

# Recognizing Our Nurses



IN MEMORY OF J. PATRICK BARNES

Westerly Hospital is kicking off a new awards program to honor the outstanding work of our nurses.

Westerly Hospital will participate this spring in the “The DAISY Award,” a nurse recognition program sponsored by an international foundation that seeks to recognize the “super-human” work of RNs as they provide extraordinary, compassionate and skillful care to their patients and families.

While Westerly Hospital has long participated and continues to participate in a regional nurses award program known as the

*Nightingale Awards*, DAISY Awards are slightly different, honoring select nurses throughout the year, with nominations coming from peers and, in a notable difference, also from any member of the community.

A DAISY Award is based less on overall career service and more on specific examples of compassionate care, organizers say. A patient or family member, for example, could nominate a nurse who made a special difference to that family's hospital experience.

At Westerly, Laurie Batastini, RN, MSN, Director of Patient Care Services, offered a similar sentiment, saying: “We are proud to be among the 2,000 hospitals participating in the DAISY Award Program in the United States, and to be able to showcase the unsung heroes of our hospital and community. This is a great way to recognize them for all the good work that they do with both patients and families.”

Anyone wishing to nominate a nurse for this new award can do so by writing a short description of why a particular nurse made a difference in a patient's care or to a family's hospital experience. Official nomination forms will be available at multiple locations within the hospital, and the nomination form is available for download on Westerly Hospital's website, [westerlyhospital.org](http://westerlyhospital.org).

DAISY Award information will also be shared on Westerly Hospital's Facebook page.

Completed nominations can be placed in DAISY boxes that will be conveniently located at both hospitals.

Nominations can be mailed to:

DAISY Award  
Westerly Hospital  
25 Wells Street, Westerly, RI 02891

Anyone with questions about the awards program can contact Mabel N. Payne, RNC, BSN, CES, Manager of Clinical Systems, at her email, [mpayne@westerlyhospital.org](mailto:mpayne@westerlyhospital.org).

A five-member committee will read and vote on the nominations. The names of the nominees will remain anonymous to the judging committee to ensure objectivity in selecting a winner. Westerly Hospital expects to present DAISY Awards several times per year, but the first award is scheduled to be announced and presented during Nurses Week in May.

The awards are overseen by The DAISY Foundation, a California-based organization established in memory of a 33-year-old man named J. Patrick Barnes. Barnes died of an auto-immune disease, but not before receiving extraordinary care from his nursing staff. That care deeply touched his family and led to the establishment of the foundation, with the acronym “**DAISY**” standing for **D**iseases **A**ttacking the **I**mmune **S**ystem.

Since 1999, the DAISY Foundation has grown to include more than 2,000 healthcare organizations in the United States and 15 other countries.

**SEE PAGE 2 FOR NOMINATION FORM**



# Nomination Form

I would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ unit/department as a deserving recipient of The DAISY Award. This nurse's clinical skill and especially her/his compassionate care exemplify the kind of nurse that our patients, their families, and our staff recognize as an outstanding role model.

Please describe a specific situation or story that clearly demonstrates how this nurse made a meaningful difference in your care.

Thank you for taking the time to nominate an extraordinary nurse for this award. Please tell us about yourself, so that we may include you in the celebration of this award should the nurse you nominated is chosen.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am (please check one):  
RN \_\_\_\_\_ Patient \_\_\_\_\_ Family/Visitor \_\_\_\_\_ MD \_\_\_\_\_ Staff \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_

Date of nomination:

