NURSING ANNUAL REPORT

St. Mary’s 2018
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Welcome from the CNO

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as St. Mary’s Interim Chief Nursing Officer. St. Mary’s is blessed with an outstanding nurse-executive team as well as compassionate nurses and teams dedicated to the hospital’s mission, vision, and values.

I am humbled by the accomplishments achieved on behalf of the patients and families we serve at St. Mary’s. And, yet, we know that we have more to do in the coming years to assure that we continue to put our patients first. We have also set goals for ourselves related to supporting life-long learning, advancing interdisciplinary collaboration, using evidence-based practices to improve outcomes, and partnering with our community to improve the health of those we are honored to serve.

This annual report shares our stories and honors many of the nurses who made those stories possible. I am deeply grateful to each of them, but I’m also filled with gratitude for the entire St. Mary’s team—extraordinary people who come to work each day to make life better for others. I am confident that each of you will continue this tradition throughout your career. I want to thank and honor the work of our former Chief Nursing Officer, Shelley Peterson, and the guidance she provided in developing this report.

Cathy Roberts, MSN, RN, CNML, NEA-BC
Interim Chief Nursing Officer
Nursing Executive Leadership Team

Providing leadership to the **more than 800** nursing personnel who are responsible for the day-to-day operations, for both inpatient and outpatient departments staffed by nurses, is a group of eight dedicated professionals who exemplify why nursing is the most trusted profession in the U.S.

**AONE Nurse Fellowship Completed**

The American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) offers a year-long fellowship to nurse leaders throughout the country. Fellowship participants achieve executive competencies critical to leading complex healthcare systems as well as influencing and inspiring nurses and others in the workforce. In 2018, **Misty Young, MSN, RN, NE-BC**, completed the AONE Nurse Director Fellowship. She joins St. Mary’s **Michelle Shiao, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CENP**, who has been an AONE Nurse Manager Fellow since 2012 as well as **Danette MacMillan, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNML**, since 2017.
Professional Practice Model

Our professional practice model serves as a visual reminder of the various components of exceptional patient care provided at St. Mary’s. Nurses own their practice and are actively engaged in continuously improving and advocating for best practices. Our patient-centered approach fuels our commitment to our nursing values. As a result, St. Mary’s nurses have a positive impact on safety, quality and financial outcomes.

The inner ring represents the heart of nursing care at St. Mary’s.

The outer ring illustrates how St. Mary’s supports nursing as a profession.

The professional practice model was recently revamped to assure that our hospital-wide message of patient-centered care was clear. Two-thirds of the nursing staff participated in designing the new model. It was communicated to all nurses to ensure that the new model was shared consistently and confidently with other members of the healthcare team, to patients and their families, and to the community. Through this process, nurses came together with a renewed sense of engagement and a stronger commitment to excellence.

Nursing Professional Practice

Nursing at St. Mary’s Medical Center is exemplified in our Professional Practice Model, which is founded on concepts drawn from multiple theories and frameworks: Theory of Human Caring (Jean Watson), Self Care (Dorothea Orem), Novice to Expert Theory (Patricia Benner), and Goal Attainment Theory (Imogene King). The graphic combines our central aspect of care: patient, family and community enveloped in the heart of caring at St. Mary’s.
Student Nurse Extern Program

In June of 2018, St. Mary’s reinstated a student-nurse extern program for local nursing students that had been dormant for many years. The program, led by Lindsay Ross, BSN, RN-BC, CMSRN, and Lori Ferguson, MSN, RN-BC, is focused on two important outcomes: providing local nursing students experience in the hospital setting and recruiting the best and brightest new nurses to seek employment at St. Mary’s following graduation.

Student-nurse externships are a growing trend in hospitals across America. Such major medical centers as the Mayo Clinic and Indiana University Health started extern programs to attract new nurses. The program at St. Mary’s operates year-round and allows externs much-needed flexible hours at the hospital to allow them to work around their busy school schedules.

Initial competition for the extern positions was brisk and ten student nurse externs were accepted into the program in June. The externs then participated in extensive orientation and training to prepare them for work in the hospital. Externs can perform all of the duties of a nurse assistant along with a few additional responsibilities. Externs are allowed to work in most areas of the hospital, providing them with exposure to places they might not have seen during their clinical rotations.

One of the externs remarked “as an extern I feel more like a part of the [healthcare] team. I get to work more on improving my skills and I only want to work at St. Mary's when I graduate because I feel comfortable here.” Nursing staff and managers have been very impressed by the externs’ skill levels and have stated that the externs have been a great help on their units. The ongoing program will assure that new students will replace those who graduate.

