

APRIL 2022

Garnet Health.

# Gems

Exceptional  
Lives Here.

**Growing in  
harmony.**

*The beauty of our diversity.*

*"The real world can't be just black and white,  
we need all the colors of the rainbow in order to grow."*

ARTWORK BY  
Gabrielle Kolb

# Cyberattacks on the Rise: Be Vigilant and Be Prepared!

The U.S. is currently at increased risk for cyberattacks, and all healthcare systems are on high alert. The Garnet Health IT team does an excellent job of protecting our network and infrastructure, but they need YOUR help to ensure our safety and the safety of our patients!

**Please practice the following regularly to keep yourself and Garnet Health safe from a hacker:**

- Treat every email with suspicion.
- Pay attention to the “FROM” email address, especially if an email looks odd.
- Never click on a link or download a document unless you are 100% certain that it is safe to open.
- ALWAYS forward suspicious emails to [spam@garnethealth.org](mailto:spam@garnethealth.org).

**There are also things you can do to prepare if our computer systems become unavailable:**

- Have contact information for all staff and vendors on paper in case files become encrypted.
- Print important documents that you may need to access.
- Review your downtime procedures.

If an IT security incident occurs, follow directions from the Incident Command Center and your supervisor.

## Quality Corner

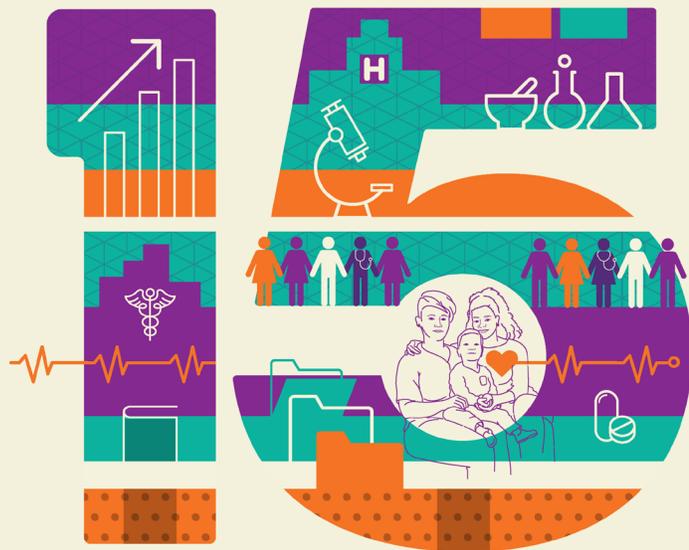
### And the survey says...

We recently welcomed the DNV to conduct our annual survey at all three hospitals. The annual process ensures that actions initiated in response to survey activities are making a difference in the care provided to patients. Thanks to COVID-19, it was another challenging year, but again we demonstrated our ability to push through as a team to achieve our goals. Overall, our surveys were excellent! Some positive comments:

- Surveyors were very impressed with our organization. The Life Safety Surveyor noted our hospitals to be the cleanest and shiniest he's ever seen.
- Many noteworthy efforts were identified, such as nutrition services, infection control, medical staff credentialing, sterile processing, staffing, nursing documentation, care improvements.
- Surveyors were impressed with the overall quality management system. They were blown away with our use of ISO standards and noted two exceptional areas: people management and leadership commitment.

We will receive our formal reports shortly. Thank you for making our surveys a success! A big congratulations goes out to all clinical and nonclinical staff!

If you have questions about the 2022 DNV survey, contact Mary Ellen Crittenden at [mcrittenden@garnethealth.org](mailto:mcrittenden@garnethealth.org).



## YEARS OF DRIVING CHANGE

# Healthcare Equality Index 2022

Promoting Equitable and Inclusive Care for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Patients and Their Families



HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FOUNDATION

#HEI2022

HRC.ORG/HEI

## Garnet Health Named a Top Performer by Healthcare Equality Index for Dedication to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Garnet Health's ongoing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion while interacting with our patients and their families, our physicians, our workforce, our business partners and the diverse communities we serve, has earned the health system a score of 95 out of 100 as well as the designation of "LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Top Performer" in the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 15th anniversary edition of the Healthcare Equality Index.

