Mount Sinai Health System is committed to supporting a professional practice environment. Nursing staff within a professional practice environment advance nursing practice through continuous lifelong education and professional development. They advocate and protect patients by including best nursing practice standards and evidence-based nursing care, ultimately delivering exceptional patient outcomes.

2018. Registered professional nurses employed at Mount Sinai for more than six (6) months are invited to participate in this brief survey.

The purpose of the Nurse Engagement Survey is to evaluate our professional practice environment. Magnet® designated facilities are required to continuously evaluate and improve the professional practice environment and these results will be included in our next ANCC Magnet® Re-designation Process. This survey is completely confidential and only aggregated data will be reported.

Nursing leadership are committed to using your insights to continue to understand the unique concerns of our nurses, build patient-centered culture that reduces stress and support strategies to attract and retain our valued nurses to achieve top levels of performance. Please complete the survey. Your voice counts!
Mount Sinai Queens Schedule of Activities

WE BUILD BRIDGES TO
PATIENTS | FAMILIES | CARE TEAM MEMBERS | THE COMMUNITY

NURSES WEEK 2018 | MAY 6-12

Nurses Week Events & Festivities Hosted by:
Jill Goldstein, MA, MS, RN Deputy Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President
Nursing and Nursing Leadership Council Cordially invites all Department of Nursing staff members to attend the following events.
Check out and tag @MountSinaiNurse @MountSinaiQueens #MSHNURSES #MSQNURSES

MONDAY MAY 7
Nurses Week Breakfast Celebration
7:00 AM - 9:00 AM | Administrative Conference Room
Nurses Week Luncheon Celebration
12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM | Administrative Conference Room
Nursing Leadership Gratitude Rounds
Fran Cartwright, PhD, RN-BC, AOCN, Chief Nursing Officer
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Springtime Treats on the individual units to recognize and give thanks!

TUESDAY MAY 8
Nurse Leaders Power Brunch with Nursing Leadership Council
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM | Crescent Kitchen, Diner on 30th Avenue
“Care for Self” Massage Therapy
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM | Administrative Conference Room

Keynote Address
Judith Vassay, PhD, CRNP, MBA, FAAN
"Promoting Psychological Safety—Improving Patient Care" 12:00 PM
25-20 50th Avenue, 4th Floor Conference Room (Live Stream)

WEDNESDAY MAY 9
Excellence in Nursing Practice Awards
Building Bridges with Communities in Need
A celebration of Mount Sinai Nurses who have volunteered to assist communities around the globe.
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM | Administrative Conference Room
Light Reception to Follow

“Care for Self” Massage Therapy
11:00 PM - 3:00 AM | Administrative Conference Room

THURSDAY MAY 10
Ice Cream Social
Ice Cream treats & Raffle Prizes on the individual units to recognize and give thanks!
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

“Care for Self” Massage Therapy
11:00 PM - 3:00 AM | Administrative Conference Room
A celebration of Mount Sinai Nurses who have
Light Reception to Follow

“Midnight” Social
Brown Bag Treat & Raffle Prizes on the individual units to recognize and give thanks! 12:00 Midnight

FRIDAY MAY 11
“Care for Self” Massage Therapy
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Administrative Conference Room

#NURSESWEEK2018
The Mount Sinai Hospital Schedule of Activities

NURSES WEEK 2018 | MAY 6-12

Nurses Week Events & Festivities:
Fran Cartwright, PhD, RN-BC, AOCN, Chief Nursing Officer along with the Nurse Recognition Committee cordially invites all Department of Nursing staff members to attend the following events. Tag #MSHNURSES

MONDAY MAY 7
Nurses Week Breakfast
6:00 AM - 9:00 AM | Annenberg West Lobby
22nd Annual Poster Session
“Building Bridges Using Relationship Centered Care”
Guggenheim Pavilion Atrium

THURSDAY MAY 10
Springtime Treats
Nursing Leadership ROUNDS on the individual units to recognize and give thanks!

Building Bridges with Communities in Need
4:00 PM | Annenberg 12-01
A celebration of Mount Sinai Nurses who have volunteered to assist communities around the globe. Light Reception to Follow

TUESDAY MAY 8
Keynote Address
Judith Vessey
PhD, CRNP, MBA, FAAN
“Promoting Psychological Safety-Improving Patient Care”
12:00 PM | Stern Auditorium
Light Reception to Follow

FRIDAY MAY 11
Health Smoothie Breakfast and Wellness Event
6:00 AM - 9:00 AM | Guggenheim 7th Floor Atrium

WEDNESDAY MAY 9
Board of Trustees 37th Annual Excellence in Nursing Practice Awards
11:00 AM | Davis Auditorium
Luncheon to follow

With this year’s theme of Building Bridges, the Department of Nursing will donate to three charitable organizations chosen by our nursing staff in lieu of their annual gift.