Student-nurse externs work with experienced nurses in a supportive clinical environment that builds on the fundamentals of nursing education. The program is designed to instill self-confidence as well as improve communication skills, critical thinking, time-management, and clinical competence.
Professional Governance

Professional Governance Councils (PGC) at the unit level at St. Mary’s serve as a voice for clinical staff to enhance staff satisfaction and promote accountability, ownership, and retention. The PGCs drive evidence-based practice (EBP) at the bedside, develop process improvement initiatives to improve patient outcomes as well as associate engagement. A PGC enriches clinical practice in that they are interdisciplinary, representing healthcare professionals at all skill levels.

The PGCs encourage staff participation, focusing on developing and improving partnerships at all levels of the organization. Clinical nurses are empowered to identify barriers to clinical practice and partner with management to resolve issues. Staff are empowered when they are given the authority by management to help drive improvements in their practice environments. Strong leadership makes this possible. Shared goals and shared successes are paramount to providing excellent patient care.

SCL Health Nursing Congress

In October, nurses from all SCL care sites met in Denver to develop the system’s first Nursing Congress. The Nursing Congress is a component of our newly formed System Professional Governance model. Michelle Shiaho, Christi Carter, and Naomi Sikora of St. Mary’s are members of the new Nursing Congress.

Naomi Sikora was elected as Chair of the SCL Health System Nursing Congress. Naomi currently works in the ICU at St. Mary’s where she has been pivotal in evidence-based practice and changing patient outcomes. “How can one describe the greatness of this responsibility? I am thrilled and overwhelmingly excited to join my voice and leadership to the body of nurses in this system as we begin a thrilling journey of change. To hold nurses to their professional excellence is a privilege, and working alongside other nurses to develop structure and strategies for our patients with the utmost concern and awareness to evidenced-based practice. I will with my whole heart, soul, and mind dedicate myself to this honor, and humbly work to support a team that will empower clinical nurses to stand up and have a voice.”—Naomi Sikora, BSN, RN, CCRN

The goal of the Nursing Congress is to grow professional governance within the system and work together as to make decisions about patient care and nursing practice that can be replicated and standardized across all our care sites.

SCL Health System Nursing Congress:
Amy Goltz, Co-Chair RN from Saint Vincent
Carol Enderle, executive sponsor CNO/COO Holy Rosary
Naomi Sikora, Chair RN from St. Mary’s
St. Mary’s Magnet® Venture

The Magnet Recognition Program® was established by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) in 1990 to recognize healthcare organizations that had reached a high level of excellence in nursing. During 2018, St. Mary’s began preparing to join the 475 U.S. hospitals that have achieved Magnet Recognition®. The hospitals in this elite group—less than 8% of the nation’s 5,500+ hospitals—is widely recognized as possessing the highest and most prestigious distinction that they can achieve. Although the recognition focused initially on care provided in the inpatient setting, the ANCC revised its process in 2017 to include ambulatory services and expanded its nurse-centric focus to include the entire interdisciplinary team.

As Magnet® hospitals have found, the undertaking for recognition mandates a fundamental culture shift throughout the hospital. In short, it is an organizational commitment to a culture where excellence flourishes.

The official voyage begins when the hospital submits a letter of intent to apply, although much preparation takes place prior to that submission. The letter of intent triggers a 24-month period in which the hospital undergoes a self-assessment, provides extensive written documentation supported by qualitative and quantitative evidence related to patient care and outcomes, is subject to an on-site visit and assessment, and undergoes public comment. The process is rigorous and demanding.

Magnet®-recognized hospitals report several important benefits, including:

- Attracting and retaining top talent
- Improving patient care, safety, and satisfaction
- Fostering a collaborative culture
- Advancing nursing standards and practice
- Growing the business and achieving financial success

While the voyage is arduous, it is one worth taking as it redirects the hospital’s focus from structure and process to improved clinical outcomes and enhanced patient satisfaction. St. Mary’s official venture to Magnet® is expected to launch in early 2019.
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### Clinical Ladder

Reinforcing SCL Health St. Mary’s commitment to exemplary professional practice our nursing leaders are working to recognize, encourage, and reward our registered nurses who grow in clinical expertise and leadership as they make a difference at the bedside.

The 5-tiers of the clinical ladder are designed to reward and recognize clinical nurses who exceed expectations by impacting patients at the bedside. The clinical ladder also supports nursing professional development and engagement. Patricia Benner’s novice-to-expert theory is the basis for the ladder. The program is voluntary and allows nurses to ascend the ladder at their pace and based on their own interests.

