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## Cory's Column

a conversation with Mary Greeley CNO,  
**Cory Geffre**

After much deliberation, discussion, and discernment this will be the last Nursing Newsletter. Although the newsletter is filled with important information, much of this information is available other places. The writing and coordination of the nursing newsletter takes considerable time as well. We believe those efforts are better applied to other projects.

Honestly, I loved writing Cory's Column once per month. Some months it was easy to write an uplifting message and others it was very difficult. Specifically, I remember toiling about what to write during our COVID surges. Sometimes I was able to get the message just right and other times I missed the mark. Yet, I often received encouragement. I have appreciated the notes, emails, and feedback I have received over that last 40+ columns.

We are still brainstorming ways to share a written update periodically so stay tuned for that plan. There are still things to share and updates to be made. There is a small group of people hoping that I move my updates to a TikTok channel ... I do not think the world is quite ready for that ... you never know what the future holds.

Even though there will be one less source for information, please make a commitment to stay connected. Please attend Employee Updates, attend department meetings, and join a shared decision-making team or nursing councils. There are plenty of ways to get information that allows you to stay informed.

In closing, I want to thank those that have put so much time and effort into this newsletter. Special thanks to our nursing educators, community relations team, and nursing professional practice. Thank you for your commitment, persistence, and dedication to publishing on time month after month.

Thanks everyone for all you do for this organization.

Speak Soon,

*Cory G*  
Cory Geffre, MSMSL, BSN, RN  
Vice President / Chief Nursing Officer



# Time for the RN Survey!

Amy Stark, MSN, RN-BC, NE-BC, CENP  
DIRECTOR OF NURSING PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

The vision at Mary Greeley is To Be the Best, so we want to be the Best Place to Receive Care, the Best Place to Work, and the Best Place to Practice Nursing. Patient survey results are used to measure the patient's perception of care, and the RN Survey results are used to measure the nurse's perception of the work environment and nursing practice.

Mary Greeley nurses will participate in the annual RN Survey in October 2022. The National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators® (NDNQI®) offers the survey to direct care RNs in member hospitals. As an NDNQI member, Mary Greeley participates in this free survey to compare our work environment and nursing practice to other hospitals, identify opportunities, and make improvements. Over 158,000 RNs from more than 370 hospitals responded last year.

Last year, the participation rate at MGMC was less than 70%. This year, our participation goal is 80%. The results of this survey will be submitted with our Magnet document in February 2023.

If you have any questions about the RN Survey, please contact the survey coordinator, Amy Stark, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, NE-BC, CENP.

## Who: Eligible nurses (RN or APRN)

- Direct patient care provider
- 50% or greater direct patient care responsibilities, regardless of job title
- Full-time, regular part-time, part-time or PRN RN employed by MGMC
- Employed in a unit a minimum of 3 months by the first day of the survey

## What: 2022 NDNQI RN Survey

**Where:** The computers on your unit or any computer with internet access, including your home computer, if you prefer

**When:** October 3-23 (Please note the survey needs to be completed in one sitting and may take up to 20 minutes.)

**How:** Eligible nurses will receive instructions on how to access the survey. Be sure to check your MGMC email and mailbox.

**Why:** To help Mary Greeley be the Best Place to Work and the Best Place to Practice Nursing.

**KEY DIRECTIVE: INNOVATION:** Nurses uses data, research, evidence-based practice, quality improvement and new ideas to improve outcomes and cost-effectiveness.

## Congratulations Nurse Resident Graduates!

Brenda Barfels, RN (IFHH) & Sidney Epp, RN (Med/Surg), completed the Nurse Residency Program in September 2022. The Nurse Residency Program supports new graduate nurses in their first 12 months transition from student nurse to professional nurse. Nurses who complete the Nurse Residency Program advance from RN1 to RN2 on the RN Career Pathway, which includes a 2% increase in pay. Please help us congratulate Brenda and Sidney!



Brenda Barfels, IFHH



Sidney Epp, Med/Surg

**KEY DIRECTIVE: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Nurses participate in learning activities to develop competence needed to support the needs of MGMC, our patients and our community.



# READY TO PURSUE YOUR BSN?

You're invited to meet our  
Preferred **Academic** Partners

## OCT 4

6–8 PM in Atrium AB

15 minute presentations  
will begin at 6:15 p.m. Feel  
free to stop by any time.

