



# Nursing Annual Report 2025

---

**OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center**  
(Peru, Ottawa and Streator, Illinois)

**OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center**  
(Mendota, Illinois)

**OSF HealthCare Saint Clare Medical Center**  
(Princeton, Illinois)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS



|    |                                                                        |    |                                                                |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 03 | Letter from our CNO                                                    | 20 | Research, publications and presentations                       |
| 04 | A Mission and Vision that enables nurses to serve With All We Have     | 22 | Shared professional governance                                 |
| 05 | Nursing Strategic Plan and Professional Practice Model                 | 23 | Nursing innovation fellowship                                  |
| 06 | Nursing by the numbers                                                 | 24 | Career Ladder Professional Development Program                 |
| 07 | In our Magnet Era: Journey to Magnet designation                       | 27 | Nurses serving in the community                                |
| 10 | Organizational awards and recognitions                                 | 28 | Faith's Closet: Honoring a nurse's legacy in service to others |
| 12 | Nursing awards and recognitions                                        |    |                                                                |
| 14 | Nurses with Board Certification                                        |    |                                                                |
| 16 | 2025 DAISY honorees                                                    |    |                                                                |
| 18 | Shaping the next generation of nurses (Student nurse interns and DEUs) |    |                                                                |

# DEAR NURSING COLLEAGUES,

It is my honor to share the 2025 Nursing Annual Report and reflect on an extraordinary year of nursing excellence, innovation and commitment to our Mission. This report highlights what we accomplished together and how our shared values continue to guide our nursing practice in caring for our communities – and for one another.

Throughout this report, you will see how the OSF Nursing Professional Practice Model, Mission and Vision intentionally align with the ANCC Magnet Model to guide our daily work and advance nursing excellence. These efforts ultimately lead to empirical outcomes that consistently exceed national nursing benchmarks, reinforcing the strength and impact of our professional nursing practice.

As we move into 2026, we are honored to enter the final phase of the Magnet journey with the site visit scheduled for May 11-12, following Nurses Week celebrations.

This achievement reflects your dedication, professionalism and unwavering commitment to evidence-based practice and patient-centered care.

This year, our nurses truly exemplified what it means to be a Mission Partner, coming alongside nurse and interprofessional leaders to expand care across the Illinois Valley. Even amid challenging and rewarding work, you achieved remarkable innovative, patient-focused and practice-based improvements and received numerous awards that have transformed our nursing practice. You



have demonstrated our profession's commitment to delivering high-quality, safe and efficient care while practicing autonomously and with strong engagement across our organization.

We deeply value your voices and the influence of nursing input at the unit, facility, regional and Ministrywide levels, which continues to shape our nursing practice and decision-making.

It is truly an honor to serve as your leader on this journey. I am humbled to work alongside such a talented and committed team of nursing professionals.

Thank you for all that you do – today and every day.

With gratitude and pride,

Maria Chicchelly, MBA, BSN, RN  
Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer

# A MISSION AND VISION THAT ENABLES NURSES TO SERVE *WITH ALL WE HAVE*

## OSF HEALTHCARE MISSION:

In the Spirit of Christ and the example of Francis of Assisi, the Mission of OSF HealthCare is to serve persons with the greatest care and love in a community that celebrates the Gift of Life.



## NURSING VISION:

OSF nurses will be recognized as trusted leaders, innovative caregivers, collaborative team members and advocates of healing by delivering safe, evidence-based, compassionate and equitable care across all settings.

For almost 150 years, the Mission of OSF HealthCare has come to life through nursing practice in the communities we serve. Our philosophy states: The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis believe that, led by the Spirit of the Gospels and the example of St. Francis, the special

purpose of our existence as an organization is to provide for the total well-being of those we serve.

Our Foundress, Mother M. Frances Krasse, said, “Nurse the sick with the greatest care and love; then will God’s blessing be with you.”

Our dedicated nurses at OSF Saint Elizabeth in Peru, Ottawa and Streator, OSF Saint Paul and OSF Saint Clare Medical Centers continue to live out those words that crafted our Mission in service of the sick and the socially and culturally vulnerable within our communities.

# NURSING STRATEGIC PLAN AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE MODEL

The Nursing Strategic Areas of Focus and the Professional Practice Model serve as our guides for providing care and for supporting the nursing profession at OSF HealthCare.

## FY26 Strategy Summary – Nursing Strategic Areas of Focus

**VISION:** OSF nurses will be recognized as trusted leaders, innovative caregivers, collaborative team members, and advocates of healing by delivering safe, evidenced based, compassionate, and equitable care across all settings.