Nurses will be automatically entered into the Wellness Lottery with prizes throughout the week!
Mount Sinai Queens Nurse of Distinction Awards

**Nurse Leader:** Evelyn S. Alcontin, DNP, ANP-BC, NP-C, CWOCN  
10 Years @ MSQ  
Evelyn is consistent in her commitment of elevating the front-line nursing staff wound care clinical practice skills at Mount Sinai Queens Hospital. Evelyn is a true professional role model whose greatest strength is her collaborative nature and passion to life-long learning. She recently completed her Doctorate in Nursing Practice.

**Nurse of Distinction (O.R.):** Barbara Lauren-towski, RN, BSN, CNOR  
20 Years @ MSQ  
Barbara is an Operating Room Nurse since 1998, demonstrating nursing excellence on a daily basis by ensuring that all her patients are safe before, during and after undergoing surgery. Her positive demeanor and wealth of peri-operative knowledge establishes this candidate as a role model for the department as well as her peers. Always supporting the Magnet model she provides encouragement to the staff to participate in group meetings and explains to them that their opinions and suggestions into their own practice make a difference.

**Preceptor (IMCU):** Elvira Solis, RN, MSN  
12 Years @ MSQ  
Elvira embodies qualities of a successful nurse preceptor with proactive interpersonal and communication and teaching skills. Her 12 years of front-line experience enable her to have clear and precise decision-making and problem solving skills. Elvira always goes above and beyond to ensure that not only Novice nurses are successful integrating at MSQ.

**Novice O.R.:** Jasmine Ruiz RN, BSN  
2 Years @ MSQ  
Jasmin demonstrates her commitment to the Nursing Profession at Mount Sinai Queens daily and has quickly proven her ability to be a strong standing member of the operating room. Her positive mindset, personality and humbleness eases the atmosphere in a stressful environment. Her eagerness to learn and soak up more knowledge and skills encourages others to do the same.
The Mount Sinai Hospital Awards

Beth Degen has been a nurse at Mount Sinai for over 30 years. In that time, she has become an extraordinary nurse who has visibly increased the value of the Nursing Staff and Care. Beth is self-driven and well-liked by her patients and the entire multidisciplinary team.

She promotes compassion, professionalism, and respect to her patients. She is consistently depended on in her role. Beth has contributed greatly to improving the CTU for both the patients and the staff. The assistant director of physicians’ knowledge and understanding of the CTU guidelines and processes. She helped launch and was an integral part of the patient’s round council. Her leadership and writing the procedure patient and staff are all of these efforts that have put forth much to improve patient care.

Beth has dedicated herself to improving patient experience, educating nurses, and collaborating with nursing leadership to build a stronger team for the CTU. Beth has been instrumental in the successes of the CTU.

**Beth Degen, RN**
Clinical Nurse, GSICL

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**Lynette Joy Romanovitch, BSN, RN, CRRN**
Clinical Nurse, KCC:

Lynette Joy Romanovitch has served as the magnet champion on the Traumatic Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit for several years. She has not only contributed to the unit by consistently applying magnet standards but also by assisting nurses. She is a positive and supportive nurse within her patient care. Lynette’s work ethic is evident as she is always ready to work on any task that needs to be done.

Joy has proven herself to be a very thorough, insightful, and driven nurse. She is meticulous and comprehensive in her patient care on the unit. Joy has also shown potential to resolve issues before they arise. She is dedicated to adolescent development and has a passion for working with children. Joy is a creative force and a strong leader on the unit. She often leads meetings and activities.

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**Elizabeth Torto, RN**
Nursing Rookie of the Year Award, GP 10

Elizabeth Torto joined the Mount Sinai family just over one year ago on Guggenheim Pavilion 10. She is known for her integrity and compassion. Elizabeth has proven herself to be an indispensable member of the team, a leader, a role model, and a well-respected colleague. Elizabeth has the ability to develop close relationships with patients and gain their trust in all healthcare settings. She is also known for her knowledge, intelligence, and work ethic.

We are all excited to see what Elizabeth’s future at Mount Sinai will entail.

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**Danielle Lajoux, BSN, RN**
Clinical Nurse, Emergency Department

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**Tracey Kelly, BSN, RN**
Clinical Nurse, GP 7C

Tracey Kelly is an independent member of our Mount Sinai Heart team who has proven to be a valuable and trusted team member. She has demonstrated her commitment to the Mount Sinai mission and values through her dedication to her patients and colleagues.

Tracey is a true leader who makes her patients and their families feel confident and safe in the environment of care. She is caring, compassionate, and knowledgeable. Tracey is an integral part of the Mount Sinai Heart team and is always available to her patients and colleagues.

