

2024



Nursing Annual Report





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Message from Micah Johnson, Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer

I have been blessed in my nursing career to work alongside many compassionate nurses. This year, our team was presented with multiple opportunities to practice with compassion, and you all have shined through each time with compassion and integrity. These opportunities allowed our profession to demonstrate our intense focus on safe, patient-centered care by extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Your desire to seek answers and protect our patients is why our community trusts us to care for their lives.

As nurses, we are members of the largest health care profession, which brings a professional responsibility unshared by many other professions. Our community depends on us to bring evidence-based care to the bedside and connect the entire health care team to the patient. As transformational leaders, we must appreciate this responsibility and work to elevate the care provided through new knowledge and innovation. Through our shared governance structure, we will continue to improve our nursing practice, benefiting the bedside.

I deeply appreciate each of you and the work we have accomplished as a team. Your dedication to providing safe and compassionate care is inspiring. As we further understand how we can best care for our community, I am confident that our nursing team will continue to strive for excellence.


Micah Johnson, MHA, MSN, NE-BC, RN
Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer

CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System

The logo consists of several white-outlined rounded rectangles of varying sizes arranged in a cross-like pattern. A large vertical rectangle is on the right, with a smaller horizontal one on top and another on the left. To the right of the left one is another horizontal one, and below the left one is a larger vertical one.

Our mission

Our mission at CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System is to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.

Our nursing philosophy

The philosophy of nursing at CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System supports and reflects our mission to “extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ” and encompass the core values of CHRISTUS.

- We believe that our patients’ needs direct our approach to care. We understand that the patient and their family are an integral unit. We acknowledge that this relationship must be supported throughout the healing or dying process. We encourage the participation of the patient and their family in identifying care needs and participating in the care, as appropriate.
- We believe in respecting the worth of every patient. We acknowledge differences and seek to provide care with a non-judgmental attitude. We recognize the vulnerability of our patients and are committed to maintaining their privacy, while ensuring a safe and comfortable environment.
- We believe in promoting honest, open and respectful relationships with our patients, their families, our physicians and co-workers. We understand that effective communication is critical in providing safe, patient-centered care. We encourage our patients and all members of the health care team to openly and respectfully communicate regarding care and service delivery.

- We believe that excellence in nursing practice is best achieved when nurses take an active role in shaping their practice environment. We understand that a shared governance process allows nurses to have an active voice in nursing leadership, professional practice, professional development, outcomes management, communication and recognition.
- We believe that as nursing professionals we are responsible and accountable for our practice. We understand that our practice should be supported by evidence-based research. We accept our responsibility to monitor our outcomes to ensure that we consistently provide safe and appropriate care. We acknowledge that we are not perfect and that we have opportunities for improvement. We are committed to finding solutions for those identified opportunities.
- We believe in providing care to the whole person with a spirit of empathy, care and compassion. We understand that this care must address the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of the patient. We acknowledge as nurses that we must be fully present to our patients during each interaction. We are committed to understanding the impact of the illness on their life, their family and their home environment. We will assist our patients in achieving maximum wellness or when this is not possible, a peaceful, spiritual and dignified death.
- We believe in the wise use of our resources. We understand the need to work collaboratively with all health care professionals to provide care in a quality and cost-effective manner. We will not withhold or abuse the use of precious resources in the care of our patients.
- We believe in continual learning. We understand that through professional growth we will become more valuable to our patients, our families and our community. We acknowledge our responsibility to seek the educational resources necessary for growth. We recognize that as we gain expertise, we must share our knowledge with our co-workers.
- We believe that professional nurses are the coordinators of patient care. We understand that we must provide leadership for our team members. We recognize that we are responsible for ensuring the implementation of the nursing process. We support the team patient care delivery model and recognize the importance of collaboration with physicians and other clinical disciplines in planning and delivering care.

Professional Practice Model

Our Professional Practice Model illustrates the use of our mission and core values as the roots of our professional practice. Nurses are the support of the environment, supported through a strong work environment, faith-based atmosphere and standards of care. The shared governance councils are represented as branches on the tree, leading to patient and family-centered care and quality outcomes. Compassion remains at the heart of our nursing care.



Professional Practice Model

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Magnet Recognition Program

Mission

“The Magnet Recognition Program will continually elevate patient care around the world in an environment where nurses, in collaboration with the interprofessional team, flourish by setting the standard for excellence through leadership, scientific discovery and dissemination and implementation of new knowledge.”¹

At CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System, we are committed to the Magnet domains:

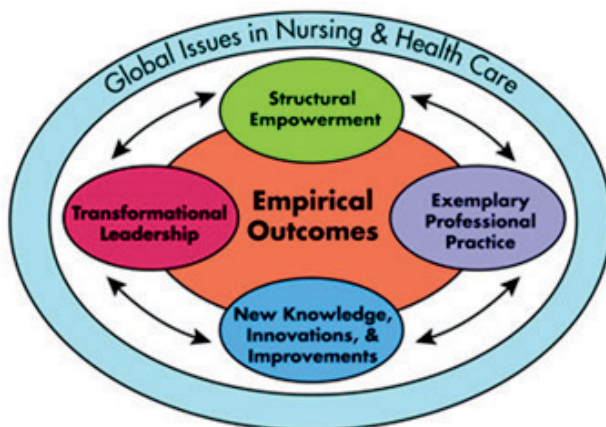
Transformational Leadership: It describes how nursing leadership partners with others in the organization to drive nursing excellence and quality outcomes.

