

Rising Star Award 2020

THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA MUST BE MET:

A RN for less than two years who possesses superior nursing skills, is knowledgeable about current nursing and healthcare issues, demonstrates strong potential leadership characteristics and goes above and beyond the normal role demands to make a difference and affect change by exhibiting the following behaviors:

1. Care – creates a caring environment.
2. Compassion – shows sensitivity to the needs of others.
3. Communicate – personalize care for every patient, helping them feel listened to, cared for and understood.
4. Courage – exceed expectations by going the extra mile.
5. Commitment – deliver quality service as promised.

Rising Star Award Nominees and Winner:

DANIEL STEWART, RN, ICU

Daniel is the perfect candidate for Rising Star. Despite being a relatively new nurse with less than 2 years experience, he is so well composed during emergencies. From the moment Daniel was hired he fit right in with the staff and was a true example of the Phelps Pride Standards. Starting off as a per diem employee, he was encouraged by both day and night staff. To pursue a full-time position. During Covid, Daniel was not hesitant and had a lot of courage to seek guidance from fellow colleagues when following protocols. He communicated his needs all while taking great care of his patients. In the short time he has been. A nurse he has shown so much growth and expanded knowledge that we know he is destined for greatness.

EDWINA MARC, RN – 5 SOUTH

Edwina has exhibited a thorough understanding of what is expected of her and the needs of the unit in her short time as a nurse. She has shown such growth as a nurse. I have witnessed her use her critical thinking skills to question orders and advocate for her patient. One example of this is when she notified the provider of facial asymmetry that was never documented on one of her patients. She questioned her decision because the patient did have a history of stroke. In the end she did decide to notify the provider which lead to a Code

Stroke being called. The patient was fine in the end but if she had not questioned this who knows what the patient's outcome could have been. She also picks up shifts when the unit is short. These are just a few reasons that I believe she deserves to win the Rising Star Award.

WINNER. WINNER. WINNER. WINNER. WINNER

LOURDES MENDEZ, RN OPERATING ROOM

LOURDES MENDEZ IS A RECENT PERIOPERATIVE NURSING FELLOW GRADUATE. She worked her way through nursing school while working full time as a med surg tech in the ASU and Pain Center. Working and going to school is just one example of her dedication to the nursing profession, even before putting on the ID Badge that says "Nursing", RN.

As a Phelps RN, Rising Star, Ms Mendez creates a caring environment by treating all of her patients and family with compassion. While the "awake" interactions with patients in the Perioperative setting are fleeting, Ms Mendez maximizes her "detectable compassion" through her ability to communicate with patients by explaining what is going to happen in the OR during their procedure – which is reassuring and reduces anxiety the patient may have.

Lourdes's prior work as a med surg tech gives her the unique perspective of understanding and interacting with employees in roles other than that of RN. As one of her preceptors during her fellowship, I was able to witness her interactions with staff and see first hand how she is able to work closely with and encourage everyone to provide the Magnet care that Phelps is known for in the community. She is sensitive to the needs of others through her committee work on the LGBTQ+ Committee and by bringing that work back to the OR.

During her fellowship and now as a graduate of the program, Lourdes, has consistently shown her commitment to delivering excellent nursing care through her attention to detail and by asking questions and learning as much as she can about the tasks assigned to her. As a proactive RN, she is frequently seen researching a case that she has not worked, so that she is prepared for everything that may come her way.

Her courage during the COVID surge and then back in the OR is evident through her consistent willingness to take on new challenges, such as being the first Nursing Fellow Graduate in her cohort to take assignments on her own and moving to the evening shift, where a staffing need existed.

Lourdes Mendez is an RN that exemplifies the Phelps Pride Standards, it is an honor to nominate her for the RISING STAR AWARD 2020!