The Healthcare Equality Index is the nation's foremost benchmarking survey of healthcare facilities, and their policies and practices are dedicated to the equitable treatment and inclusion of LGBTQ+ patients, visitors and employees. The HEI evaluates and scores healthcare facilities on detailed criteria falling under four central pillars:

- Foundational Policies and Training in LGBTQ+ Patient-Centered Care
- LGBTQ+ Patient Services and Support
- Employee Benefits and Policies
- Patient and Community Engagement

Our Top Performer recognition acknowledges Garnet Health's efforts in striving to ensure LGBTQ+ people are protected and affirmed, and feel safe whether seeking healthcare services or as a member of our workforce.

To learn more, contact Ann DiAgostino at [adiagostino@garnethealth.org](mailto:adiagostino@garnethealth.org) or Jodi Goodman at [jgoodman@garnethealth.org](mailto:jgoodman@garnethealth.org).

### ON THE COVER:

This January, Garnet Health launched an art contest to showcase what an expression of diversity, equity and inclusion would look like in art form. After viewing several submissions, the Wellness Committee chose artwork by 3 South Nursing Assistant, Gabrielle Kolb.

Gabriella started painting as a hobby with her mother approximately four years ago.

She created her winning submission during COVID-19. When the call for artwork was announced, she felt that it was the perfect opportunity to give her painting a purpose. Thank you for sharing your talent and your beautiful work with us, Gabriella!



## GHMC Announces 1199 Nurse of Distinction Nominees

We are proud to announce the 2022 Garnet Health Medical Center 1199 Nurse of Distinction nominees for each of the following categories, as voted by their peers:



<b>Leader:</b> <b>Shanita Reynolds,</b> <i>MSN, RN, CMSRN (PACU)</i>	<b>Nurse of Distinction:</b> <b>Sue Allen,</b> <i>BSN, RN (Cath Lab)</i>	<b>Nurse Preceptor:</b> <b>Robert Lotz,</b> <i>BSN, RN, CRRN, CMSRN (4 East)</i>	<b>Novice Nurse:</b> <b>Amanda Brands,</b> <i>BSN, RN (4 East)</i>
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These nurses will represent Garnet Health Medical Center at the 1199 Nurse of Distinction Gala on May 6, 2022, where they will compete against other New York State nurses in their respective categories. Regardless of the outcome, our nominees are already winners with us! Congratulations and good luck Shanita, Sue, Bobby, and Amanda!

## Hudson Valley magazine's Nurse Excellence Awards

Congratulations and best of luck to four Garnet Health Medical Center nurses who have been nominated this year for *Hudson Valley* magazine's Nurse Excellence Awards! Winners will be announced at the live event on May 4, 2022, at the Poughkeepsie Grand, Poughkeepsie, New York. Our nominees are:



<b>Marina Carbone,</b> <i>BSN</i>	<b>Alexandra Monell,</b> <i>RN, BSN</i>	<b>Pamela Pugliese,</b> <i>BSN, RN, CMSRN</i>	<b>Soraya Urban-Bell,</b> <i>RN</i>
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A panel of independent judges will select the Top 20 Nurses from this year's class. These Top 20 as well as the 2022 Top Nurse will be recognized both at the event and in the magazine. Good luck!

# GHMC 2021 Employee of the Year Maryann Eldred Celebrates

GHMC-C's 2021 Employee of the Year Maryann Eldred, Callicoon Campus, received her official recognition on April 26. With staff and colleagues looking on, Maryann received a check, gift basket and lunch.

**Congratulations Maryann!**

*From left to right:  
Jonathan Schiller, GHMC-C CEO  
Jacqueline Palmer, Executive Chef  
Lori Ann Fredericks, Patient Service Manager  
Maryann Eldred, GHMC Employee of the Year 2021  
Colette Berger, CDM Director of Food & Nutrition  
Amanda Highhouse, RD Clinical Nutrition Manager*



# BEE

# AWARDS



## Buzzworthy: Compassion Takes Flight

### **GHMC 1st Quarter 2022 TEAM BEE Award**

**Jennifer Maloy, RN, and Joshua Reyes, RN**, both of 2 South, were recently recognized as Garnet Health Medical Center's 1st quarter team BEE honorees.