Structural Empowerment: It defines nurses’ involvement in shared decision-making through our Shared Governance Councils. Other components include professional development strategies and community involvement.

Exemplary Professional Practice: It describes our practices and processes used every day and the outcomes that have been achieved.

New Knowledge, Innovations and Improvement: This demonstrates implementation of evolving technology and new evidence into nursing science.

Empirical Outcomes: These outcomes are found within the four domains. These demonstrate evidence of nursing excellence.



Magnet designation



Magnet-recognized health care organizations have undergone an intense designation process that includes a written document and a site visit by Magnet appraisers. The designation signifies a commitment to nursing excellence and stellar patient outcomes. Magnet designation is the gold standard for nursing excellence, and obtaining designation puts hospitals in an elite group: There are only 613 Magnet-designated facilities worldwide. As of August 2024, only 9.7% of all U.S. hospitals are designated Magnet.²

CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System earned Magnet designation in 2020. On Aug. 1, 2024, our written document was submitted for redesignation. It truly is a demonstration of the extraordinary care provided by CHRISTUS St. Michael nurses each day.



1 American Nurses Credentialing Center (2021). Magnet Recognition Program: 2023

Magnet Application Manual. III, 1.

2 American Nurses Credentialing Center (2024).

Transformational Leadership

Celebrating retirement

Louise Thornell, Vice President/ Chief Nursing Executive

After 39 years of service at CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System, Louise Thornell, chief nursing officer, retired. During a retirement ceremony in her honor, Louise was presented with the DAISY Lifetime Achievement Award. This esteemed award was created to recognize nurses who have devoted their life's work to the compassionate care of others. Recipients of the award are nominated for their dedication to nursing through active mentoring, role modeling, advocating for their patients and promoting the positive image of nursing.² Those who have worked with Louise recognized her for her unmatched work ethic, desire to drive nursing excellence and compassion for the community. Congratulations on a tremendous career and best wishes for retirement!

² DAISY. (2023). DAISY Lifetime Achievement Award.



Cindy Davidson, PCU Clinical Director

In March 2024, Cindy Davidson, BSN, RN, clinical director for PCU (4 North), retired after serving in her role for 13 years. Best wishes for a happy retirement!



New nurse leaders

Micah Johnson, Vice President and Chief Nursing Executive

In January 2024, Micah Johnson began as chief nursing officer for CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System. Micah returns as a familiar face to many, having previously worked at CHRISTUS St. Michael-Texarkana and CHRISTUS St. Michael-Atlanta, where he served as administrator and chief nursing officer. He brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership experience. Micah lives in Atlanta, Texas, with his wife and two daughters.



New clinical directors



Jenni Hedrick, MSN, RN, Clinical Director, Labor and Delivery



Morgan Frierson, BSN, RN, Clinical Director, CHRISTUS St. Michael Emergency Department - Texarkana



