

For Immediate Release

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EXCELLENCE IN NURSING AWARDS PRESENTED

Nurses Honored for Advocacy, Outstanding Caring, Clinical Practices

(HARTFORD, Conn.) – Three Saint Francis *Care* nurses have been presented with the Hospital’s first-ever *Excellence in Nursing Awards* as part of the observance of National Nurses’ Week.

Each of the nurses honored received a \$1,500 prize funded by Joseph and Irene Triompo in recognition of the role that Saint Francis has played in their lives.

The three winners were selected by a committee of nursing managers, directors and educators from among 27 nurses who were nominated by supervisors, co-workers and physicians.

Renee Hardware, R.N., of Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, was recognized for caring practices in providing treatment responsive to the unique needs of patients and their families, creating an environment that is compassionate, comforting, and therapeutic.

Susan Keefe, A.P.R.N., of Saint Francis’ Palliative Care Service, was honored for her advocacy on behalf of patients and their families by assuming a leadership role to sensitively identify and help resolve complex ethical and clinical concerns.

Stella Kimball, R.N., of Saint Francis’ Unit 10-9, was recognized for clinical practices in which she integrates active listening and effective communication with nursing knowledge, skills and experience to promote the best possible outcomes for patients and families.

“These three nurses exemplify our philosophy of ‘Caring Hearts and Healing Hands’ which has been a hallmark of nursing at Saint Francis for 113 years. We salute this trio and all of the more than 1,500 nurses on our staff as they follow in the tradition of Florence Nightingale, whose birthday we mark during National Nurses’ Week,” said Kate Roche, M.S.R.N., Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

“We are deeply indebted to the Triompo family, not just for their generosity, but also for their recognition of the important role our nurses play in providing for the well-being of the community,” said Patti Lamonica, R.N., M.S.N., Interim Vice President, Patient Care Services.

Founded in 1897, Saint Francis is a major teaching hospital licensed for 617 acute inpatient beds and 65 bassinets. It is the largest Catholic hospital in New England.