### Delivering highly reliable quality care across continuum



**Nursing Cares & Mobility**  
Nursing sensitive outcomes: falls, HAPI, CAUTI, CLABSI  
Nursing research and innovation  
Nursing documentation optimization to release burden and drive quality  
Safety culture including teaming and recognition and escalation of deterioration



### Destination OSF

Interdisciplinary collaboration to enhance the experience of care  
Targeted achievement of competency in practice setting  
Academic partnerships: Scholar, dedicated education units  
Dissemination of nursing work in state/national/international venues  
Active participation in professional organizations



### Timely and effective care to meet the desires of the patient

Engagement with digital solutions  
Acknowledgement of patient experience as a quality indicator  
Embedding patient experience best practices as core elements of care delivery



### Financial Stewardship, Philanthropy

Right Staffing to meet patient needs minimizing agency cost  
Philanthropy  
Optimize enrollment in OSF College of Nursing  
Graduate level nursing students' projects are aligned to strategy with governance



### Talent development, Magnet culture optimization, and retention

Implement Transition to Practice program all settings  
Development of nurse leaders: manager, charge nurse, preceptors, and mentors  
Increase enrollment and advancement within the career ladder  
Create a Magnet culture within interdisciplinary team  
Nursing innovation fellowship

**OUR VALUES:** Compassion ● Employee Well-being ● Integrity ● Justice ● Leadership ● Stewardship ● Supportive Work Environment ● Teamwork ● Trust



# NURSING BY THE NUMBERS

## NURSING DEMOGRAPHICS:

### 2025 NURSE STATISTICS

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| RN FTE                            | 296.2      |
| RN Turnover Rate                  | 7.7%       |
| Percent RNs Certified             | 5%         |
| Percent RNs with ADN              | 33%        |
| Percent RNs with BSN              | 58%        |
| Percent RNs with Master's Degree  | 9%         |
| Percent RNs with Doctorate Degree | 0% (2 RNs) |

## NEW HIRE RNS:

From January 1 through December 31, 2025, 142 Mission Partners in the nursing division were hired. There were 21 nurses hired with RN qualifications who are not working in direct patient care, expanding our support system for nurses!

- Clinical nurse educator: 1
- Clinical education supervisor: 1
- Professional Practice Coordinator: 1
- Quality/Safety Coordinator: 3
- Patient Care Supervisor: 11
- Patient Care Manager: 2
- Vice President, Nursing Operations: 1
- Vice President & Chief Nursing Officer: 1

**Total number of I-80 Nurses (as of 12/2025): 355**

**Average tenure of I-80 Nurses in 2025: four years**



# IN OUR MAGNET ERA: JOURNEY TO MAGNET DESIGNATION

## OUR JOURNEY TOWARD OUR FIRST MAGNET DESIGNATION

The American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Magnet designation is the most prestigious credential a health care organization can attain for excellence in nursing and quality patient care. The Magnet Model is one way health care organizations invest in their nursing workforce and can serve as a blueprint for nursing excellence.

As of 2026, only about 10% of hospitals in the U.S. are designated Magnet.

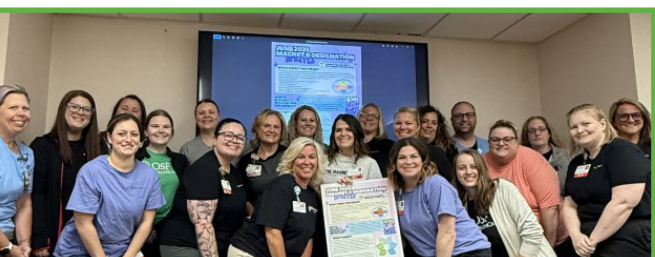


### December 2022:

- Application to pursue Magnet designation for OSF Saint Elizabeth and OSF Saint Paul was approved by the ANCC.
- Katie Burdette, director of Professional Practice & Education, was named as Magnet Program director.

### 2023:

- Due to the shift in priorities with onboarding Illinois Valley nurses and re-opening services in Peru to best serve our communities, the decision was made to request a delay in our Magnet journey timeline.
- 1-year deferral approved by the ANCC, with a new submission date of June 2025.
- Our nurse leaders and CNO at the time, Heather Bomstad, kicked off our official beginning to the Magnet journey by visiting nurses on all shifts to discuss the benefits of Magnet designation...of course, there were treats!



#### July 2024:

- We hosted “In our Magnet Era” workshop for our frontline clinical nurses to engage with our nurse leadership team to learn more about Magnet designation, celebrate one year until submission and brainstorm story ideas.

#### June 2025:

- The Magnet document, a compilation of over 100 stories of nursing recognition, innovation, practice and development within OSF Saint Elizabeth and OSF Saint Paul, was finally submitted!

#### September 2025:

- ANCC requested additional supplemental documentation for our submission. This is very common for first-time applicants.

#### December 2025:

- Additional documentation submitted.

#### January 2026:

- Magnet document officially accepted by the ANCC with ZERO DEFICIENCIES! This means that we have moved to the last phase of the Magnet journey, where we’ll get to host our three Magnet appraisers at our facilities – our chance to shine!

#### May 11-13, 2026

- Magnet Site Visit

This designation will demonstrate our nursing excellence, signifying the excellent outcomes in nursing engagement, patient experience and nursing quality that we have and sustain. Receiving this honorable designation, the highest achievement in the profession of nursing, will make us the only Magnet organization within miles of our area!



## MAGNET CONFERENCE 2025

OSF HealthCare nurses attended the annual ANCC Magnet Conference and ANCC Pathway to Excellence Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, gaining insights on ongoing competency and training, standardizing care processes and the latest evidence-based tools to support achieving and maintaining Magnet status.