Earlier this year, the 2 North Team was coping with the loss of a hospital family member. When a prayer and support service were organized for the 2 North staff, Joshua and Jennifer volunteered to cover care for the 2 North patients so that the 2 North Team could attend the service. The kindness and support that Jennifer and Joshua showed for the 2 North Team is a great example of how they care for everyone around them and put others' needs first. Thank you, Jennifer and Joshua! Your care and compassion for our patients and your colleagues is outstanding!



### **GHMC-C 2022 March BEE**

**Tad Neidnig, DI CT Tech** at the Callicoon Campus, was chosen as Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills' March Employee of the Month. Tad is known for his outstanding work ethic. According to his peers, he actively seeks work during his "downtime." On many occasions, Tad responds to the Emergency Room entrance bell when a new patient arrives and assists in removing him/her from their vehicle.

On February 15, 2022, Tad went above and beyond his normal "above and beyond." Around 6 p.m., the ER was hit by a sudden surge of patients. Providers were quickly inundated with caring for the new arrivals, and Tad jumped right in to help. He completed EKG's, assisted in getting patients in and out of beds, and even escorted one patient to the bathroom and back, all to free up the nurses to provide the necessary medical care. Tad's commitment to his patients, his co-workers and to Callicoon in general is significant and special. Thank you, Tad, for all you do! We appreciate you!



### **GHMC 2022 March BEE**

**Michael Musslewhite, Industrial/Commercial Mechanic** in Maintenance, was selected as Garnet Health Medical Center's March Employee of the Month.

Michael is known for continuously working to keep things running smoothly in all the patient care areas. Recently, a steam shut down affected the sterile processing department and the OR. He immediately went to work, reaching out to the department leaders and coordinating a time to make repairs so that they would not impact patient care. Michael worked overnight, as to not affect the OR caseload and, ultimately, because of his quick work and communication, there was no impact to operations the next morning. Michael is a role model for others not only for his communication, but also for his integrity. He takes the time to understand processes and workflow, and works hard to make sure everything is compliant. Thank you, Michael, for your commitment to our departments and patient care, and for being such a great asset!



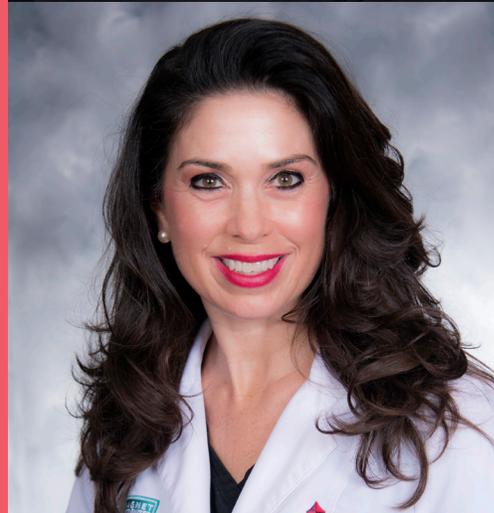
# Celebrating National Nurses Week

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**May 6 - 12**

At Garnet Health, our nurses are a critical component to helping us fulfill our mission to improve the health of our community. During National Nurses Week and every week, we thank our nurses for the expertise, dedication and compassion they demonstrate every day.

Pictured are just a few of the many outstanding nurses who call Garnet Health their employer of choice.







# THANK YOU!



## Celebrating National Hospital Week, May 8 – 14

We know our hospital family works hard to improve the health of our community by providing exceptional healthcare. And for that, we are grateful. To our amazing team of professionals — THANK YOU! We appreciate you!

Pictured are just a few of the many professionals, clinical and non-clinical, throughout the system that work hard to provide quality healthcare to our patients.



## Garnet Health Urgent Care Reaccreditation

Garnet Health Urgent Care has successfully completed its reaccreditation of the Goshen, Middletown and Monticello Urgent Care locations. Accreditation affirms our commitment to providing quality care, focused on patient safety and excellent clinical outcomes. Thank you to all who made this possible. Your dedication to our community in providing urgent care services is greatly appreciated!

To learn more about Urgent Care visit [garnethealth.org/urgentcare](https://garnethealth.org/urgentcare).