Lucas Cummings, BSN, RN, Clinical Director, CHRISTUS Emergency Center



Amanda Wise, BSN, RN, Clinical Director, 4 South



Amy Vaughn, BSN, RN, Clinical Director, PCU

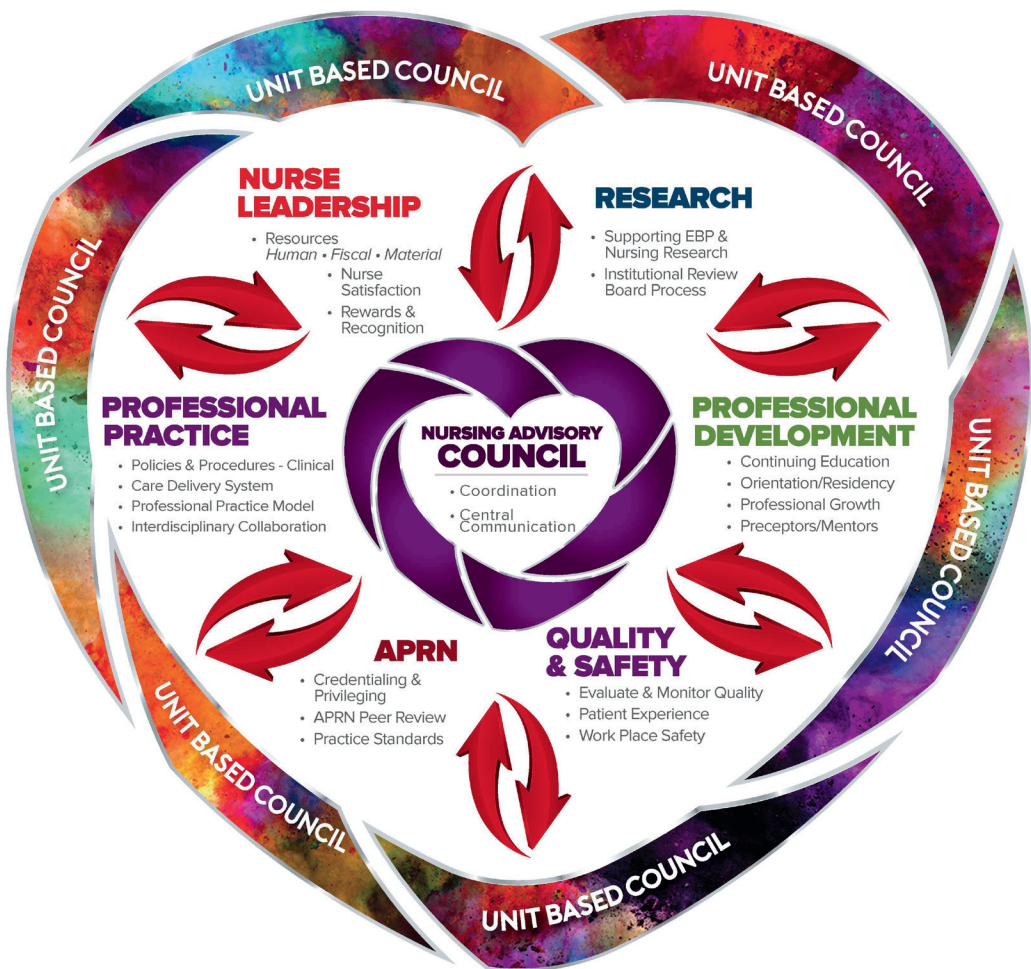


Mandy Howell, MSN, BS, RNC-NIC, C-ONQS, HACP-CMS, Quality Manager

Structural Empowerment

Nursing Professional Governance Model: The voice for nurses

The CHRISTUS St. Michael Nursing Professional Governance Model is represented as a heart that demonstrates continuous flow of collaboration between our unit-based councils, organizational level nursing councils and the Nursing Advisory Council. All councils are led by clinical nurses. Professional governance provides nurses with a voice in their practice environment, which influences patient outcomes.



Council highlights

Nursing Advisory Council

The Nursing Advisory Council (NAC) is the central communicator and coordinator for all shared governance councils. NAC is comprised of the unit-based council chairs from each nursing department. NAC provides guidance on issues that affect nursing. This council is the driving force behind many nursing events, including the annual Nursing Excellence Awards. Council highlights

Quality and Safety Council

The Quality and Safety Council hosted two interdisciplinary safety fairs, the first on Nov. 30, 2023, and the second on March 17, 2024. The events provided education on topics such as infection prevention, safe patient handling, fall prevention, suicide prevention, Joint Commission readiness and many more topics.



Nursing Professional Practice Council

The Nursing Professional Practice Council reviews and amends all nursing policies in accordance with hospital protocol. This has included reviewing and amending countless policies to reflect changes incurred with the EPIC conversion.

The Nursing Professional Practice Council collaborated with nursing leadership to create guidelines for the discharge lounge. The lounge will allow a place for appropriate discharged patients to comfortably rest while waiting on transportation home. The discharge lounge will allow improved throughput for admissions from the Emergency Department.

Nursing Professional Development

CHRISTUS St. Michael supports professional development through conference attendance. The Nursing Professional Development Council approved numerous conference applications to allow nurses to attend national conferences to network and learn — bringing back the most current evidence-based practices in health care. The council has worked to select and provide certification preparation courses to encourage clinical nurses to pursue certification in their specialty.

Conference attendance 2023-2024

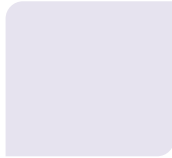
- Jennifer Buster: International Simulation in Health Care, January 2023
- Mandy Howell, Rebecca Barr and Teresa Smith: Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers Bad Baby Summit, February 2023
- Susan Dryer and Marie Simms: AORN, April 2023
- Harli Kilgore and Madison Pike: NTI, May 2023
- Krista Fisk: Wild on Wounds, September 2023
- Nicole Cole: ENA, September 2023
- Chevi Moore: Association for Vascular Access, October 2023
- Sherry Roberson, Jenni Hedrick and Glen Vourrene: Magnet Conference, October 2023
- Amber Nelson: AORN, March 2024
- Stephanie Fritts, Jessica Jez and Miranda Craig: Airborne Transport, May 2024
- Morgan Frierson: ENA, September 2024
- Stacey Breedlove: Magnet Conference, October 2024
- Mandy Penny: Advances in Premature Lung Protection, November 2024

Magnet Rewards and Recognition Council

The focus of the Magnet Rewards and Recognition Council is nursing communication, recognition and retention. The council plans and hosts Certified Nurses Day and Nurses Week each year. All Magnet-related activities and planning are also coordinated through this council. The council serves as the nomination selection committee for DAISY and Sunshine Awards. Recent accomplishments also include the development of a recognition program for newly certified and degreed nurses.

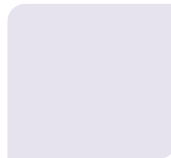
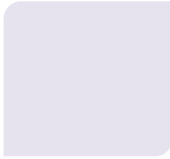
National Certified Nurses Day

The ANCC honors nurses who are certified in their specialty each March on National Certified Nurses Day. This year, the Magnet Rewards and Recognition Council treated certified nurses to a March Madness-themed celebration and certified nurse pins.