**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY.  
GLOBAL

- Online RN to BSN program
- Various start dates



- Hybrid RN to BSN program
- Full-time, 1-year program (Fall start only)
- Pre-requisites required

## What are Preferred Academic Partner Programs?

Educational partners that offer a low to no cost program/degree for Mary Greeley employees, and in some cases, family members.

- ✓ Successful completion of the Nurse Residency Program is required prior to starting the program
- ✓ Must get prior approval from Human Resources before starting the application process to verify eligibility and complete paperwork
- ✓ If an employee participating in a Preferred Partner Program leaves within 3 years of program completion, they must pay back what MGMC has paid on their behalf (not to exceed \$10,500).



## **SAVE THE DATE!**

To honor the compassion and care nurses provide every day, the Workforce Experience Council invites you to

## **THE DAISY AWARD KICKOFF CELEBRATION**

**Wednesday, October 26, 2022**

**11:00am – 1:30pm**

**Atrium A Conference Room**

The DAISY Award was established by the DAISY Foundation in memory of J. Patrick Barnes who died at 33 of ITP, an auto-immune disease. The Barnes Family was awestruck by the clinical skills, caring and compassion of the nurses who cared for Patrick, so they created this international award to say thank you to nurses everywhere.



**Mary Greeley**

MEDICAL CENTER

Doing what's right.

# Great Iowa Nurses Program is Back!

Honoring great nurses is the goal of Great Iowa Nurses, a non-profit program that recognizes nurses in the state of Iowa and spotlights qualities that demonstrate efforts beyond those expected of a nurse within their normal duties.



100 Great Iowa Nurses was established in 2004 and hosted by the University of Iowa until 2020. In 2022, with the support of Mary Greeley Medical Center, the program, now called Great Iowa Nurses, is returning to recognize Iowa nurses that routinely go above and beyond every day and take that extra step to ensure safe, compassionate care for their patients. These great nurses share their experience and knowledge to improve the health of their communities. They also take on leadership and mentoring responsibilities, serving as role models for everyone they work with, especially those just entering the profession.

The Great Iowa Nurses program will be starting fresh and providing the opportunity for previous winners to be nominated and selected again. The program will allow nurses to be re-selected every five years, should they continue to do great things worthy of this recognition.

Selected nurses represent many sectors of health care, including, but not limited to, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and school and office nurses.

Please submit your nominations for Great Iowa Nurses at [greatiowanurses.org](http://greatiowanurses.org). Nominations are open until October 15. Also, please like our [Great Iowa Nurses page on Facebook](#) and share with your friends!

You can purchase your [Great Iowa Nurse t-shirts](#) from Raygun.



Special thanks to the Mary Greeley staff who have revived the Great Iowa Nurses Program: Amy Dagestad, MSN, MBA, RN, NE-BC, RNC-OB, (Maternal Child Services), Cory Geffre, MSMSL, BSN, RN, (Administration), Amanda Lass, MSN, RN, NE-BC, (Med/Tele 140), Amy Stark, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, NE-BC, CENP, (Nursing Professional Practice), John Meyer, EdD, MBA, BSN, RN, (Outpatient Specialty Clinics), and Jessica Carter (Community Relations).

## Key Directives

**Advocacy:** Nurses advocate for patient quality and safety.

**Teamwork:** Nurses trust, respect, support and communicate with each other and our colleagues.

**Service to Our Community:** Nurses maintain a strong community presence in a variety of outreach programs.

**Leadership:** Nurses stimulate, inspire, empower, influence, motivate, encourage and challenge each other and our colleagues to be the best.

**Shared Decision-Making:** Nurses make autonomous decisions about nursing practice standards, quality improvement, professional development and professional image.

**Compassion:** Nurses care for our patients, colleagues, and community.

**Professional Development:** Nurses participate in learning activities to develop competence needed to support the needs of MGMC, our patients and our community.

**Innovation:** Nurses use data, research, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, and new ideas to improve outcomes and cost-effectiveness.

## ■ NURSING NEWS Staff

**Nursing Administration:** Cory Geffre, MSMSL, BSN, RN, Vice President/Chief Nursing Officer

**Editor:** Amy Stark, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, NE-BC, CENP, Director of Nursing Professional Practice

To contact Nursing News with questions about a story or to contribute an original article call Amy Stark at **ext. 2720** or e-mail [starka@mgmc.org](mailto:starka@mgmc.org).

