

Daniel Ojeda, Customer Service Award Winner



Daniel Ojeda

As a member of Newport Hospital's environmental services department, Daniel Ojeda won high praise from colleagues. The nursing staff on the units to which he was assigned say he was hard-working, always smiling, ever willing to lend a hand, and consistently kind and respectful with patients.

In fact, his manner was so personable and friendly, and his interactions with patients so positive, that in April he took on a new position in central transport, where he can have more patient interaction.

His new manager, Margie Dunbar, says Ojeda has excellent customer service and communication skills. "He is great at putting patients at ease—he's just a very positive, dedicated young man, who is interested in doing what is best for his patients, and is friendly and supportive with colleagues."

His nomination for this month's customer service award also notes that Ojeda is enrolled in school and working toward the goal of becoming a certified occupational therapist.

A reception will be held in honor of the most recent customer service award winners in June.

Newport Hospital Honors Volunteers

Newport Hospital is often recognized for the many services it provides to the community. This past month, it was the hospital's turn to recognize the many services community members provide to staff and patients.



Newport Hospital's "Shining Star" volunteers: Kelly Johnson, Eric Shaw and Squall, and Nanci Stewart.

From comforting patients with massage therapy, to staffing the information desk and gift shop, to knitting hats for newborns, Newport's dedicated volunteers have a powerful impact within the hospital walls. The hospital recently recognized the commitment and generosity of its corps of volunteers at an awards luncheon, held at the Officer's Club at the Naval Station Newport.

The ceremony showcased all 262 hospital volunteers, with special awards given to long-term volunteers, some of whom have been volunteering their time and talents for 10, 15, even 25 years.

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Three volunteers were recognized with “Shining Star” awards, for particular dedication and commitment: Eric Shaw of Newport, and his golden retriever Squall, who bring canine affection to patients in the hospital’s behavioral health unit; Nanci Stewart of Newport, who volunteers three days a week at the hospital’s information desk; and Kelly Johnson of Newport, who provides assistance in the hospital’s executive administration suite.

DAISY Award to Joan Weaver, RN

This quarter’s DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses was given to Joan Weaver, RN, a clinical nurse II in the surgical services department. The DAISY Award honors a nurse who

has shown extraordinary compassion and care. The nurse may be nominated by his or her peers or by patients.

Newport Hospital was the first hospital in Rhode Island to participate in The DAISY Award program, joining the ranks of organizations committed to honoring their nurses throughout the year with The DAISY Award. This program was established by the family of a young man whose life was touched by nurses. The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses honors the compassion and care that bedside nurses provide their patients every day. The program was implemented by Newport Hospital’s Staff Nurse Council.

National Nurses Week in Newport

The theme of this year’s National Nurses Week, observed each year in May, was “Nurses lead the way.” And in every corner of Newport Hospital, nurses were leading, organizing and participating in events to recognize and support the valuable work of their colleagues.

Nurses week activities throughout the hospital included a drawing for donated baskets, with the proceeds supporting a fund for continuing education for nurses; a presentation by the New England Organ Bank on timely reporting of deaths (Newport currently ranks first in the state for timely reporting); formal recognition of all newly hired nurses, certified nurses and those nurses advancing on the clinical ladder; gifts and prizes; and more.



Among those celebrating National Nurses Week were Christina Trahan, Kerri Murphy, Ann Sheets, Joan Weaver, Jennifer Greene, Denise Sullivan, Cheryl Mulcahy, Theresa Nunes, and Gretchen Gannon.