# Leading the Way



**Dr. Brendan R. Begnoche, PharmD**, has been promoted to Clinical Applications Manager. Brendan joined the Pharmacy team in September of 2021 as the Clinical Coordinator for informatics. Prior to joining Garnet Health Medical Center, Brendan was a clinical informatics pharmacist at Nuvance Health System. Brendan has a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from University of Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and has completed a PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Montefiore Medical Center as well as a PGY-2 Pharmacy Informatics Residency at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. He can be reached at [bbegnoche@garnethealth.org](mailto:bbegnoche@garnethealth.org).

**Ashley Miller, DNP, RN**, has been appointed to the position of Magnet Program Director. Ashley joined Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills in 2018 as the Clinical Nurse Manager for the Medical-Surgical/ Telemetry units (2W & 5E) and was promoted to Nursing Director later that year. Most recently, Ashley was recognized with her nurse leadership team for their work during the COVID-19 pandemic by the Sullivan County Democrat's Professional Women & Women in Business for 2021. Ashley began her nursing career at Geisinger Community Medical Center in Scranton, Pennsylvania, as a medical-surgical/trauma nurse. She earned her BSN from Wilkes University in 2015 and received her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from The Pennsylvania State University in 2018. Ashley can be reached at [amiller@garnethealth.org](mailto:amiller@garnethealth.org)



**Sarah Oboda** has been promoted to Manager of Clinical Applications in IT. She began her career as the Radiant credentialed trainer for the initial Epic go live, then left to work for UCLA Health System, Duke University Health System and Hackensack University Medical Center. Sarah rejoined Garnet Health in 2016 as the Lead Epic Ambulatory Analyst. She will continue to lead and manage the ambulatory team and will have oversight of the ASAP team in her new role. Sarah earned her Bachelor of Arts in English from Russell Sage College in Troy, New York. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with Program and Project Honors. Sarah can be reached at [soboda@garnethealth.org](mailto:soboda@garnethealth.org).

**Christina Haelen, RN**, has been promoted to Nursing Director of Neuroscience. In her new role, Christina oversees the Neuroscience Service Department and the Stroke Program at Garnet Health Medical Center. She is responsible for upgrades to Neurology Services, collaborating with interdisciplinary teams and planning for the expansion of our designated Primary Stroke Center Program. Christina joined Garnet Health as a RN on the Progressive Care Unit in 2016. She transitioned to the Interventional Radiology Team in 2018, where she became one of the primary Charge Nurses in Interventional Radiology. Christina can be reached at [chaelen@garnethealth.org](mailto:chaelen@garnethealth.org).





Do you ever park on one of the hospital campuses, whether it's because you are stationed there or you are visiting to conduct business?

If the answer is yes, ask yourself these questions:

1. **Is your vehicle registered with Security?**  
If not, (slowly) zip on over to the Security office and provide your vehicle's license plate number, year, make and model.
2. **Is your parking tag visible in your windshield?**  
If not, please make sure it can be clearly seen.
3. **New employee or nursing student?**  
Leaders, recruiters and nursing instructors, please remember to have new employees and students bring their vehicle information when they come to receive their ID badge!
4. **Remember to park in the appropriate employee and physician parking areas. Our patients and visitors thank you!**

If you have parking questions, please contact Greg Mills, Manager of Security, at 845-333-0309 or at [gmills@garnethealth.org](mailto:gmills@garnethealth.org).

## GHMC-C Recognized by the Liberty Rotary Club for COVID-19 Pandemic Response



GHMC-C CEO Jonathan Schiller (third from the left)

Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills was recently recognized by the Liberty, New York Rotary Club for outstanding performance over the past two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. CEO Jonathan Schiller accepted the Rotary Club's Hummingbird Award on behalf of Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills at the club's seventh annual Hummingbird Award and Paul Harris Fellow Recognition Lunch in Monticello.

The Hummingbird Award recognizes individuals doing their part to make the community, region, and world a better place.



It was truly an honor to represent all of the professionals at Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills and accept this award," said Schiller. "Their dedication and commitment to the community during the entire pandemic has been amazing and a true testament of our mission to improve the health of our community by providing exceptional health care.

— Jonathan Schiller



# Therapy Pups Bring Cheer to Monticello Urgent Care

No, Urgent Care is not going to the dogs! The Monticello Urgent Care staff recently welcomed a visit from their therapy pups, who put smiles on everyone's faces!



