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Bristol Hospital Nurse Achieves National Recognition For Quality Nursing Care

BRISTOL, Conn.—The Coalition for Improving Maternity Services (CIMS) has announced that Christy D’Aquila, RN, BSN, a staff nurse in Bristol Hospital’s Families Are First unit has been awarded national recognition as a Mother-Friendly Nurse.

A resident of Glastonbury, D’Aquila also provides childbirth education as a Birthing from Within mentor on Families Are First. CIMS is proud to recognize D’Aquila, who is helping women throughout Greater Hartford have the healthy and joyous births that they deserve. D’Aquila started at Bristol Hospital in 2006.

She received a bachelor’s degree in human

development and social relations from Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, and she also received a bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi.



“Christy has a heart for laboring women as no one I have ever seen,” said Ellen Pappalardo, RN, IBCLC, a Bristol Hospital certified lactation consultant. “She seeks to be current on all issues in childbirth, while also looking back to older wisdom from around the world. She encourages and teaches while supporting laboring mothers and advocates for them during hospital births.”

“It was evident during the application process that Christy provides evidence-based nursing care as she supports the choices the mothers make during the labor and birth process,” added Marilyn Hildreth, RN, IBCLC, chair of the CIMS Mother Friendly Nurse Recognition Award. “D’Aquila demonstrates what it means to be a Mother Friendly Nurse.” (more)

CIMS developed this national recognition process to send the important message that all birthing women deserve the excellent service of Mother-Friendly nursing care. Mother-Friendly Nurse recognition is a personal and public recognition of nurses who provide maternity care services in a manner consistent with the principles and 10 steps of the Mother-Friendly Childbirth Initiative.

CIMS is a coalition of individuals and national organizations with concern for the care and well-being of mothers, babies and families. The CIMS mission is to promote a wellness model of maternity care that will improve birth outcomes and substantially reduce costs. This evidence-based mother-, baby- and family-friendly model focuses on prevention and wellness as the alternatives to high-cost screening, diagnosis and treatment programs.