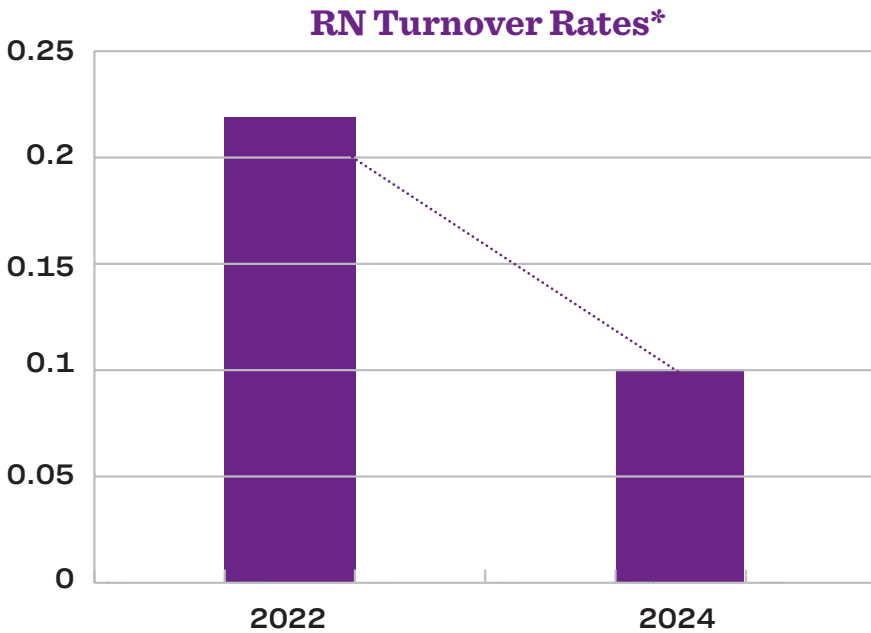
National Nurses Week

The Magnet Rewards and Recognition Council planned and hosted a treat-filled week for National Nurses Week! The week allowed nurses to be recognized for the tremendous work they do each day to care for our patients and families.

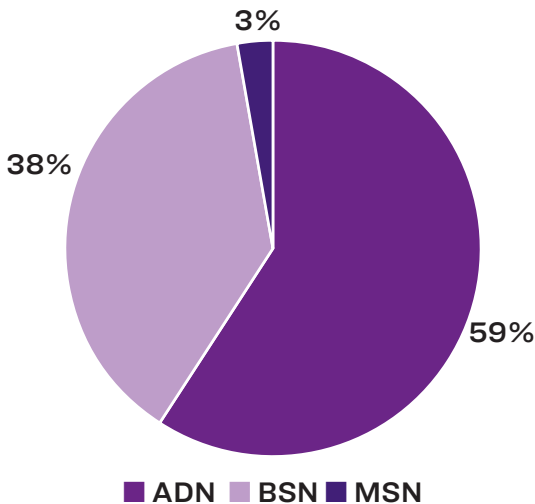


Nursing excellence: Certification, degrees and retention

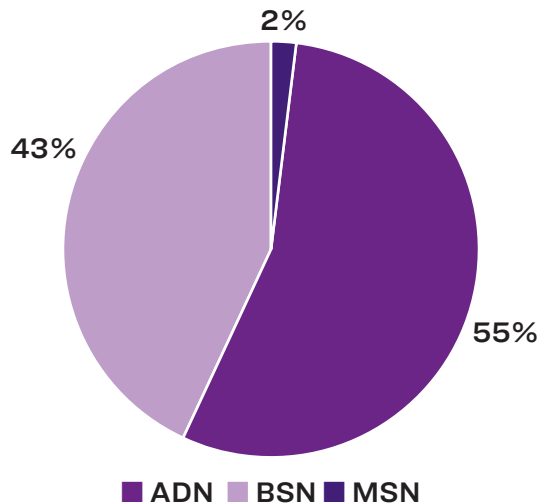
A requirement of our Magnet designation is ongoing monitoring and reporting of RN degree levels, certification and turnover for clinical (bedside) nurses. The data is reported on a biannual basis to ANCC Magnet as a demonstration of the ongoing pursuit of excellence.



2022 RN Breakdown by Highest Degree



2024 RN Breakdown by Highest Degree



*As reported to ANCC Magnet for time periods ending June 30, 2022 and Dec. 31, 2023

Exemplary Professional Practice

CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System submitted its Magnet document for redesignation on Aug. 1, 2024. The document reflected compliance with Magnet program requirements for the timeframe of Aug. 1, 2020, through Aug. 1, 2024. This includes demonstration of nursing excellence in nationally recognized quality benchmarks.

Nursing excellence scorecard

Magnet-recognized facilities must demonstrate nursing excellence through outperformance in nationally benchmarked nurse sensitive indicators (NSIs) over the last eight consecutive quarters prior to document submission. CHRISTUS St. Michael utilizes Press Ganey NDNQI to determine outperformance when compared to other Magnet-recognized facilities. Inpatient units must demonstrate outperformance in at least four NSI categories, while ambulatory nursing departments must demonstrate outperformance in three NSI categories.

The following four inpatient NSI categories were submitted as a demonstration of nursing excellence and outperformance:

Inpatient nurse sensitive indicator (NSI)	Percentage of reporting units outperforming national benchmarks per Magnet standards
Catheter-acquired urinary tract infection (CAUTI) per 1,000 patient days	81.8%
Central-line acquired bloodstream infection (CLABSI) per 1,000 central line days	72.7%
Falls with injury per 1,000 patient days	90.9%
Health care-acquired pressure injuries (HAPI) stage 2 and above	72.7%

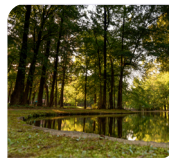
The following three ambulatory NSIs were submitted as demonstration of nursing excellence and outperformance:

Ambulatory nurse sensitive indicator (NSI)	Percentage of ambulatory nursing departments outperforming national benchmarks per Magnet standards
Falls with injury per 1,000 patient visits	90%
Patient burns	100%
Surgical errors	100%

Leapfrog: Grade A

CHRISTUS St. Michael Hospital-Texarkana and CHRISTUS St. Michael Hospital-Atlanta both earned the prestigious Leapfrog Grade A in its most recent hospital safety survey. Of nearly 3,000 hospitals graded, less than one-third received an A rating. The organization uses more than 30 national performance measures, including:

- Nursing and bedside care for patients
- Nursing care for patients
- Percentage of nursing staff who are registered nurses
- Percentage of registered nurses who have a bachelor's degree in nursing
- Safe medication administration
- Medication reconciliation
- Health care-associated infections



Department wins

Women's and children's services

Kangaroo Care Awareness Day

International Kangaroo Care Awareness Day is a global event that aims to increase the use of holding a baby skin-to-skin, much like a kangaroo holding her young in her pouch. The practice has been proven to promote bonding, increase breast milk production, reduce anxiety and provide stress relief.

To honor Kangaroo Care Awareness Day, the NICU aimed for 3,000 minutes of kangaroo care. NICU families and associates surpassed this goal, logging a total of 3,980 minutes! Mother-Baby surpassed their 420-minute goal, reaching a total of 1,095 minutes!



NICU

Amanda Turley Scholarship Turkey Trot

The NICU Unit-Based Council organized and sponsored a 5K “Turkey Trot” in honor of Amanda Turley, NICU RN, who passed away on Nov. 30, 2023. The event was held on Nov. 16, 2024, at the Genoa High School cross country track. Money raised from the event was donated to the Amanda Turley Scholarship. Amanda was a longtime CHRISTUS St. Michael nurse who is greatly missed by all.



Emergency Department

Vertical care and CHRISTUS Emergency Center-Texarkana

In the fall of 2023, the Emergency Department implemented vertical care. The vertical care process provides an option for patients with lower acuity levels and nonemergent complaints to remain “vertical” as much as possible during their visit. The patients are seen by a team of nurses and providers instead of a dedicated nurse, decreasing wait time for the patient and improving patient flow in the ED.

On July 18, 2024, CHRISTUS Emergency Center-Texarkana opened its doors, providing 24-hour emergency services with 12 treatment rooms. The emergency center will help the hospital serve an additional 20,000 patients each year.



Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) are registered nurses who have undergone extensive training and certification to provide specialized care to survivors of sexual assault. To better serve our community, three Emergency Department nurses have completed the specialized training required: Mindi Wheat, Aubrey Bishop and Emily Tonkin. This commitment reflects our dedication to providing compassionate and comprehensive care for survivors of sexual assault.

Vascular access team

In November 2023, the vascular access team began providing vascular access assistance, including PICC line, Accucath and midline catheter placement. The goal of the team is to assist in the placement of IVs, while reducing the harm of unnecessary central line placements.

ICU

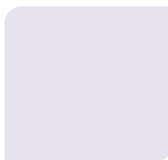
Bereavement baskets

The ICU team often sees families at their darkest times, including end-of-life situations. To offer comfort to families who are making the difficult decision to say goodbye to their loved ones, the ICU team, along with spiritual care, developed bereavement baskets. The baskets contain items such as tissues, bottled water, individually wrapped snacks and grief stones. Once a family decides to withdraw care, the basket is provided to them as a source of comfort. From July 2023 to March 2024, over 100 baskets were distributed.

Clinical education and simulation center

Simulation

Clinical simulation allows learning to occur in an environment that closely mimics an actual practice environment. Simulation was used for many events in FY24, including mock codes, new hire orientation, the PCT/extern programs, unit-specific education and the education preparation for the opening of the new CHRISTUS Emergency Center.



Nurse Residency Program

The Nurse Residency Program combines classroom education with simulation activities designed to enhance critical thinking skills and engage new nurses. Kimberly White, BSN, RN, SCRN, serves as the coordinator for the one-year program that is designed to ensure that new nurses successfully transition to practice. During FY24, 35 residents graduated from the Nurse Residency Program. CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System Nurse Residency Pathway Program is accredited with distinction as a Practice Transition Program by the ANCC's Commission in Accreditation in Practice Transitions Program.