*From left to right:  
Yolanda Stechishin, MA  
Amanda Vargas, MA  
Andrea Machado, NP  
Joseph Barry, Rad Tech  
Paige Cintron, Receptionist  
Kelly Baudendistal, LPN*



## Mark Your Calendar for the GHMC-C Golf Tournament on July 13th!

**Calling all golfers, beginners and pros!** Join us for the Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills' 43rd Annual Golf Classic! The Golf Classic is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2022, at the Villa Roma Resort, Callicoon, New York. Visit [garnethealth.org/CatskillsGolfClassic](http://garnethealth.org/CatskillsGolfClassic) to learn more!

All proceeds will benefit the expansion of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program at Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills. This program is designed to improve a patient's overall cardiovascular health after a serious cardiac episode. Patients receive comprehensive, personalized care to help them recover, regain strength and mobility, reduce risk factors for future heart problems and ultimately restore quality of life.

If you don't golf, there are many other ways to support this worthy cause! Contact Deanna Schultz in the Garnet Health Foundation - Catskills Office at 845-333-8962 or at [dschultz@garnethealth.org](mailto:dschultz@garnethealth.org) to discuss fundraising opportunities, volunteering, and more!





# Save *the dates!*

## 2022 National Nurses Week and 2022 National Hospital Week Celebrations

**May 9 – May 13**

Join us for fun activities throughout the week celebrating YOU, our Garnet Health employees! **Be on the lookout for more details!**

### Monday, May 9

GHMC Luncheon 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Conference Rooms 1, 2 and 3

GHMC Evening Shift served 9:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Cafeteria

### Wednesday, May 11

GHMC-C Harris Campus BBQ

11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

Cafeteria

### Thursday, May 12

GHMC-C Callicoon Campus BBQ 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Food will be provided for overnight staff

Cafeteria

## National EMS Week

**May 15 – May 21**

When you see our EMS partners on site or in the field, thank them for all they do!

## Freedom from Smoking Workshop

**Starts May 17, 2022 • 5:30 p.m.**

\$25 for 7 sessions; offered in-person and virtually.

**Register at [garnethealth.org/events](https://garnethealth.org/events)**

## Act FAST Stroke Self-Care Forum

**May 18, 2022 • 7 p.m.**

Act FAST and join our virtual self-care forum and learn how you can prevent or spot a stroke.

**Register at [garnethealth.org/events](https://garnethealth.org/events)**

## 2022 American Heart Association Tri-County Heart Walk

**May 21, 2022**

Walk: 9 – 11:00 a.m. (rain or shine)

Harriman State Park, Lake Welch Beach

800 Kanawauke Road | Stony Point, NY 10980

**Get your team together and register at [tricountyheartwalk.org](https://tricountyheartwalk.org)**

## Grover M. Hermann Hospital Auxiliary's BBQ Chicken Dinner Fundraiser

**May 21, 2022**

Ticket price \$12, and only 400 tickets available

Dinners are pre-sold by: 1) calling 845-932-8104 2) Asking any GHH staff member, 3) emailing [bvtd7@aol.com](mailto:bvtd7@aol.com)

Dinners include half a BBQ chicken, macaroni salad, baked beans, a roll and cookies.

**Funds raised support the purchase of new equipment needed at Grover Hermann Hospital.**

## Donor Recognition Reception

**June 23, 2022**

The Barn at Villa Venezia, Middletown, NY

We are pleased to announce the return of our Annual Donor Reception, by invitation only, which is held as a thank you to our donors.

**We are extremely grateful for their continued support of Garnet Health!**

## Sporting Clays Tournament – A FUNdraiser for All!

**August 5, 2022**

Mid-Hudson Sporting Clays, New Paltz, NY

Save the date for our first Sporting Clays Tournament at Mid-Hudson Sporting Clays. Anyone, seasoned or beginner, will enjoy this exciting and fun sporting event that will benefit the Every Minute Counts Campaign, a fundraising effort for Garnet Health Medical Center Emergency Department's renovations and expansion.

**To register visit [garnethealth.org/giving/events](https://garnethealth.org/giving/events)**