visitors alike also enjoyed a special slide show tribute to nurses in the Medical Center Main Lobby.
EXEMPLARY PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

The Heart of Healthcare

continued on next page
Our infection prevention specialists Kathryn Cusano and Jesofina Silveria worked in conjunction with our nurse managers, Hospital Acquired Infection Committee and many clinical nurses, to decrease our C-Diff rate. They all did a tremendous job.

Infection Prevention worked collaboratively with Nursing education to roll out a "Urinary retention algorithm" for nursing to better manage urinary retention without the use of indwelling foley’s. More bladder scanners were also purchased that nursing staff had readily available equipment to assess for urinary retention and timely straight catheterization.

### C-Diff Infection Rate:
**Number of C-Diff Cases Per 10,000 Patient Days**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cases Per 10,000 Patient Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CY 2016</td>
<td>9.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CY 2017</td>
<td>8.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CY 2018</td>
<td>7.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CY 2019</td>
<td>3.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CAUTI Infection Rate:
**Number of CAUTI Per 10,000 Device Days**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>CAUTI Per 10,000 Device Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CY 2016</td>
<td>9.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CY 2017</td>
<td>13.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CY 2018</td>
<td>12.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CY 2019</td>
<td>7.88</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Infection prevention performs daily blood culture review to monitor for trends and unit based champions continue to review and validate findings of any MRSA bacteremia’s.

Our unit based champions continue to review and validate audits and central line care and maintenance. They also have daily huddles to discuss central line need for continued use. Routine apparent cause analysis are performed to review any missed opportunities with CLABSI events.
St. Vincent’s Mobile Food Pantry
Feeding Our Neighbors in Need

In early 2019 there was a growing population of food-insecure families in Bridgeport. Americares in Bridgeport and the Stratford Health Department successfully launched mobile food pantries to address this need.

Marilyn Faber, RN, along with St. Vincent’s Mission Services Coordinator Lucinda Ames and Mission VP Bill Hoey, met with CT Food Bank to arrange for a mobile food pantry on-site at St. Vincent’s. Funding from the St. Vincent’s Medical Center Foundation made it possible to purchase and begin monthly food distribution in the valet parking area in April 2019. A group of dedicated volunteers and employees served 150-180 families on the last Friday of every month.

The CT Food Bank Mobile Pantry arrived, packed with several tons of food. Each month 10-14 volunteers, including several of our nurses, Marilyn Faber, Nicole Loiz, Shavonne Ely, Lisa Sanzone, and Mark Pullo, set up tables, unpack the fresh produce, dairy products, and other healthy foods. The time commitment was two to three hours. Patrons would line up and go through the pantry line utilizing a number system while the volunteers distributed the allotted items into the patrons’ own grocery bags.
St. Vincent’s Medical Mission at Home
Providing Medical Attention and More

“That which you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me,” embodies the spirit behind St. Vincent’s Medical Mission at Home, an annual day of service established in October 2015 that has grown steadily each year. Its goals are to provide access to medical care and other necessary services for Bridgeport’s most vulnerable, under-served and homeless residents.

An interdisciplinary team of hospital leaders planned for six months to model St. Vincent’s Mission after a similar one held each year in Nashville, creating a “field hospital,” overseeing medical, nursing, pharmacy, logistics, volunteers, and other key teams. Since then, 1,800 of Bridgeport’s most vulnerable homeless and under-served persons have been reached, receiving free services such as prescriptions, vaccinations and flu shots, haircuts, podiatry services, foot washings, behavioral health services and mammogram scheduling. Attendees receive lunch, new coats and winter gear, shoes and socks, reading glasses, toiletries, blankets and books. Volunteer physicians and nurses provide medical exams and point of care testing for patients who are then referred for follow up to primary care providers.

The 2019 St. Vincent’s Medical Mission at Home was held in November at Cesar Batalla School, serving 500 people. Most of the nearly 450 volunteers participating were employees from many Medical Center departments; also participating were St. Vincent’s affiliate community physicians and medical, nursing and pharmacy students.

St. Vincent’s Medical Mission at Home:
• 5 years serving the community
• 1,500 of our most vulnerable neighbors reached
• Free services include medical exams, foot washing, reading glasses and more
• Approximately 450 clinical and non-clinical volunteers participate each year

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St. Vincent’s Medical Mission at Home
Providing Medical Attention and More