All nurses are automatically enrolled in Levels 1 and 2. To attain higher levels requires increasingly greater requirements related to nursing degree, nursing specialty certification, professional organization membership, participation in evidence-based practice projects, professional governance involvement, peer education, and continuing nurse education credits.

### Nursing Stats at a Glance

- **70** Nurses participate in the Clinical Ladder
- **>840** Nurses, **213** with 10+ years of service
- **76%** Nurses have a BSN or higher degree
- **237** Specialty Certified Nurses at St. Mary’s
- **752** Student Nurses hosted by St. Mary’s in 2018
- **372** Vizient AACN Nurse Residency grads since 2008
- **221** free CNE credits provided for nurses in 2018
- **82%** of RNs at St. Mary’s report job satisfaction

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# Clinical Ladder Participants

## Level 5
- Robin Gilman, MHS, RN, CWOC
- Sherry Johnson, MSN, RN, CEN
- Ryan Grube, MSN, RN
- Rainy Tieman, DNP, RNC-OB, C-EFM

## Level 4
- Angela Addington, BSN, RN, CMSRN
- Kathy Anderson, BSN, BS, RN, CCRN
- Caysi Bonebreak, BSN, RN
- Christi Carter, BSN, BA, RNC-MNN
- Loree Cutts, BSN, RN, CFRN
- Sherry Eidsness, BSN, RNC-NIC
- Karen Fishell, BSN, RN, CNOR, CRNFA
- Shonda Hajoglou, BSN, RN, CMSRN
- Tana Irwin, BSN, RN
- Emily Pettis, BSN, RN, CCRN
- Jennifer Quarels, BSN, RNC-NIC
- Lori Stone, BSN, RN, CMSRN
- Lauren Agajanian, BSN, RN
- Janet Azbell, BSN, RN, CRNI, CRN
- Brad Briner, BSN, RN, CEN
- Barry Chamberlain, BSN, RN, CFRN, CCRN
- Jordan DeBoer, BSN, RN, PNCB
- Karen Enenkel, BSN, RN
- Erica Gardner, BSN, BA, RN, CEN
- Christine Hulse, BSN, RNC-MNN
- Emily Marutzky, BSN, RNC-OB
- Jessica Piccoli, BSN, RN, CCRN, CNRN
- Naomi Sikora, BSN, RN, CCRN
- Nate Wilson, BSN, RN

## Level 3
- Caitlyn Boon, BSN, RN
- Grant Christopher, RN, CCRN
- Mary Kate Dunn, BSN, RN, CNOR
- Hannah Fisher, BSN, RN
- Stephanie Gregory, BSN, RN
- Christina Hicks, RNC-OB
- Marsha Hutton, BSN, RN
- Melanie Irizari, BSN, RN, CWON
- Meghan Kimmel, BSN, RN
- Connor Larson, BSN, RN, CCRN
- Tiffany Martens, BSN, BA, RN
- Sabrina Motta, BSN, BA, RN
- Lindsay Pfeiffer, BSN, BA, RN
- Naomi Reese, RNC-MNN
- Daniell Roland, BSN, RN
- Catherine Sinak, BSN, RNC-NIC
- Brittany Stich, BSN, RN
- Julie Szasz, BSN, BA, RN, CMSRN
- Deb U-Ren, RN, CCRN
- Mandi Vaden, BSN, RN
- Renaissance Zillioux, BSN, RN
- Amanda Brothers, BSN, RN
- Vallie Doyle, BSN, RN
- Ashlee Fisher, BSN, RN
- Tonya Gonzalez, BSN, RN
- Ken Henderson, BSN, RN
- Therese Houk, BSN, RN, IBCLC
- Cara Inman, BS, RN, CCRN
- Barb Feltskog-Keene, RN, CCRN, CSC-CMC
- Cody Knauss, RN, CEN
- Teri Leishman, MSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA
- Ashleigh Meeks, BSN, RN
- Rachel Orndorff, BSN, RN
- Juli Pyle, BSN, RN
- Sarah Rogers, BSN, RN
- Lorraine Sharpe, BSN, RN, CMSRN
- Gene Smith, BS, RN
- Lori Stone, BSN, RN, CMSRN
- Sierra Tatum, BSN, RN
- Diana Urmini, BSN, RN
- Edna Wellman, BSN, RNC-NIC
Arusha, Tanzania Mission

A partnership that includes SCL Health, Selian Lutheran Hospital, and Arusha Lutheran Medical Center and its School of Nursing sponsored a 10-day mission in early 2018 by sending 18 associates representing every SCL Health care site to Arusha to collaborate on process, equipment, and training. St. Mary’s Lori Ferguson, MSN, RN-BC, was selected to lead the group of health professionals that continued the 14-year tradition of putting patients first and making the world a better place.