“At the Magnet Conference, I experienced so many real-life examples of best practices and evidence-based strategies that were feasible to implement in my own department. Attending the conference also reinforced my belief that OSF is doing amazing things already! Several of the topics presented, we have already implemented, which makes me feel proud to be a part of an organization that is a frontrunner in innovation. I truly felt invigorated to bring all the great ideas I learned about back to help improve our nursing practice.” – Haley Kristensen, BSN, RN, CNOR

“Attending the Magnet Conference was a great opportunity to celebrate nursing excellence and reconnect with the ‘why’ behind our work. It was inspiring to hear ideas and experiences from other organizations and see how nursing excellence comes to life in so many different settings. Watching the organizations that achieved Magnet designation and re-designation walk across the stage was an unforgettable moment, and it made me even more excited to experience that milestone ourselves when we achieve Magnet designation for the first time. I left feeling energized, proud of our work and excited to bring fresh ideas back to our team.” – Karla Carboni, BSN, RN, CGRN

# ORGANIZATIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

I-80 RNs are proud of being nationally recognized for excellence, as demonstrated by the following specialty accreditations, awards and recognitions.

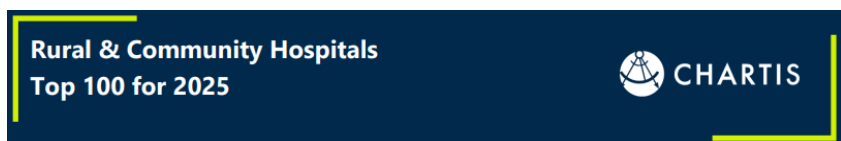
| NAME                                                                       | TYPE / AWARDING BODY                             | APPLICABILITY                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Joint Commission                                                           | Accreditation                                    | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| Leapfrog Group: A Grade                                                    | Fall Safety Grade                                | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| Leapfrog Group: A Grade                                                    | Spring Safety Grade                              | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| 2025 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals                                   | Chartis Center for Rural Health                  | OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa           |
| 100 Great Community Hospitals                                              | Becker's Hospital Review                         | OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa           |
| 10 Hospitals with the Lowest Birth Rates of Birth Complications            | Becker's Hospital Review                         | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| 2025 Illinois Birthing Hospital Quality Star Award                         | Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative (ILPQC) | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| America's 100 Best Hospitals for Gastrointestinal Care Award               | Healthgrades 2025                                | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| America's Best Hospitals for Gastrointestinal Surgery Award                | Healthgrades 2025                                | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| Critical Care Excellence Award                                             | Healthgrades 2025                                | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| Pulmonary Care Excellence Award                                            | Healthgrades 2025                                | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| 514 Hospitals with the Lowest CAUTI Rates by CMS                           | Becker's Hospital Review                         | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |
| A Grade for Health Equity, Outcomes and Value                              | Lown Institute Hospital Index                    | OSF Saint Elizabeth and OSF Saint Paul |
| Business/Industry Partnership Award with Illinois Valley Community College | Illinois Community College Trustees Association  | OSF Saint Elizabeth                    |

(continued)

| NAME                                                                                                           | TYPE / AWARDING BODY                                   | APPLICABILITY                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Top Recommended Hospital in Illinois                                                                           | Becker's Hospital Review based on CMS patient feedback | OSF Saint Paul                        |
| 4 Stars Patient Satisfaction Award                                                                             | National Rural Rating System                           | OSF Saint Paul                        |
| 5 Stars for Patient Recommendation                                                                             | Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)       | OSF Saint Paul                        |
| Energy to Care Award                                                                                           | American Society for Health Care Engineering           | OSF Saint Paul                        |
| 250 Cleanest Hospitals List                                                                                    | Becker's Hospital Review                               | OSF Saint Paul                        |
| Heather Bomstad, MSN, RN:<br>Critical Access Hospital Presidents<br>and CEOs to Know 2025 (former<br>I-80 CNO) | Becker's Hospital Review                               | OSF Saint Paul and<br>OSF Saint Clare |
| 150 Top Places to Work in Health<br>Care 2025                                                                  | Becker's Hospital Review                               | OSF HealthCare                        |
| America's Most Innovative<br>Companies                                                                         | Fortune                                                | OSF HealthCare                        |
| Certified Center of Excellence<br>in Medication-Use Safety and<br>Pharmacy Practice                            | American Society of Health System<br>Pharmacists       | OSF HealthCare                        |
| 52 Hospitals & Health Care<br>Systems with Great Innovation<br>Programs                                        | Becker's Hospital Review                               | OSF HealthCare                        |
| America's Best In-State Employers<br>for Illinois                                                              | Fortune                                                | OSF HealthCare                        |



Heather Bomstad, MSN, RN  
President, OSF SPMC and SCMC



# NURSING AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

In recognizing the gifts each nursing Mission Partner brings to this Ministry, we, in turn, hope to elevate and inspire the practice of all nurses as they demonstrate impact on our Mission.

## 2025 I AM AN OSF NURSE NOMINEES AND AWARD WINNERS

The nomination process aims to identify Mission-driven nurses who exemplify our cultural beliefs while addressing our organization's strategic priorities. Mission Partner peers, leaders and providers may nominate these exceptional nurses or groups of nurses.



