



MEDIA RELEASE

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Health Care Workers of the Year Awarded by the Kansas Hospital Association

(Nov. 24, 2021) – The Kansas Hospital Association recognizes hospital employees who have made a significant contribution to the betterment of their hospital through the Health Care Worker of the Year Award. Hospitals across the state nominated individuals because they routinely go above and beyond the call of duty.

For the past several months, we have been recognizing individuals who were nominated for the Health Care Workers of the Year. All of these candidates demonstrated excellence in health care and routinely went above and beyond the call of duty. To just be nominated from all the employees at each hospital is an honor. So as you can imagine, it was hard for our KHA Allied Organization presidents to select our four 2021 Health Care Worker of the Year Awards recipients.

- Missy Hampel, Director of Nursing, Ascension Via Christi Hospitals in Wichita, St. Francis Campus, Wichita
- Heather Hyler, Chief Nursing Officer at Wilson Medical Center, Neodesha
- Kathryn McMillen, Chief Nursing Officer for St. Luke Hospital and Living Center, Marion
- Jo Neill, Infusion Therapy, Infection Control and Employee Health Nurse, Coffey County Hospital, Burlington

These awardees were announced at the KHA Virtual Convention and Trade Show. Twelve additional hospital employees were nominated and recognized:

- Kristy Bunker, Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center, Chanute
- Kim Dixon, The University of Kansas Health System, Kansas City
- Cecilia Goebel, Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital, El Dorado
- Judy Herder, NMC Health, Newton
- Karen Hynek, Nemaha Valley Community Hospital, Seneca

- Donata Long, Rush County Memorial Hospital, La Crosse
- Kevin Oehme, Ascension Via Christi Hospital, Manhattan
- Tara Overmiller, Phillips County Health Systems, Phillipsburg
- Cynthia Reimer, Olathe Health, Olathe
- Julie Thomas, The University of Kansas Health System St. Francis Campus, Topeka
- Amy Turner, Wamego Health Center, Wamego
- Jennifer Watts, Children's Mercy, Kansas City

The Kansas Hospital Association is a voluntary, non-profit organization existing to be the leading advocate and resource for members. KHA membership includes 251 member facilities, of which 123 are full-service, community hospitals. Founded in 1910, KHA's vision is Optimal Health for Kansans.

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