

Maria Garcia, Customer Service Award Winner



Maria Garcia

When environmental services staffers are doing their jobs well, people tend not to notice. Rooms are clean and tidy, supplies restocked, garbage cans emptied, and it all seems to happen quietly and seamlessly. It's easy to take that kind of order for granted—but it takes a lot of hard work.

In the ICU, that hard work is supplied by Maria Garcia. She is the one bustling around behind the scenes, keeping things spotless and organized, clearing tables, folding linens and fielding requests with a smile.

“Maria is always pleasant and accommodating, not only with staff but also with patients, who often ask that she clean their personal tray tables,” reads her nomination for this month’s award. “Maria always restocks clean supplies. Garbage cans are emptied frequently and never overflow; staff never has to ask; the job just happens when Maria is here.”

Co-workers cite her cheerful demeanor, willing attitude and thorough approach to her tasks. She is helpful and collaborative with colleagues and responsive to patients, taking requests and letting the nursing staff know when a patient needs something.

“We honestly miss her when she has a day off,” writes a colleague. “Maria is a definite asset and a treasure.”

Welcome Reception for Crista Durand on July 10



Crista Durand

Please join Timothy J. Babin-eau, MD, Lifespan’s president and chief executive officer, at a special reception on July 10 to welcome Crista Durand, Newport Hospital’s incoming president. The reception will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the hospital’s Hill Courtyard.

All employees are encouraged to attend this special reception where they will have the opportunity to meet our new president, who officially assumes her new role on August 1.

Kudos Corner

Congratulations to **Lauren Freitas, OTR/L**, occupational therapist at the Vanderbilt Rehab Center, on achieving assistive technology professional (ATP) certification. An ATP certified clinician has demonstrated competence in analyzing the needs of patients with disabilities, assisting them in selecting the appropriate devices needed, and then training them on the new device. To win certification, Freitas had to pass an exam and meet educational and work experience requirements. Kudos as well to inpatient rehab aide **Silvia DeOliveira**, who recently graduated from CCRI with an associate of science degree in nursing. DeOliveira has spent two years working days in Vanderbilt, doing 12-hour clinical rotations, going to school at night and on weekends—all in addition to singing and playing guitar in her band.



Honoring Our Own

Thanks and congratulations to all who were honored at the annual employee awards celebration last month. The hospital recognized 119 employees in categories ranging from longevity to patient care. Pictured here, **Carol “Cricket” Meehan, RNC, BSN**, receives the Employee of the Year Award, for exemplifying the values of respect and dignity of the individual, excellence, honesty and fairness, stewardship of resources, and teamwork. **Yara Pires**, a mental health aide in the behavioral health unit, was this year’s recipient of the Rev. John W. Dorney Award, for providing exemplary direct patient care in a compassionate, competent and caring manner. The annual President’s Award went to the Newport Laboratory staff.



Newport Hospital’s diagnostic imaging department recently conducted its annual fundraiser in memory of Donna Hittie, a friend and colleague who died from colon cancer. All money raised goes to support the hospital’s employee cancer screening program and the Rhode Island Coalition for Colon Cancer. Pictured from left are diagnostic imaging staffers **Kelly Blanchard, Rae-Ann Lawrence, and Susan Marshall**, with Interim President Arthur Sampson.

Newport Hospital's
Swinging on a **Star**

Newport Hospital’s “Swinging on a Star” Gala will be held on Thursday, July 10, at Ochre Court, Salve Regina University. The evening gets under way at 6:30 p.m., and will feature cocktails, dinner, live auction and dancing. For more information and tickets, visit: <http://giving.lifespan.org/SwingingOnAStar>

A stylized illustration of a woman in a blue dress with white stars, swinging on a rope that is attached to a large, brown, five-pointed star. The background is a dark blue sky with white stars and a pattern of smaller, lighter blue stars.