DAISY Award Says Thank You to Our DAISY Nurses

Jacob Spaun, RN
May 23 ceremony, 6 Silver, Oncology

Jacob’s Nomination Story – “My husband, Jared, is no stranger to being a patient at EvergreenHealth. In 2000, as a 13-year-old, he was critically injured by an accidental gunshot wound. The injury changed his life. He struggles with daily pain, having suffered several bowel obstructions and undergone several surgeries. Most recently, he was hospitalized with yet another bowel obstruction and had to have surgery. Day one post-op, we were blessed to have Jacob assigned as his nurse. This particular day was very difficult for Jared as it was hard to manage his pain. Jacob was absolutely amazing. He was determined to get Jared comfortable. He asked questions and spoke to Jared like a person. He listened and always followed through. He took the extra time to answer our questions and help. As Jared started to meet his daily goals, such as going on a walk, Jacob was so proud. He shared his excitement and encouragement, and this helped keep us determined! As a nervous wife who has had countless nights helping Jared recover, I cannot say it enough: I am so impressed by Jacob’s passion, dedication and kindness. Jacob deserves to be recognized for his natural ability to help make our dark day a lot brighter.”

Oncology Manager Kris Boes, RN, with honoree Jacob Spaun, RN

DAISY nurses rely on their colleagues to help provide the exceptional care for which EvergreenHealth is known.

Jacob’s wife, Krista, and their sons, Caden (2-1/2) and Logan (6 weeks), attended the ceremony

All Our Nominees

Please join us as we recognize the following nurses, all of whom were nominated for a 1st quarter DAISY Award ... for providing exceptional care for our patients and families: Maria Amy Aquino, Telemetry; Elizabeth Barnum, 6S, Oncology; Parminder Bhandal, PCU; Kimmi Blanchard, FMC; Maia Boyd, ED; Heather Bradford, Midwifery; Holly Card, Home Health; Ebrima Ceesay, Telemetry; Jay Cullinan, Home Health; Richard Eckert, Hospice Home Care; Karen Feliciano, 7S, Ortho, Spine & Neuro; Karen Fredrickson, Hospice Home Care; Jennifer Hanson, 8S, MedSurg; Sandra Hawkinson, Hospice Home Care; Rebecca Knight, Home Health; Jennifer McKinlay, FMC; Dawn Meyer, Healthline; Marjorie Miner, 8S, MedSurg; Lesley Mitchell, 8S, MedSurg; Dat Phung, 8S, MedSurg; Alla Polyanskiy, Home Health; Crista Quinn, FMC; Joan Robinson, Hospice Home Care; Kim Swift, Home Health; Suong Tran, 6S, Oncology; and Kathleen (Kath) Tyler, Hospice Home Care.

THE DAISY AWARD IS AN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO RECOGNIZE EXTRAORDINARY NURSES.
The DAISY Foundation was established in 1999 by the Barnes family in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, who died (at the age of 33) from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP). DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System. Touched by the remarkable care, clinical skills and compassion demonstrated by nurses during Patrick’s illness, the Barnes family made it their mission to recognize exceptional nurses around the country. Please look for DAISY nomination forms at nursing units, any of our volunteer desks, or online by clicking here.

Dana’s Nomination Story, excerpted from three nominations by his colleagues in the ED

“Dana Booth represents a calm and stable force as night shift charge RN at the Redmond ED. His countless years of experience provide for balanced and sensible decision making. Dana manages the duties of charge RN and patient care together seamlessly without taking his finger off the pulse of the entire unit.

“One night last month, however, his usual role of charge nurse took on a new dimension when our only MD on duty began to have cardiac trouble while the department was full of patients. Dana didn’t miss a beat, juggling the multiple decisions required to problem solve this unique situation. In less than 10 minutes he treated and prepared the MD for 911 transfer to Cath Lab, managed the other patients in the department, and secured an MD replacement to ensure ongoing high quality, uninterrupted patient care for the rest of the department. Dana’s leadership skills, concise decision making and clear communication provides the framework for the ED staff that facilitates quick and efficient action. It’s a pleasure to work with such a competent and committed nurse. I’m sure the MD felt secure and safe in his care.”
**Scott Samuels, RN**  
*June 8 ceremony, CCU*

**Scott’s Nomination Stories**, for his care of two patients

“Upon our arrival in the CCU, Scott introduced himself with a calm confidence. He filled in details of my upcoming care professionally. Throughout my stay, he always provided me with his insights and things I might like to know. It was soon apparent that his colleagues also respected his skills and abilities. Yet no matter how busy he was, he always made sure my call button received a prompt response, by another nurse if need be. We were quickly able to establish a rapport thanks to his caring and sharing attitude.

“I feel that Scott’s manners and attitude exemplify the ideal behaviors for any nurse, as he always went the extra distance to make sure that I, his patient, had the best care and most detailed information.”  – Dwight

“A very caring, thorough and calm person who shows great kindness and compassion. Makes me feel safe and cared for. He goes above and beyond in explaining things to me and my family, and is someone I would trust.”  – Ron

“Scott, thanks so much for being a caring and involved individual whom we can totally trust. We feel confident that Ron is getting the best care possible on your watch. Thank you so much.”  – Cathie

Each DAISY nurse receives a hand-carved sculpture made for The DAISY Foundation by an artist from the Shona Tribe in Zimbabwe. Healers are regarded by the Shona people as treasures, and the well-being and safety of the healer is of community-wide importance. Click here to see a video of Shona artists demonstrating the process of turning stone to sculpture.
Kris Laursen, RN
June 10 ceremony, NICU

Excerpts from Kris’ Nomination Story

“I am nominating Kris Laursen for the DAISY Award because he is an outstanding nurse, absolutely meets the criteria and has made a huge impact on my life. I first met Kris the day after my daughter was born at 27-weeks’ gestation. I was in her room in the NICU, traumatized, overwhelmed, in shock and grieving. Kris was not our nurse that day, but when he saw me standing in the doorway with my pumping supplies, evidently looking lost, he came in and very patiently and thoroughly explained how to capture, store and label any colostrum and later milk that would come in, as well as how to clean the supplies and where to store them for the next pump. It might have seemed like a little gesture, but to me it felt like an anchor ...

“I tease Kris that he’s a therapist as well as a nurse because he listens to my fears and concerns and offers wise advice that has helped me maintain some peace. For me, it’s critical to feel heard and understood so I can trust my wishes are taken into consideration. Kris has spent so much time with me when he didn’t need to, walking me through what each of the monitors show, what each of our baby’s probes do, what the next milestone means and where we are now, allowing me to be as involved in understanding her care as possible. And I very much trust he cares about my baby as he is incredibly gentle with her, has funny jokes with her about her more opinionated personality traits (“No one tells Valentina what to do!”) and keeps in contact with other nurses about her progress even when he isn’t working ...

“He is as delighted with milestones reached as I am. Today he excitedly pointed out my baby’s eyes during cares, which were open and searching for the first time ...

“Recently he planned a “spa day” and taught me how to bathe her, encouraging me to bring in the soap of my choice. It was just wonderful to be able to wash and touch her entire body. My baby’s first bath! Kris also encouraged me to bring in preemie clothes I had received as a gift, so that we could dress her before she grows out of them. Such special mom moments that I will always cherish.

“I’m profoundly grateful for the quality of care we’ve received. Kris is an extraordinary nurse and person who deserves recognition and appreciation for his work. I hope he is considered an excellent candidate to receive the Daisy Award!”

DAISY on the Web
All our DAISY nurses are featured on the Web. To read more stories or to nominate an exceptional nurse, visit www.evergreenhealth.com/daisy.