### EXEMPLARY PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

|                    |                                                              |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Brandt, April      | I-80 Professional Practice Coordinator                       |
| Contreras, Valerie | OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa<br>Outpatient Behavioral Health |
| Eisenberg, Angel   | OSF Saint Paul Outpatient Services                           |
| Hicks, Margo       | OSF Saint Clare Medical/Surgical                             |
| Janssen, Sabrina   | OSF Saint Clare Emergency Department                         |
| Olsen, Jamie       | OSF Saint Paul Ambulatory Surgery                            |
| Power, Ryan        | OSF Saint Elizabeth – Peru<br>Medical/Surgical               |
| Twardowski, Sylvia | OSF Saint Elizabeth – Peru<br>Medical/Surgical               |

## TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greene, Maleah

OSF Saint Elizabeth – Peru  
Ambulatory Surgery

Ingold, Rebecca

OSF Saint Elizabeth  
Emergency Department

Jauch, Mary

OSF Saint Paul Emergency Department

Rathbun, Katilynn

OSF Saint Elizabeth – Streator  
Emergency Department

## NURSE EMPOWERMENT

Fiocchi, Jessica

OSF Saint Clare Medical/Surgical

Kowalczyk, Jennifer

OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa  
Ambulatory Surgery

# NURSES WITH BOARD CERTIFICATIONS



| Name                  | Certification                                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Bean, Rachel          | Certified ambulatory perianesthesia nurse          |
| Brandt, April         | Nursing professional development                   |
| Brown-Rogalla, Brandi | Certified nurse – OR                               |
| Burdette, Katie       | Nursing professional development                   |
| Burns, Samantha       | Wound care certified                               |
| Carboni, Karla        | Certified GI – RN                                  |
| Debosik, Christine    | Certified GI – RN                                  |
| Duffy, Brandi         | International board-certified lactation consultant |
| Dykstra, Paige        | Critical care                                      |
| Fay, Taylor           | Certified nurse – OR                               |
| Fisher, Austin        | Certified emergency nurse                          |
| Flanigan, Caitlin     | Certified nurse – OR                               |
| Francis, Stephanie    | Wound care certified                               |
| Freitag, Ashley       | Nursing professional development                   |
| Hozie, Caitlin        | Vascular access                                    |

(continued)

| Name              | Certification                                  |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Kristensen, Haley | Certified nurse – OR                           |
| Lambert, Samantha | Stroke-certified – RN                          |
| Lesak, Molly      | Obstetrics, Certified breastfeeding consultant |
| Manley, Kristen   | Wound care certified                           |
| Marker, Emily     | Certified emergency nurse                      |
| Mathes, Emily     | Wound care certified                           |
| Mendez, Vanessa   | Nurse executive                                |
| Nelson, Melissa   | Certified emergency nurse                      |
| Puchi, Julia      | Electronic fetal monitoring                    |
| Robinson, Joshua  | Certified emergency nurse, Critical care – RN  |
| Sampson, John     | Certified nurse – OR                           |
| Simpson, Angela   | Certified nurse – OR                           |
| Tomas, Annabel    | Electronic fetal monitoring                    |
| Wasilewski, Kelly | Certified pediatric emergency nurse            |
| Woitynek, Jolene  | Certified emergency nurse                      |

# 2025 DAISY HONOREES

The family of Patrick Barnes created the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses in his memory to recognize and thank nurses for the gifts they give their patients and families every day.

Nurses within our organization are nominated for the DAISY Award in recognition of their commitment to the highest standards of nursing excellence and for making a significant difference in the lives of the patients and families they serve. Frontline nurses serving on our Professional Nursing Council and nurse leaders vote on blinded nominations to select the honoree.

Based on nurse Mission Partner volume, OSF Saint Elizabeth awards four honorees per year and OSF Saint Clare and OSF Saint Paul each award one honoree per year.



## NIKKI BEYER, CRT RN (MEDICAL/SURGICAL)

“Nikki was on duty as our dad’s nurse for several days, and she was so wonderful to our family during a difficult time. My dad was there as his organs were failing, and she treated him with respect and dignity while also making him smile with her jokes. We had to begin making end-of-life decisions for him while he was there, and she was kind to us – always bringing us tissues, water and anything else we needed.

The icing on the cake was when my dad was taken off his renal diet and could order whatever he wanted. He really wanted a hot dog, but it wasn’t on the hospital menu. Suddenly, Nikki showed up with a hot dog and fries that she had delivered from a local restaurant because she knew how much he wanted them! She was an angel for us during a tough time.”



## TRICIA HAMMER, CRT RN (MEDICAL/SURGICAL)

“My mom shared with me, on the phone earlier that day, that her nurse was very helpful and loving. When I arrived later that day to visit mom, Tricia was great at helping educate me on everything, bringing me up to speed on the doctor’s notes and thoughts. She called him so we could all talk about next steps for my mom’s care. Tricia was truly an advocate for my mom and her plan the whole time she cared for her. My mom felt very comfortable and confident having Tricia as her nurse. That night

before she left, she transitioned with the other nurse and then came back again right before she left to check on us and make sure Mom was good. We could definitely see God’s love and comfort shining through you!”



### **BRITTANY LEWIS, RN (SEMC-OTTAWA ED)**

“Once I got to the ED, it was as if Brittany had been waiting just for me. She was so calm and friendly, explaining everything and looking for ways to make me feel welcome and special. Warm blankets, something to drink and friendly, easy-going conversation that kept me out of my own thoughts. Even after I had been taken to my next stop, Brittany stopped back in to check if I needed anything and how things were going. She really took the time to make me feel like a real VIP. Thank you, Brittany!”