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**Eve Easton, MSc, BSc, RN, OCN, CHPN**
Clinical Coordinator, Supportive Oncology
Christine O’Sullivan is devoted to her patients, colleagues and the field of nursing. She is a role model to those around her and represents Mount Sinai Hospital and the Woman’s and Children’s Division with grace and skill. Christine regularly volunteers for committees to improve care, she steps forward when patients need additional support and she assists other colleagues who are going through whatever challenges.

Christine helped develop and launch the Women’s Education and Outreach Medical Institute which focuses on women’s health and improved patient experience. She has led implantation of a weekly newsletter and staff newsletter to improve nurse engagement.

Christine is focused, generationally, friendly, supportive, and a positive leader among her peers.

Christine O’Sullivan, RN
Magnet Nurse of the Year, KPZ

Patricia Gibbs has been a member of the Mount Sinai family since 1993. She endears the name of Relationship-Centered Care in not only caring for her patients and their family, but also for her fellow staff members. Regardless of the perceived demands placed on Pat, she never considered the care that she delivers as just her job. She goes above and beyond the call of duty, and she is always the first one to lend a helping hand. Patricia Gibbs has been a leader for the PACU nurses and physicians as an integral part of the interdisciplinary team.

Patricia Gibbs, RN
Pat Liang Nursing Practice Award, PACU

Ishmael Cobbold is the Equipment Manager for the Operating Room. However, that hardly describes the role he plays for the Peri-Operative Care Unit Nurses. Ishmael offers a sense of security, confidence, positivity and joy to these nurses.

Whenever they need help with equipment, which can be daily, Ishmael is there to offer assistance with a smile, to ease a problem, or to resolve an issue. This allows the nurses the opportunity to focus on the patients, their safety and their needs. Ishmael goes above and beyond the call of duty, which allows the nurses to perform their jobs more effectively.

Ishmael Cobbold
Honorary Nurse Award
PenOperative Service

Elka Riley-Roberts has been the Mount Sinai NICU for a decade. Nurses who passively advocate for their patients, with a continuous education. She was appointed Critical Care Nurse Manager of the NICU 8 years ago. She has demonstrated a remarkable amount of dedication and passion for her work. Elka takes a holistic approach to the health of her patients.

In addition to her dedication to patients, Elka is passionate about building bridges with other team members and the community. In her opinion, Elka has stated that she has truly learned a lot of everything in the NICU and she is determined to continue to provide the best possible care to her patients.

Elka Riley-Roberts MSN, FNP, RN
Nursing Leadership Award, NSICU

Role Model

Elka Riley-Roberts MSN, FNP, RN

Nursing Leadership Award, NSICU

Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities
Mount Sinai Nurses Building Bridges in Communities of Need

Celebration of Nurses that promote healing and wellness at the local, regional and global level

**Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation**

Camp Oasis is a co-ed residential summer camp program for children between 8 and 17 living with Crohn's disease and Ulcerative colitis providing them with a safe and supportive camp community.

- Alexis Sherman

**Mount Sinai Blood Drives**

Keilin made it her mission to always have blood drives and reach the goal amount donation so that there is always enough lifesaving blood ready for those in need.

**Puerto Rico**

I was part of the medical mission sent to Puerto Rico. This experience has been life changing and heightened both my professional and personal practice.

- Tamitha Villanueva

**Uhmahia (Biafra) Nigeria**

I had the opportunity of doing a mission trip to Uhmahia, to provide much needed medical care to patients who had little or no access to care.

- Stefan Thomas

**Prampram and Ningo regions outside of Accra and Ghana**

Provided primary healthcare and screening for nearly 1,400 women and children. The mission was through Amazing Grace Children's foundation.

- Jessica Mills

**The Philippines**

I was part of a team of nurses who were disasters, medical and nursing staff. We worked with the children and the staff and provided much needed medical care.

In the Philippines, I assisted insurgical medical mission for children and patients.

- Maria Soledad Castillos

- When you’re done, there are many medical and nursing staff that will be needed to help people and medical supplies and the need is to provide food and materials and the staff.

- I volunteered with my Orthopedic Surgery team and traveled to deliver in a remote area for a joint replacement surgery mission.

- Maria Sol DelCastillo
Dr. Judith Vessey, PhD, RN, DPNP, MBA, FAAN

Promoting Nurses’ Psychological Safety—Improving Patient Care

*MSH: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 12:00pm, STERN Auditorium
MSQ: Live Stream from 4th Floor Conference Room at 12:00pm*

Judith Vessey is the Lelia Holden Carroll Professor in the William F. Connell School of Nursing, Boston College and a Nurse Scientist at Boston Children’s Hospital. She received her BSN from Goshen College, a certificate as a Developmental Pediatric Nurse Practitioner from the University of Miami, her MSN and Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and was a Robert Wood Johnson Nurse Scholar at the University of California, San Francisco. She later received her MBA from Johns Hopkins University. The decision to seek this degree came from her realization that understanding the economics and business practices of health care was essential to being able to contribute to related policy determinations for select patient populations.