Nurse Extern Program

The Nurse Extern Program is an exciting opportunity for second-year nursing students to begin their hospital careers while enhancing their traditional nursing program education. The program allows externs to gain knowledge through hands-on and classroom training. Lacey Duncan, BSN, RN, clinical educator, coordinates the program. Nursing resources manages the externs, which provides them with opportunities in many departments throughout the hospital.



Patient Care Technician Program

The Patient Care Technician (PCT) Program trains new Associates interested in beginning a career in health care to work as patient care technicians. The course is six weeks in length and is taught as needed throughout the year by Lacey Duncan, BSN, RN, clinical educator.



Acute care services

4 South reopens!

As CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System continues to experience growth and increased volumes, 4 South officially reopened as a telemetry unit during FY24. The unit has received updates to many rooms.

Cancer treatment center/infusion center

FY24 brought expanded services and a beautiful renovation to the outpatient infusion center. The renovation included individual infusion bays to allow privacy for patients receiving treatment.



Rehabilitation hospital

In August 2023, CHRISTUS St. Michael Rehabilitation Hospital earned a three-year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for meeting and exceeding the standards of services for improved patient outcomes, patient satisfaction and quality service delivery. CHRISTUS St. Michael Rehabilitation Hospital is one of only 472 inpatient rehabilitation hospitals in the country to have received the prestigious award that includes a nearly year-long survey with an on-site visit by CARF surveyors. The accreditation symbolizes the tremendous care provided by the therapists and nurses at the rehabilitation hospital.

CSMRH has worked to increase the number of Certified Registered Rehabilitation Nurses (CRRNs) among its staff. The team will finish 2024 with 51% of its nursing staff certified!

Atlanta

CHRISTUS St. Michael-Atlanta was recognized by the American Heart Association for exceptional care for stroke and heart attack patients. The hospital received Get with the Guidelines silver rural stroke recognition, bronze rural coronary artery disease recognition and silver plus coronary artery disease referring center recognition.



New Knowledge, Innovations and Improvement

New technology

EPIC

On July 1, 2023, CHRISTUS St. Michael completed a journey of EPIC proportions as they transitioned to EPIC as the new electronic health record (EHR). EPIC will improve communication during transitions of care.



NICU: NicView

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made, a nonprofit ministry designed to assist families whose babies are in the NICU, blessed the NICU with a financial gift that assisted with the purchase of the NicView Camera System. The technology allows live-streaming of the newborn for family members using a password-protected system.

MegaCode Kelly

The clinical education and simulation center welcomed a new, high-fidelity manikin during FY24: MegaCode Kelly. The manikin allows the simulation of airway management, cardiac-related skills such as rhythm interpretation, chest compressions, pacing and defibrillation, IV drug administration and trauma scenarios.



Improving care through research: CHRISTUS St. Michael nurse-led studies

Barbara Wright completes study: “Evaluating the Level of Comfort in ER Nurses Providing Emotional Support to Patients Who Have Undergone an Early Pregnancy Loss”

Barbara Wright, MSN, RNC-OB, maternal educator, completed her research study, “Evaluating the Level of Comfort in ER Nurses Providing Emotional Support to Patients Who Have Undergone an Early Pregnancy Loss.” The study found that nurses who received bereavement education felt higher degrees of comfort in caring for patients experiencing early pregnancy loss. On April 17, 2024, Barbara disseminated her findings to Texas A&M-Texarkana nursing students. She disseminated her findings to nursing leadership and emergency department associates on June 19, 2024.

Jennifer Buster/Misty Fuller begin study: “Do In-Situ Mock Codes Make a Difference in Code Team Response and Patient Outcomes?”

Jennifer Buster, MSN, RN, CCRN, CHSE, simulation coordinator, and Misty Fuller, MSN, RN, NPD-B.C., CMSRN, clinical educator/AHA Training Center coordinator, have begun a study to determine the significance in-situ mock codes have on code team responses and patient outcomes. Mock codes will be conducted in the adult medical-surgical and telemetry care areas to evaluate the response of the nursing staff and code team response, including time to begin CPR, time to provide defibrillation (if appropriate), appropriate drug use for scenario and teamwork. Following the in-situ mock code program, data analysis of actual codes will be conducted to determine the impact the program could provide to patient outcomes.

Heather Bidy: Head Strike Research Project

Heather Bidy, BSN, RN, VA-BC, trauma/stroke/chest pain program manager for Atlanta, is working on an 18-month retrospective study of patient data to identify the risks associated with hemorrhage after head strikes for patients not taking medications, such as anticoagulants and antiplatelets. Her findings will be used to update activation criteria used at CHRISTUS St. Michael-Atlanta to better meet the needs of Cass County residents.

DAISY and Sunshine Awards

The Diseases Attacking the Immune System (DAISY) Foundation was formed in 1999 by the family of J. Patrick Barnes in honor of the nursing care he received during his hospitalization for an autoimmune disease. The DAISY Award program is a nationwide program that rewards and celebrates the extraordinary skills and compassionate care provided by nurses every day.