### **MADISON GERKITZ, RN (SEMC-OTTAWA MEDICAL/SURGICAL)**

“Madi is one of the best, caring, compassionate nurses I have ever met in my life. She really took the time to listen and to care. She always made sure every need was addressed, and her bubbly personality helped lower everyone’s stress levels. I wish every nurse could be like her. The world and health care would be a much better place if there were more people like her in it.”



### **JANA TREMBLY, RN (SPMC COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES)**

“Jana was our neighbor growing up. I haven’t seen her for at least 30 years. My mom came in for her annual infusion, and Jana lit up and remembered us. She made us feel calm, at ease and welcomed. She was so understanding and just made us feel so special!”



### **BIATRIS ESCATEL, RN (SCMC MEDICAL/SURGICAL)**

“My friend was suffering from metastatic cancer, and she knew she couldn’t fight the disease any longer. Biatris tended to her physical as well as her emotional needs throughout the night, keeping her comfortable as the top priority. While we sat at the bedside, eyes filled with tears, holding our loved one’s hand, Biatris was a quiet, supportive presence. We felt truly blessed to have her skills, passion for hospice patients and compassion on that night. We believe God’s guidance

brought my friend to the hospital the previous morning for the inpatient hospice care, and he gave us Biatris for her last hours.”

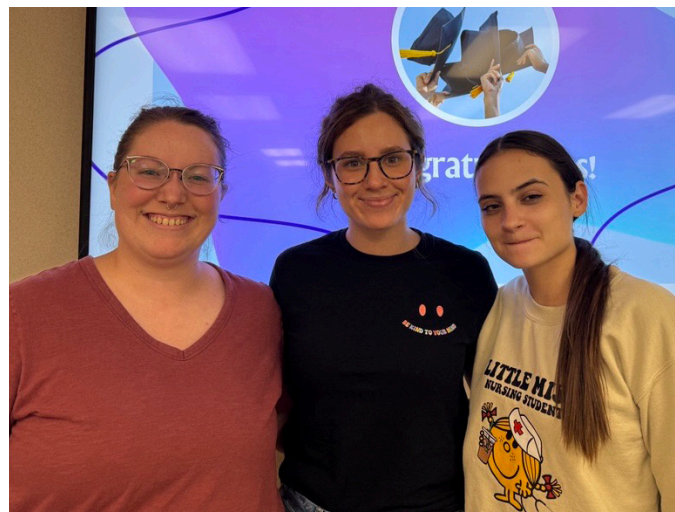
# SHAPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF NURSES

## STUDENT NURSE INTERNS

From May through July, 2025, I-80 nursing departments hired and provided invaluable hands-on learning experiences for 10 Student Nurse Interns (SNIs). Over eight weeks in the summer, nursing students preparing to begin their last year of nursing school rotated through different nursing departments within our I-80 facilities, gaining broad exposure to diverse patient populations and specialty care areas.

We welcomed students from Illinois Valley Community College, Illinois State University, Western Illinois University and the University of St. Francis in Joliet nursing programs.

Thank you to our incredible nurses who provided guidance, shared their knowledge and helped grow our future nurses! We're excited to welcome more SNIs this summer!



## DEDICATED EDUCATION UNITS

In 2025, OSF Saint Elizabeth Nursing Practice & Education team partnered with the University of St. Francis in Joliet (USF) to open Dedicated Education Units (DEUs).

What is a DEU? It's an innovative joint educational approach to provide nursing students with clinical experiences through the collaborative efforts of OSF HealthCare nurses, serving as DEU instructors, and USF faculty.

This partnership between our nursing team and our academic colleagues reflects a shared commitment to help shape the next generation of nurses in an environment where compassion, evidence-based care and human connection are at the heart of everything we do.

We welcomed our first DEU student at our Family Birth Center in Spring 2025, paired with Courtney Johnson, night-shift RN. The student followed Courtney's work schedule to obtain 120 hours of clinical experience alongside Courtney, acting as her DEU instructor.

In October 2025, we welcomed three USF students into our behavioral health inpatient department, an exciting DEU expansion within our facility. Jolene Woitynek, Hannah Ballard and Laura Nowak served as DEU instructors for the students in their last semester of nursing school. Even more exciting, one of those students had such a great experience that she is now working as a nurse on the same unit!



### Jolene shared the following about her experience as a DEU instructor:

“Participating in the DEU preceptorship was a truly positive and meaningful experience for me. I genuinely enjoyed having a student, and it was rewarding to see her grow throughout the clinical time – becoming more confident, skilled and comfortable in her role as a behavioral health nurse. Even after 25+ years in nursing, I firmly believe we never stop learning, and it was refreshing and inspiring to learn from the next generation of nurses as well. The experience strengthened my own practice, reminded me of the value of teaching and reinforced how much I enjoy mentoring. I would absolutely participate in the program again.”

