

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

Maine Medical Center Earns its Third Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence

On March 30, Maine Medical Center was designated a Magnet hospital, the highest national recognition awarded for nursing excellence.

This is the third consecutive time that MMC has achieved the designation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, an honor that only about 2 percent of US hospitals can claim.

“Every member of our nursing staff takes great pride in our Magnet designation because it is objective proof that we deliver personal, patient-centered care to everyone we serve,” said Marge Wiggins, D.N.P., M.B.A., R.N., FAAN, NEA-BC, MMC’s chief nursing officer and chief nurse executive at MaineHealth. “This recognition belongs to our nursing staff, but it was earned in partnership with our colleagues across the medical center including providers, patient care support services staff, leadership, residents and many, many more. To achieve Magnet, everyone who provides care or supports it have to work closely together to achieve excellent patient outcomes.”



Left - right: Jere G. Michelson, Vice Chairman, MMC board of trustees; Joel Botler, M.D., chief medical officer; Jeff Sanders, executive vice president and COO; Marge Wiggins, D.N.P., M.B.A., R.N., FAAN, NEA-BC, chief nursing officer and MaineHealth chief nurse executive; and Leslie Knight, B.S.N., R.N., CMSRN, ASU, and co-chair of the Nursing Professional Excellence Council, cheer after receiving the official word of MMC's Magnet re-designation.

The hospital was notified during a conference call, broadcast through the Dana Auditorium and on GoToMeeting. The room was packed with staff and a hundred more employees listened and watched online. When the news was announced, confetti rained down on the crowd and employees stood up and cheered.

Magnet status is awarded by the by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, an independent organization within the American Nurses Association. The Magnet Recognition Program recognizes health care organizations for quality patient care, nursing excellence and innovations in professional nursing practice. Magnet recognition is widely considered to be the

ultimate credential for high quality nursing care.

MMC was first recognized as a Magnet hospital in 2006, was re-designated in 2011 and continued to sustain this high level of quality.

Wiggins, a nationally recognized expert and consultant

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New LifeFlight Lands at MMC

The new Sanford-based LifeFlight 4 landed at MMC after a mission from New Hampshire last weekend. This photo was taken from the helipad by Billy Stuart, LifeFlight of Maine EMTP.

LifeFlight transports critically ill patients from across the state and parts of New Hampshire to our hospital.

Thank you to all of the LifeFlight crew members for your dedication to our patients!

'Magnet Designation' from front

on nursing quality, who also serves as adjunct faculty at the University of Southern Maine's School of Nursing, says the key for her team in achieving Magnet was the development of MMC's Partnership Care Delivery Model that emphasizes participation by everyone in the environment of care. She says that the pursuit of nursing quality, and with it Magnet status, has engaged all nurses and also helped attract and retain top nursing talent to MMC.

"The Magnet program is voluntary; people have got

to want to work for it. Our nurses want to be the best and to provide the best care, and this shows they are consistently delivering that for our patients," Wiggins says. "Wanting to be the best is one thing; to consistently achieve it is an extraordinary accomplishment."

Out of more than 6,000 hospitals in the United States, only 441 organizations have achieved the Magnet designation. This is approximately 7 percent of US hospitals. Only about 2 percent (roughly 120 hospitals) of US hospitals earn that recognition three times.

"This team has built a culture of high quality care from the ground up that engages every nurse to lead improvements in patient safety, satisfaction and experience," said Rich Petersen, MMC President and Chief Executive Officer. "We could not be more proud of what Marge and her team have achieved together."

Typically, inpatients spend more time with nurses than any other member of their care team, and nurses often play a critical role in the communication, collaboration and coordination of a patient's care.

"Anyone who has received care at Maine Medical Center has been served by an incredible, caring and committed nurse," said Joel Botler, M.D., MMC's chief medical officer. "That is critically important for both improving patient outcomes and maximizing collaboration across the entire care team."

The designation will last for at least four years. Visit nursecredentialing.org/Magnet to learn more about the ANCC Magnet recognition program.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT

Comments, questions, and story ideas:
Chelsea Miller, Communications Manager
mmcnews@mmc.org