
ABNS

American Board of Nursing Specialties

Promoting Excellence in Nursing Certification

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aurora, OH (April 13, 2004)

CONTACT: Bonnie Niebuhr

Chief Executive Officer

ABNS

330-995-9172

The American Board of Nursing Specialties Selects Recipient for 2004 Nursing Certification Advocacy Award

The American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) announced today that Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was selected as the recipient of the **2004 Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy**. The announcement was made by Ann Corrigan, Chair of the ABNS Awards and Recognition Committee, at the biannual Assembly Meeting of ABNS, held March 6, 2004, in Phoenix, Arizona.

“This award publicly recognizes individuals and organizations that advocate for, or promote specialty nursing certification, thus leading to quality patient care,” stated Corrigan at the meeting. Award recipients engage in activities related to certification that:

- Benefit the public by promoting quality patient care and ensuring safety
- Have influence beyond the individual or organization level – impact is felt community wide, state-wide, nationally, and/or internationally
- Inform the public about specialty nursing certification and its value
- Influence the process, standards, legal mandates relevant to specialty nursing certification specifically and/or certification in general
- Advance the cause of specialty nursing certification

The programs in place at Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center support nurses seeking certification and recognize those that have succeeded and truly advance the value of nursing certification. Registered nurses receive (1) reimbursement for certification examination fees and recertification fees; (2) assistance with forming study groups; (3) review courses; (4) a one-time bonus of \$250 if certification is not required for one’s position; (5) recognition in the hospital newsletter; and (6) a watch – a highly sought after symbol of certification. Plaques located on each nursing unit publicly recognize certified nurses. Over one-third of the Registered Nurse staff is certified in over 40 specialty areas of nursing. One hundred percent of the nursing unit supervisors and over 55% of the nurse managers and directors are certified.

The Award will be presented to representatives of Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center by the ABNS Vice President, Shannon Carter, MA, CAE, on May 5 - 6, 2004, in conjunction with Nurses Week. The awards ceremony will be held at the hospital. It is through efforts such as those demonstrated by this year’s award recipient that the ABNS vision – ***Specialty nursing certification is THE standard by which the public recognized quality nursing care*** – will be achieved!

###

Editors Note:

The American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) is a membership organization that maintains a national peer review program for nursing specialty certification. The mission of ABNS is to promote the value of specialty nursing certification to all stakeholders. Currently, twenty-three ABNS Regular Members and one Associate Member Organizations represent nearly half a million specialty certified registered nurses and its seven Affiliate Members include providers of key certification-related testing products and services. One Public Member represents the consumer’s perspectives on issues about specialty nursing certification. For further information about ABNS, visit www.nursingcertification.org or email Bonnie Niebuhr, MS, RN, CAE, Chief Executive Officer, at ABNSCEO@aol.com.

610 Thornhill Lane ~ Aurora, OH 44202
Phone: 330-995-9172 ~ Fax: 330-995-9743 ~ E-mail: ABNSCEO@aol.com
www.nursingcertification.org