The 18-member team included nurses, physicians, respiratory therapists and physical therapists who provided instruction in resuscitation, back safety, clinical skills, trauma management, and more. The team also visited Plaster House, a live-in rehabilitation program for children undergoing orthopedic procedures; Shanga House, a non-profit organization that teaches skills and provides jobs for people with disabilities; and, the MaaSAE Girls School which aims to increase today’s 1% high-school completion rate for girls. The team also assisted with hospice visits, a particularly moving experience. The team is excited to return in 2019.
Arusha, Tanzania Mission
Baby-Friendly USA Designation

Four years of training, policy development, and culture change culminated in St. Mary’s designation as a Baby-Friendly hospital two years ago. The certification was awarded because St. Mary’s adheres to the highest standards for mother-baby care related to infant feeding. Staff are trained to provide the support needed to help the new family get off to the best start. Babies remain close to their moms following birth so the babies can begin breastfeeding as soon as they are ready. Hospital policies allow healthy babies and their moms to stay together (“rooming-in”) to optimize their opportunities to know one another.

Staff with specific training to help new mothers achieve success with breastfeeding provide helpful information to both parents about the meaning of different baby behaviors. Because St. Mary’s is committed to newborns receiving only mother’s milk, the hospital does not distribute formula samples, a practice that has been proven to be counterproductive to the goal.

Staff are also available to provide ongoing support after the mom and baby go home.

SCL Health St. Mary’s is dedicated to providing our community with the technology they need. In 2018 St. Mary’s Moments app was launched to assist expectant mothers throughout their journey from pregnancy to months beyond!
Beacon Award for Excellence

The Beacon Award for Excellence was initiated in 2010 by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). The Beacon Award recognizes nursing units which have a positive and supportive work environment characterized by outstanding collaboration between associates and leaders, low turnover, and positive employee morale. The nursing units that are awarded this distinction set the standard for excellence in patient-care environments by collecting and using evidence-based information to improve patient outcomes, patient and staff satisfaction, and credibility with consumers.

Nursing units that receive the Beacon Award for Excellence are eligible to seek re-designation every three years. At St. Mary’s, the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit was awarded the Silver Beacon Award in November 2016. The following February, the Intensive Care Unit also achieved the Silver award. These units were recognized for the following specific accomplishments:

- Developing a robust department-based ethics committee
- Reducing post-operative intubation times for patients undergoing open-heart surgery
- Eliminating the use of contract nurses through intense recruitment and retention efforts
- Sustaining strong leadership in the service

More than 500 nursing units have received a Beacon Award in the last eight years. The awardees were evaluated on criteria in the following categories:

- Leadership structures and systems
- Appropriate staffing and staff engagement
- Effective communication
- Knowledge management
- Learning development
- Evidence-based practice and processes
- Outcome measures
DAISY Award Honorees

The Daisy Award recognizes the super-human work that nurses perform every day. Each quarter, the award is given to three extraordinary RNs at St. Mary’s. They are nominated by patients, families, and interdisciplinary team members (nurses, physicians, nutritionists, social workers, and other associates). The award was established by the DAISY foundation which focuses on eliminating diseases that attack the immune system.

2017, 2nd Quarter Awardees

2017, 3rd Quarter Awardees:

2017, 4th Quarter Awardees:
DAISY Award Winners - continued -

2018, 1st Quarter Awardees:

Theresa Wall, RN

Jessica Dondero, BSN, RN, CMSRN

Matt Veek, RN

2018, 2nd Quarter Awardees:

Deb McCoy, RN

Barb Fetches-Keene, RN, CCRN, CSC, CMC

Neeka Nevins, MSN, FNP

2018, 3rd Quarter Awardees:

Karen Enenkel, BSN, RN

Robin Gilman, MHS, RN, CWOCN

CVICU: Team Award

Jessica Piccoli, Grant Christopher

Erik Nesby, Colleen Flock & Jordan Bohrer

2018, 4th Quarter Awardees:

Kana Dickens, BSN, RN

Sherry Johnson, MSN, RN, CEN

Kelly Thompson, BSN, RN
The Leapfrog Group Awards Third “A” to St. Mary’s

The Leapfrog Group, an independent national consortium of private self-insured businesses that rate U.S. hospitals on quality and safety, was founded in 2000 to improve the quality and safety of healthcare in America. Nearly one-half of the 5,534 hospitals in the U.S. participate and are awarded a letter grade that rates how well they keep patients safe from harm. St. Mary’s is the only hospital in Grand Junction that participates.