DAISY Award recipients

- July 2023: Erin Jordan, RN and Brittney Greer, RN (Labor and Delivery)
- August 2023: Cody Davis, RN (6 South)
- September 2023: Amber Wright, RN (CVICU)
- October 2023: Aylin Martinez, RN (Mother Baby)
- November 2023: Ashley Bassett, RN (3 South)
- December 2023: Phyllis Fricks, RN (Labor and Delivery Nursery)
- January 2024: Shemariah Matlock, RN (MICU)
- February 2024: Jessica Harrison, RN (Nursing Resources)
- March 2024: Kayla Revels, RN (CCU)
- April 2024: Trisha Tribble, RN (6 South)
- May 2024: Cherri Rose, RN (CCU)
- June 2024: Alicia Wicks, RN (5 South)
- July 2024: Yvonne Gooch RN (emergency)
- August 2024: Kristen Prince RN (Mother Baby)
- September 2024: Iris Bohun (4 South)
- November 2023: Chris Stafford, LVN (3 South)
- December 2023: Kendra McBurl, CNA (5 South)
- January 2024: Sundee Henderson, LVN (5 South)
- February 2024: James Ray, CNA (3 South)
- March 2024: Imari Kelley, PCT (4 South)
- April 2024: Hannah Fitts, PCT (6 South)
- May 2024: Nichole Lucas, CNA (RCU)
- June 2024: Elizabeth Townsend, CNA (5 South)
- July 2024: Kendra McBurl CNA (5 South)
- August 2024: Susan Woodard, CNA (6 North)
- September 2024: Jennifer Latham, CNA (4 South)



Sunshine Award recipients

- July 2023: Melinda Mitchell, CNA (PCU)
- August 2023: Whitney Brooks, Unit Clerk (NICU)
- October 2023: Sherissa Flowers, CNA (ER)



Living Our Values

Four nursing Associates were honored as recipients of Living Our Values in 2024.



Brianna Johnson, RN, Labor and Delivery, was honored for integrity.



Molli Phillips, RN, ICU, was honored for compassion.



Jennifer Dellinger, RN, Wound Care, was honored for stewardship.

Kenli Rumsey, RN, RCU, was honored for dignity (not pictured).

Living Our Values honorees and nominees

Honorees

- Kenli Rumsey, RCU: Dignity
- Jennifer Dellinger, Wound Care: Stewardship
- Brianna Johnson, Labor and Delivery: Integrity
- Molli Phillips, ICU: Compassion

Nominees

- Lisa Zimmerman, NICU: Excellence
- Heather Strain, PCU: Excellence
- Kenli Pekelo, CTC Endocrinology Clinic: Excellence
- Angela Nino, 5 South: Excellence
- Lyndsey Foster, Surgery: Excellence
- Jaylie Abernathy, Atlanta: Excellence
- Peggy Simpson, ACNO, Acute Care: Excellence
- Kenli Rumsey, RCU: Excellence
- Carrie Maynard, RCU: Excellence
- Jessica Smith, CTC Neurology Clinic: Compassion
- Candace Hester, Chemotherapy: Compassion
- Ashley Gunther, Case Management: Compassion
- Athena Paulino, PCU: Compassion
- Laura Daniel, 5 South: Compassion
- Shyanna Cook, Atlanta: Compassion
- Stacy Fryer, Clinical Documentation Review: Stewardship
- Wesley Wicks, Rehab: Integrity
- Aubrey Bishop, Emergency Department: Dignity

Nursing Excellence Awards

The 2024 Nursing Excellence Awards were celebrated on Nov. 11, 2024, at Texarkana Convention Center. The awards provided the opportunity for nurses to nominate their peers and leaders who demonstrate nursing excellence every day in four categories: Nurse of the Year, Transformational Leader of the Year, Rookie of the Year and Preceptor of the Year.

This year's awards also honored recipients of the DAISY and Sunshine awards, as well as nominees and award recipients for Living Our Values. A special thank you to our Nursing Advisory Council for hosting the awards!

Nurse of the Year

This award was presented to the nurse who exemplifies the CSM Professional Practice Model. This includes modeling the CSM mission, vision and core values, as well as delivering an excellent standard of care. The Nurse of the Year is compassionate, providing patient and family-centered care and driving quality patient outcomes. The nurse is a change leader and participates in shared decision-making. This year's Nurse of the Year is Laura Daniel, RN, 5 South.



Department recipients were:

- Aubrey Bishop, Emergency Department
- Christina Johnston, CHRISTUS Emergency Center
- Kay McConnell, Intensive Care Unit
- Sierra Page, Labor and Delivery
- Breanna Jones, Mother/Baby Pediatrics
- Breanna Addison, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Carrie Craver, 3 South
- Destiny Rodgers, Progressive Care Unit
- Edith Luna, Respiratory Care Unit
- Morgan Pedron, 6 South
- Ryan Martin, Float Pool
- Lesley Smith, Surgery
- Kylee Rae Wyatt, PACU/Pain Management
- Krystal Groves-Day, Preadmissions Surgery
- Jennifer Buster, Clinical Education
- Levi Runyan, Rehab
- Kim Bredehoeft, Atlanta

Transformational Leader of the Year

The following leaders were eligible for this award: RN lead, clinical director, administrative director, ACNO and CNO. The Transformational Leader of the Year promotes teamwork and morale and motivates high performance and excellence. Transformational leaders empower nurses to lead and own their practice, while also modeling the organization's mission, vision and core values. Transformational leaders also encourage evidence-based practice, communicate effectively, respect diversity and maintain trust and integrity. The 2024 Transformational Leader of the Year is Sherry Roberson, Director of Professional Excellence and Education.