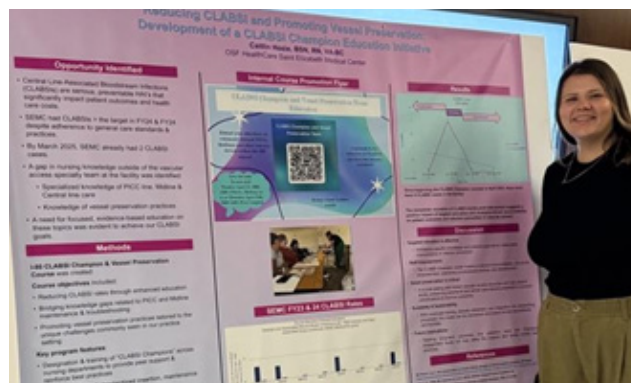
# RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

## RESEARCH

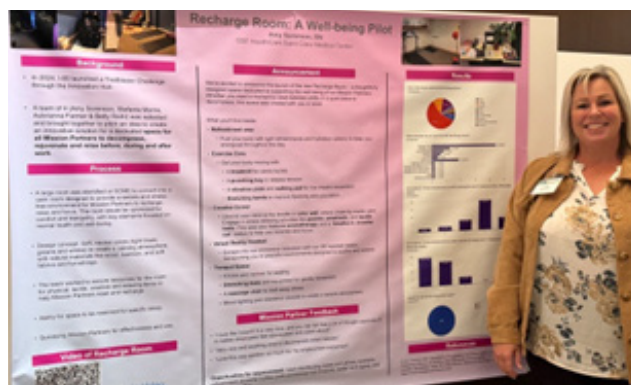
- An exploratory study examining a comprehensive aggressive patient management program on nurses' confidence in coping with patient aggression (complete)
- An exploratory study of the nurses' Social media use (complete – awaiting results dissemination)
- Assessment of nurses' beliefs, implementation practices and organizational readiness to engage in evidence-based practice activities within a large health care system (in progress)
- Efficacy of virtual reality as an education intervention [Fire in the OR] (closed)
- Impact of virtual reality simulation for teaching high-risk, emergent situations in women's health (complete)
- Professional governance education to increase bedside nurses' perception of their voice in shared decision-making (in progress)

## PRESENTATIONS

- An exploratory study examining a comprehensive aggressive patient management program on nurses' confidence in coping with patient aggression  
*Presented by Katie Burdette, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, and Kristen Green, BSN, RN, to Illinois Valley Community College Behavioral Health nursing students*
- Impact of virtual reality simulation for teaching high-risk, emergent situations in



- Reducing CLABSI and Promoting Vessel Preservation: Development of a CLABSI Champion Education Initiative  
*Caitlin Hozie, BSN, RN, VA-BC*



- Recharge Room: A Well-being Pilot  
*Amy Sorenson, RN*

women's health

*Presented by Kelly Hert, BSN, RN, to Illinois Valley Community College OB nursing students*

## DNP PROJECTS

**Kelsi Mendez, DNP, PMHNP-BC**

Bridging the Gap between Inpatient and  
Outpatient Psychiatric Care: Implementing a  
Risk Assessment Tool

**M'Kenzee Smith, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, ACHPN**

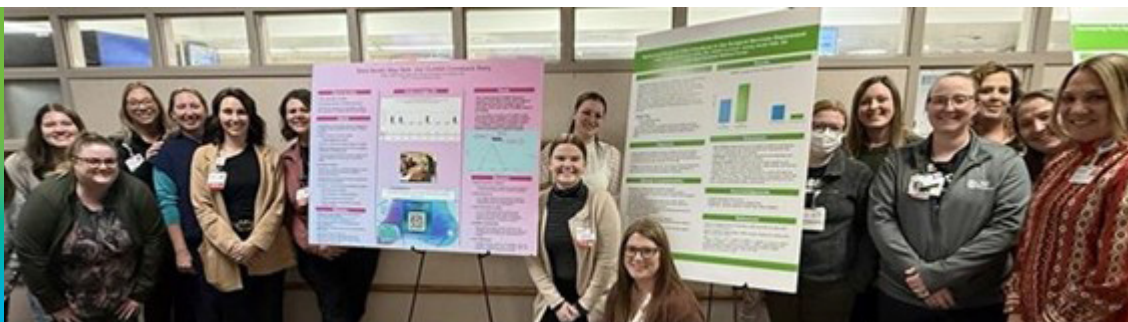
Heart Failure Discharge Checklist:  
A Way to Better Outcomes

## PUBLICATIONS

**Katie Burdette MSN, RN, NPD-BC**

An exploratory study examining a  
comprehensive aggressive patient management  
program on nurses' confidence in coping with  
patient aggression in the Journal of Nursing  
Administration

# SHARED PROFESSIONAL GOVERNANCE



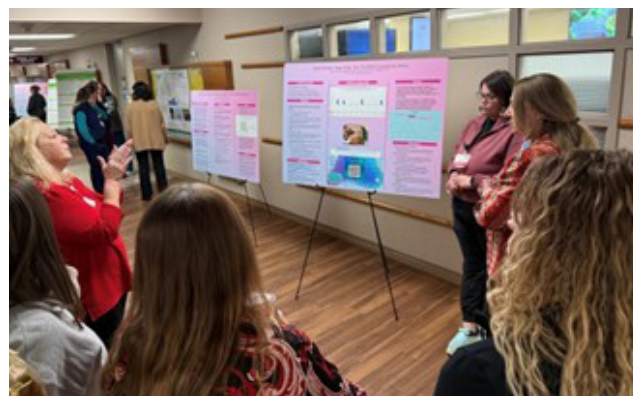
Being involved in nursing governance is an incredible opportunity to shape nursing practice, drive improvement and give a voice to the work happening on your unit every day.

It offers a chance to collaborate with colleagues, strengthen leadership skills and make meaningful contributions to patient care and the Mission Partner experience.