Dr. Vessey’s current research focuses on teasing, bullying, and psychological safety. Her interest in this area of inquiry began when she witnessed the difficulties that children with chronic conditions faced on being included in school. This work has led to a second avenue of study—bullying, lateral violence, and psychological safety in the workplace. Dr. Vessey’s research has been funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research, professional organizations and private foundations. She has authored over 100 articles, chapters, and books and has presented widely and is actively involved in the American Academy of Nurses.

Editors Corner

Janine Liza Duran, MS, AGNP-C, RN, CEN, NEA-BC

Dear Reader,

Six months ago, I walked into the walls of Mount Sinai Hospital. Sitting among fellow newcomers on the first day, I watched the video presented in New Beginnings about Nursing and Magnet accreditation.

I started to ponder on how blessed I am, to be an institution that promotes and embodies the Magnet philosophy. Although I have heard and read about Magnet before, it didn’t occur to me how deep and meaningful it is to the patient experience.

I have been a nurse for more than a decade now. By watching Sinai nurses, I learned the TRUE meaning of compassion and empathy towards patients. Despite the challenges, they face every day, they continue to work together to provide the best, safe and patient-centered care they can offer. There is no holding back for a Sinai RN. “Obstacles do not block their path, they are the path.” Thank you Mount Sinai Nurses! We are truly proud of you. Happy Nurses Week!

Empowered and Proud Sinai RN.

Janine
**MSH ER: FOCUS ON POCUS**
(Point of Care Ultrasound Guided IV)

Peripheral IV insertion is one of the most common procedures performed in the Emergency Department. Although ER nurses are well experienced with this procedure, there are times when even the most experienced RN fail.

An interdisciplinary team of practitioners led by RNs Jill Frick and Yun Cee Dirsa created a curriculum that teaches nurses to US-guided IV insertion.

So far not only has the program increased patient satisfaction, but also increased ED nursing and physician teamwork, collaboration and empowerment.

Three classes have been held and has 2 graduates! More nurses are being trained now and will hopefully be a standard of practice for all the ED nurses in MSH. This groundbreaking curriculum proves how
LiveOnNY
Caring for New Yorkers through Organ Donation

Save Lives in MSQ

LiveOnNY change a life forever

Choosing to be an organ donor means choosing to change the course of someone's life. While LiveOnNY has helped thousands of people, the need in our community is still great. You have the opportunity to make a lasting impact. For each New Yorker who enrolls in the registry, up to eight lives can be saved through organ donation, and another 50 lives saved or improved through tissue donation.
LiveOn NY Partners with MSH

LiveOn NY’s is a team of over 200 practitioners — partnering with various institutions in New YORK — united around the changing power of organ and tissue donation. They work tireless day and night, 365 days a year, to help save the lives of those in need of a transplant. We also provide support and comfort to donors and their loved ones throughout the donation process, and for years after. Additionally, they work to educate and inspire our community about organ and tissue donation.

Grand Rounds (April 4): MSH hosted a Donate Life Grand Rounds featuring Leona Kim-Schluger, MD followed by an interdisciplinary panel.

Interdisciplinary Rounds (April 10 & 30): An interdisciplinary team of MSH staff and LiveOnNY volunteers visited all units and shared personal stories with the staff.

Banner Unveiling Ceremony (April 13): Senior Leadership and Nursing Leadership were present to unveil the Donate Life Banner and provide a brief speech highlighting the life-saving impact of organ and tissue donation.

National Blue & Green Day (April 13): Staff decorated units and dressed up in blue and green to showcase the Donate Life colors.
The DAISY Foundation Award was created in memory of J. Patrick Barnes as a way to honor skillful and compassionate nursing care. The Barnes Family established this recognition award program to “honor the super-human work nurses do for patients and families every day.”

Today the program is in over 1000 hospitals and recognizes nursing talent all over the world. The DAISY Award allows nurses to be recognized for their truly compassionate care. Nurses are nominated by patients, families and colleagues and each month one nurse is chosen who exemplifies the values of a DAISY Nurse.

Congratulations to MSH Awardees:

1. Tocha Alberts, Pediatric 5
2. Jillian Delano, NICU
3. Diana Francis, RETU
4. Adrian Go, GP 9 Center
5. Madeline Gondek—Brown, ED
6. Carol Rankin—McGowan, NSICU
7. Shakira Riley, BMT
8. Jean Torres, GP 7 West
9. Jeremy West, Infusion
10. Melody Cubas, Madison 5
11. Carol Rankin—McGowan, NSICU

MSQ Kicks Off Daisy Awards This Year!!!