Rookie of the Year

Rookie of the Year is a special recognition reserved for nurses with less than two years' experience. The Rookie of the Year is given to a newly licensed nurse who models the CSM mission, vision and core values. The nurse delivers compassionate, excellent patient and family-centered care while driving patient outcomes. Dustin Rayburn, RN, ICU, was selected as the 2024 Rookie of the Year.



Department recipients were:

- Aspen Easter, CHRISTUS Emergency Center
- Makenna McDonald, Labor and Delivery
- Alenna Blaydes, Mother Baby/Pediatrics
- Dustin Rayburn, Intensive Care Unit
- Vy Doan, 3 South
- Remington Griffith, Progressive Care Unit
- Shelby Robinson, 5 South
- Athena Paulino, Respiratory Care Unit
- Chesney Baker, 6 South
- Miranda Altenbaumer, Float Pool
- Jacie Waller, Surgery
- Daniel Cotto, Atlanta



Preceptor of the Year

To be eligible for this award, nurses must have completed the required preceptor training and have precepted newly hired nurses within the last 12 months. The Preceptor of the Year must exhibit professional behavior at all times, modeling the CHRISTUS mission, vision and our core values. The nurse must support orientees by providing constructive feedback, seeking learning opportunities and completing appropriate feedback tools. The Preceptor of the Year serves as a role model, educator and socializer, integrating the newly hired nurse into the CHRISTUS culture. The 2024 Preceptor of the Year is Iris Bohun, RN, Float Pool.



DAISY and Sunshine Awards

DAISY recipients

- Ashley Paris, Progressive Care Unit
- Erin Jordan, Labor and Delivery
- Cody Davis, 6 South
- Amber Wright, Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit
- Aylin Martinez, Mother Baby/Pediatrics
- Ashley Bassett, 3 South
- Phyllis Fricks, Labor and Delivery
- Shemariah Matlock, Medical Intensive Care Unit
- Jessica Harrison, Intensive Care Unit
- Kayla Revels, Coronary Care Unit
- Trisha Tribble, 6 South
- Cherri Rose, Intensive Care Unit
- Alicia Wicks, 5 South
- Yvonne Gooch, Emergency Room
- Kristen Prince, Mother Baby/Pediatrics
- Iris Bohun, 4 South
- Jose Rios, Atlanta
- Shelby Jackson, Atlanta
- Keith Westbrook, Atlanta

Sunshine recipients

- Kasey Gibson, Progressive Care Unit
- Melinda Mitchell, Progressive Care Unit
- Whitney Brooks, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Sherissa Flowers, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Chris Stafford, 3 South
- Kasey Kelley, Rehab
- Kendra McBurl, 5 South
- Sundee Henderson, 5 South
- James Ray, 3 South
- Imari Kelley, 4 South
- Hannah Fitts, 6 South
- Nichole Lucas, 6 South
- Elizabeth Townsend, 5 South
- Susan Woodward, Respiratory Care Unit
- Jennifer Latham, 4 South





Watch us grow!

CHRISTUS St. Michael continues to grow!

CHRISTUS Emergency Center

In July 2024, the CHRISTUS Emergency Center opened at 4250 Gibson Lane. The facility is a 24-hour freestanding ER that offers an additional site of care to the community.



CHRISTUS Health-Pine Street

On Nov. 1, 2024, CHRISTUS Health completed the purchase of Wadley Regional Medical Center, located at 1000 Pine St. The facility, now named CHRISTUS Health Pine Street, will continue to provide emergency and inpatient services.



We are His hands

Festival of Trees

The NICU team sponsored a tree at this year's Festival of Trees, an auction event that benefits Fearfully and Wonderfully Made. Fearfully and Wonderfully Made is a local not-for-profit organization that provides support for NICU families in our area.



2024 Tough Cookie Breast Cancer Race

The 2024 Tough Cookie Breast Cancer Race was held on Oct. 19, 2024, at Texas A&M University-Texarkana. The race brings awareness to the fight against breast cancer.



Amanda Turley Turkey Trot

NICU team sponsored the Amanda Turley Turkey Trot to benefit the Amanda Turley Scholarship Fund.



2024 Pink Out Texarkana

Nurses participated in Pink Out Texarkana, demonstrating support in the continued fight against breast cancer.



Surgery UBC Project

The unit-based council (UBC) for surgery recently completed a drive to collect needed items for a local nursing facility, The Villa. Many of the residents there have limited funds and resources. The UBC collaborated with The Villa administrator, activity director, nursing director and social worker to ensure each resident received a gift. On Oct. 28, 2024, four RNs, and one anesthesia technician delivered the gifts to the residents, which included:

- Costume jewelry
- Nail polish
- Baby dolls and clothes
- Men's hats
- Men's cologne
- Markers and crayons
- Games and puzzle books
- Shepherd hooks and birdhouses
- Wall art decals

The team also collected items for Randy Sams Homeless Shelter holiday meals.





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