Your voice matters in shaping nursing practice across our region.

2025 was full of memories, growth and milestones as a professional nursing council group.

In December 2025, our 2025 Unit Council chairs showcased their work throughout the year during a poster showcase. Ten posters, representing a unit-based project led by the Unit Council, aimed at improving patient care, strengthening teamwork and elevating nursing practice. Visitors, executive leaders, department leaders and our Mission Partners joined



throughout the event to hear directly from Unit Council chairs and representatives about their work and their unit's journey in 2025!

# NURSING INNOVATION FELLOWSHIP



## SPOTLIGHT ON HALEY KRISTENSEN, BSN, RN, CNOR

“As a nursing innovation fellow, I am one of 11 frontline RN Mission Partners (five in their second year and six in their first year) who dedicate a part of our work hours to this fellowship experience. The main purpose of this three-year fellowship is to engage clinical Mission Partners in developing innovative solutions to problems we see every day and to help implement change by working directly with our peers. I see it as the perfect position for anyone who wants to be at the forefront of change. Leadership development is a large part of all the training we receive, and I have felt so supported throughout this experience as well as encouraged to think differently than ever before.

Since July 2025, I have engaged in several unique experiences. I had an eight-week internship with the OSF Ministry Innovation team at the Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center, where we learned to develop

new ideas and products. At the end, we pitched our products or ideas to OSF leadership, and as one of those chosen to move forward, I have been working with OSF engineers to develop my product to help decrease retained surgical items in the surgical environment.

After the internship, I have worked alongside the clinical practice team and nursing administration at the Ministry level, gathering feedback from frontline nurses on patient mobility, medication administration pain points and purposeful rounding. We have helped facilitate sessions at the I am an OSF Nurse Symposium and Preceptor Immersion. Additionally, we are starting the implementation and support of Nursing Cares 2.0 at OSF HealthCare St. Mary Medical Center and providing EPIC Go-Live support at OSF Saint Katharine Medical Center.

Overall, there are so many more experiences I have been a part of that I wish I could list them all. I have learned so much about peer-to-peer communication and how to give and receive valuable feedback, both of which are vital in our work. I truly believe this is an invaluable experience for myself and for our hospital system. Having clinical Mission Partners who can provide the best feedback and facilitate change throughout the Ministry is such a blessing. I encourage everyone to take time to learn about all the amazing resources OSF Jump has to offer, and know that the sky is the limit!

# CAREER LADDER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

2025 was a huge success for our nurses achieving career ladder advancement!

The OSF Nursing Career Ladder Program invests in direct caregiver nurses by recognizing their contributions to OSF HealthCare and the nursing profession. The aim of this program is to retain, support and reward individual academic progression and professional development. Patricia Benner's "Novice to Expert" professional nursing development model is the conceptual framework for this program.

2025 Career Ladder Level Achievements:

| LEVEL 2                                                    |                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>OSF Saint Elizabeth – Peru ED</b>                       | <b>OSF Saint Clare ED</b>                           |
| Candice Espinoza                                           | Katherine Long                                      |
| Sabrina Janssen                                            | Melissa Nelson                                      |
| Edin Sterling                                              | Rachel Schenck                                      |
| Elizabeth Widman                                           | Tori Spears                                         |
| Brittany Shartzter                                         | Kendra Wright                                       |
| <b>OSF Saint Paul ED</b>                                   | <b>OSF Saint Paul Outpatient</b>                    |
| Michelle Rolando                                           | Angela Eisenberg                                    |
| Mary Jauch                                                 | <b>OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa/Peru Outpatient</b> |
| <b>OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa ED</b>                     | Deb Tucker                                          |
| Caitlyn Wise                                               | Kristen Green                                       |
| Keri Sullivan                                              | Nichole Neurohr                                     |
| Rebecca Ingold                                             | Jamie Fitzpatrick                                   |
| <b>OSF Saint Elizabeth – Streator Center for Health ED</b> | Adrienne Citta                                      |
| Samantha Rivers                                            | Jennifer Towne                                      |
| Katilynn Rathbun                                           | Jessica Stuart                                      |
| Sarah Armstrong                                            | Kay Roda                                            |
| Beckie Thomson                                             | Shari Stone                                         |
| Beth Walker                                                | Ashley Boehm                                        |
|                                                            | Ivy Waldorf                                         |
|                                                            | Meaghan Kirts                                       |

