



Center for Nursing Excellence Fund

It has been said that a nurse is often the first person someone sees when they enter the world and the last person they see before they leave this world. In between these life-defining hallmarks, a nurse touches someone's life in countless ways, applying their skills, knowledge & compassion. What greater honor could a life's work hold?

St. Luke's nurses make a difference: whether through direct patient care, serving as health care administrators, or educating/mentoring nursing students or new nurses. Our nurses are on the front lines of St. Luke's health care delivery teams and are truly the foundation of our network.

Our nurses are committed to providing safe, compassionate, quality health care to our patients, their families, and the community. They support patients when they receive difficult news, share in their achievements, and provide clarification when they are confused about their care. Nurses share in the joy of welcoming newborns into the world and provide comfort and reassurance to patients during their last hours.

St. Luke's is committed to providing an environment within our hospitals and communities that fosters nursing excellence through professional and personal growth. The Center for Nursing Excellence was created to provide a forum to support nurses in their lifelong commitment to learning and self-development. It is managed by nurses for the purpose of advancing the profession of nursing.

The Center for Nursing Excellence Fund was able to provide educational opportunities for more than 600 St. Luke's nurses over the past year.

153 nurses attended the 2014 Regional Nursing Summit

109 nurses attended the 2013 Regional Nursing Summit

308 nurses attended the 2013 Trauma Conference

6 certification review courses were offered

21 nurses became certified or recertified

8 educational scholarships were awarded

8 nurses attended conferences

Nursing is a dynamic profession. Advances in the treatment of diseases and new technologies are continually evolving. It is critical that our nurses are at the forefront of those changes so they can deliver care that will result in the best possible outcomes for our patients, who deserve nothing less.

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Continuing education for nurses is not an option; it is imperative. St. Luke's currently employs 2,500 nurses, many of whom must be recertified on a regular basis to continue to practice their profession. Many of our nurses aspire to bachelor, master, or doctorate degrees to enhance the skills needed to provide safe, quality care to our patients. Still others undertake research projects because they want to discover ways to improve patient care outcomes.

St. Luke's is committed to help our nurses become the best they can be and has established an endowment with seed money from a \$300,000 gift provided by the Auxiliary of St. Luke's in 2012. Our goal is to grow the Center for Nursing Excellence Endowment to at least \$2 million, which would provide an estimated \$100,000 in interest earnings annually to fund ongoing education/research needs for nurses who truly make a difference in the lives of our patients every day.



Of course, gifts of any amount to our Center for Nursing Excellence Endowment are welcome. However, you may want to consider creating a permanent legacy for yourself or another person you may wish to honor by establishing a named endowment. A named endowment fund is invested, and each year, a portion of the revenue generated by the endowment (typically 5%) is used to support the professional development and educational needs of our nurses. The corpus of the endowed fund is never spent so that it continues in perpetuity.

The minimum level needed to establish a named endowed fund for the St. Luke's Center for Nursing Excellence is \$10,000. An endowed fund may be created over three to five years by establishing a pledge that is filled incrementally with annual payments.

For More Information:

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