



TRANSITION FROM NURSING STUDENT TO RN TO CRRN®

Judy Chuli RN MS CRRN® NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Officer
Amelia Monteguedo BSN CRRN®, Nurse Manager
Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital, Worcester, Mass.

Introduction

- In response to the nursing shortage, supporting nursing education is essential to helping the profession grow.
- Fairlawn established the Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital Scholarship in June 2004 to provide three \$5,000 scholarship awards each per year to Worcester State University nursing students who are willing to commit at least one year of service to Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital after graduation.
- The Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital Clinical Excellence Award was established to provide one \$250 award annually to be given to a graduating senior who has demonstrated excellence in a nursing clinical setting and has an interest in orthopedics or rehabilitation medicine.



“Receiving the scholarship assisted in relieving some of the financial stress, and knowing I had a job after graduation allowed me to focus on my education.”

Sarah Pisa, BSN
Scholarship Recipient 2012/13

Implementation

- The Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital Scholarships are available to seniors in good academic standing in WSU Nursing School.
- Scholarship recipients must sign a letter of agreement that they are willing to work a year at Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital following graduation.
- To obtain the scholarship, the student must also submit an essay describing his/her passion for rehabilitation nursing.
- Preference is given to applicants who intend or have completed a preceptorship at Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital, or are current or former employees of Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital.
- Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital also hires students as rehabilitation nurse techs/personal care assistants to give opportunity to practice basic nursing skills and gain familiarity of the rehab environment.



“The success of the rehab patients helps motivate me and inspires me to provide the best possible care I can for patients and their families.”

Andrea Pouliot, BSN
Scholarship Recipient 2012/13

Results

- Since June of 2005, there have been 12 recipients of the Fairlawn Hospital Scholarship and eight recipients of the Fairlawn Rehabilitation Nursing Clinical Excellence Award.
- 33% of the nurses have completed their CRRN® when eligible.
- 17% of recipients have received training and are currently in leadership positions within the nursing department.



“More than a dozen students who have participated in the Fairlawn WSU partnership have embraced rehabilitation nursing as their career path. Alyssa Reed, one of the original scholarship recipients, recently earned her national certification as CRRN® and now serves as a preceptor for incoming seniors for WSU,” (Worcester Telegram May 4, 2011).

Alyssa Reed, BSN CRRN®
Resource Nursing Supervisor
Scholarship Recipient 2005/06

Conclusion

- Rehabilitation is Fairlawn’s sole focus.
- Nurses dedicate all their skills and knowledge to a single goal—improving each patient’s functional abilities through intensive, individualized therapeutic services.
- Helping patients to attain that goal is enhanced by Fairlawn’s relationship with Worcester State University, and our continuing support of future rehab nurses.



2005 – 2013
FRH CEO Peter Mantegazza (left)
WSU Leadership (center)
FRH Former CNO Mary Aleksiewicz (right)

References

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Promoting partnerships in Nursing Education (Feb 2009). Retrieved Apr. 2, 2012 from <http://pweb1.rwjf.org/reports/grr/059054.htm>

Tim M. Henderson, MSPH, Susan B. Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN. Hospitals and Philanthropy as Partners in Funding Nursing Education. Nurs Econ. 2007; 25(2):95-100, 109. Retrieved Apr. 2, 2012 from http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/556419_4

Hospital News Massachusetts. *Hospital-College partnership addresses nursing shortage*. New England News Clip. Westborough, MA. (September 2006.)

Ashley, J., Richer, R.,. *Nursing a strong partnership* (2011). Worcester Telegram, Editorial section, (May 4, 2011).