## LEVEL 2

### OSF Saint Elizabeth – Streator Center for Health Outpatient

Jennifer Petersen

Laurie Killelea

### OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa/Peru Surgical Services

Marianne Audi

Becky Paul

John Sampson

Addison Blumhorst

Rachel Bean

Renee Schiffbauer

Hillary Schwab

Jennifer Kowalczyk

Brandi Brown-Rogalla

Ashley Smith

Samantha Lambert

Nicole Milton

Ashley Daley

Lucinda Hardgrove

### OSF Saint Paul Surgical Services

Darci Kettleborough

Marisa Setchell

Allison Longmire

Patsy Marks

Kori Bullock

Jamie Olsen

Lori Etzbach

### OSF Saint Clare Surgical Services

Lisa Ackerman

Julie Anderson

Kristal Bray

Christine Debosik

Sarah Dresbach

Kara Dycke

Taylor Fay

Amy Mertes

Danielle Ramer

Krissa Ramirez

Vanessa Rosales

Christy Quait-Ohlson

### Radiation Oncology

Dawn Walker

### OSF Saint Elizabeth ICU

Justyna Meagher

Jahni Thrall

Ashlee Dye

Jonni Stricklin

Elizabeth Shinkey

Amanda Lyle

### OSF Saint Elizabeth OB

Alyssa Mundt

### OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa and Peru Med/Surg

Alley O'Brien

### OSF Saint Paul Med/Surg

Stephanie Francis

Paige Wittenauer

### OSF Saint Clare Med/Surg

Marcy Clark

Biatris Escatel

Jessica Fiocchi

Hannah Mellentine

Joan Normanczyk

Jamie Williams

### OSF Saint Elizabeth Behavioral Health

Andrea Foster



### LEVEL 3

#### **OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa/Peru Surgical Services**

Caitlin Flanigan

Haley Kristensen

#### **OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa/Peru Outpatient**

Caitlin Hozie

# NURSES SERVING IN THE COMMUNITY



## **Run Today for Tomorrow 5k**

Andrea Foster, April Brandt and Ashley Freitag

## **Drop-In Ottawa Inclusive Group Activities (throughout the year)**

Andrea Foster

## **Starved Rock Regional Center volunteer nurse**

Katie Burdette

## **Under His Wings Ministry – large pantry restock**

OSF Saint Elizabeth – Outpatient and surgery  
departments

## **Ottawa Pads Shelter Meal provided for 83 shelter residents**

I-80 Nursing Leadership team

## **Starved Rock Country Marathon, Safety town and community education events for stroke and heart attack care**

Kelly Wasilewski

## **OSF Community Gardens**

Many nurses across the region volunteered to  
tend to our gardens in 2025. Harvests were  
donated to local food banks

## **OSF I-80 Softball Classic**

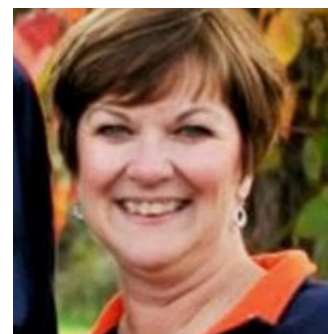
Many nurses across I-80 participated in the  
annual OSF I-80 Softball Classic in May 2025.  
The orange team was crowned the champion for  
the 2nd year in a row!

# FAITH'S CLOSET: HONORING A NURSE'S LEGACY IN SERVICE TO OTHERS

On August 10, 2023, OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa Emergency Department nurse, Faith McNamara, passed away. Faith worked at this OSF HealthCare facility for more than thirty years. Many would describe Faith as the “matriarch” of the department, always taking exceptional care of her patients and of her peers. During Faith’s memorial services, her family directed any memorial funds to go to the OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa Emergency Department, her “home away from home.” Faith’s spouse worked with Amanda Los, MSN, RN, on a plan to use the funds to honor Faith’s legacy of caring for the community.

On September 24, 2024, Faith’s Closet was officially placed in the OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa Emergency Department and was functional for clinical nurses and patients. Faith’s Closet was hand-painted by local artist Amanda Weygand of Open Space Art Gallery.

To date, Faith’s Closet has been used almost daily to provide clothing items for patients in need. Clinical nurses and nursing assistants communicate with the community engagement team of volunteers to ensure that the closet is always properly stocked so they can continue



to provide this socially sensitive care for our patients in need.

While the physical memorial closet is in the OSF Saint Elizabeth – Ottawa Emergency Department, clothing from the program is also available in the OSF Saint Elizabeth – Streator and OSF Saint Elizabeth – Peru Emergency Departments, OSF Saint Paul Emergency Department, along with Saint Clare’s Closet in Princeton, so the nurses can continue to provide socially sensitive care for patients in need across the organization in Faith’s memory.

# VISIT OUR I-80 NURSING EXCELLENCE AND MAGNET RECOGNITION PORTAL TO STAY UP TO DATE ON NURSING NEWS AND OUR JOURNEY TO MAGNET DESIGNATION

**Follow the pathway below:**

One OSF Portal > Facilities & Services > Select SEMC, SPMC or SCMC > Under “Featured Resources” on the left side of the page, select the first resource titled Nursing Excellence & Magnet Recognition

**Featured resources:**

- Our Nursing Professional Practice Model (PPM)
- Photo library of our nurses
- Our 2025 full Magnet document and Magnet resources
- Newsletters and presentations
- Nursing strategic plan
- Annual reports
- Nursing awards and recognitions
- Message from our CNO

## NURSING EXCELLENCE & MAGNET RECOGNITION

|                             |                              |                         |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Professional Practice Model | Photo Library                | 2025 Magnet Document    |
| Magnet Champion Resources   | Newsletter and Presentations | Nursing Strategic Plans |
| Annual Report               | Awards and Recognition       |                         |



OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth - Center for Health  
111 Spring St., Streator, Illinois

OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center - Ottawa  
1100 E. Norris Dr., Ottawa, Illinois

OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center - Peru  
925 West St., Peru, Illinois

OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center  
1401 E. 12 St., Mendota, Illinois

OSF HealthCare Saint Clare Medical Center  
530 Park Ave. E., Princeton, Illinois

[osfhealthcare.org](http://osfhealthcare.org)