For the third consecutive reporting period, St. Mary’s earned an “A” as evidence of its focus on protecting patients from preventable medical errors, injuries, and infections. Only 18 Colorado hospitals received an “A.” Leapfrog is considered the elite hospital quality rating organization in the country. The results are used to inform consumers, businesses, and insurance companies about the quality and safety in each hospital in their communities. Leapfrog assigns grades based on 27 different measures from publicly available data.

Additional information about St. Mary’s grade may be obtained from the hospital’s director of Quality, Infection Prevention and Trauma Services: Lori Fink, BSN, RN, CPHQ

Ideas Boards

The 2018 ANCC Pathway to Excellence conference in West Palm Beach, FL, focused on new ideas and strategies to create a positive practice environment and transform healthcare organizational culture. St. Mary’s Danette Mac Millan, MSN, RN, CNML, Kevin Dryanski, MBA, and Michelle Shiao, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CENP, presented “Changing the Culture on Your Unit - One Idea at a Time.” Our goal is to encourage all associates to identify opportunities to make improvements that are within their control. We are proud to have such bright, forward-thinking people here at St. Mary’s!

TOP IDEAS OF 2018!
- Personal Medical Journals developed for patients
- Memory Box for families of after loved one passes away
- Shared associate-controlled Vacation Calendar
- Improved signage to help patients and families with location navigation
- Brochure for ER expectations/wait times for patients and families
- Pillow Hoppers: increased patient comfort with a quick supply of pillows
Nightingale Award

Florence Nightingale—a 19th century nursing pioneer—has long inspired all nurses. Her contributions to nursing as the most trusted profession in the U.S. is exemplified in her compassion at the bedside, innate gift of caring, commitment to nursing excellence, tenacity to standardize practice, and influence on healthcare policy.

The Nightingale Award for Excellence in Human Caring was founded in 1985 to honor Colorado nurses who exemplify Florence Nightingale’s philosophy and practice. The Award honors nurses and advance practice nurses who boost the profession of nursing and impact their communities through advocacy, leadership, and/or innovation. In 1999, the Colorado Nurses Foundation became the sponsor for this prestigious annual event.

The Area Health Education Centers solicit nominations for this award. Finalists (Luminaries) are selected from 10 geographic regions throughout Colorado. Luminaries are selected in the areas of Advocacy, Innovation or Leadership in either a Clinical Practice or role as an Administrator, Educator or Non-Traditional Nurse Practice. In 2018, 24 Luminaries were selected from 141 nominations.

The 2018 Western Colorado Luminaries were honored on May 12, 2018, along with the Colorado Nurses Foundation’s recipients of the prestigious Nightingale Award.

The Nightingale Award is the most prestigious nursing award in Colorado. St. Mary’s nominees included:

Angela Addington, BSN, RN, CMSRN Medical Oncology Unit
Janet Azbell, BSN, RN, CRNI, CRN Vascular Access Team
Gretchen Chatfield, BSN, BS, RN Medical Oncology Unit
Jessica Dondero, BSN, RN, CMSRN Medical Oncology Unit
Diane Griffin, BSN, RNC-OB, C- EFM Labor and Delivery Unit
Janet Hurd, BSN, RN Emergency Department
Wendy Hutchinson, RN, CMSRN Medical Surgical Unit
Leslie Johnson, RN, PNCB Pediatric Unit
Sherry Johnson, MSN, RN, CEN Emergency Department
Rachel Orndorff, BSN, RN Surgical Unit
Kali Rhodes, BSN, BS, RN, OCN Medical Oncology Unit
Naomi Sikora, BSN, RN, CCRN ICU/Medical Intensive Care Unit
David Lammers, BSN, RN, CEN

As the Lead Clinical Resource Specialist in the Emergency Department, David has focused on ensuring compliance for patient safety measures, organizational stewardship and accountability for professional practice. In one year, David facilitated a 19% increase in improving the door-to-needle time for stroke patients by assessing the existing process and partnering with the stroke coordinator. David designed education modules, learning sessions, and just-in-time one-on-one feedback for associates to improve clinical practice. David created a ‘Click4Help’ page for easy access by all ED nurses. David’s leadership has improved patient safety and the provision of care in St. Mary’s busy Emergency Department.

Sarah Gahagan Lancaster, BSN, RN

As the Clinical Nurse Manager of St. Mary’s Emergency Department Sarah has 24/7 responsibility for clinical operations of 80 staff members. She co-lead the Provider in Triage (PIT) team, along with ED physician Dr. Bobby Dery, to assist in transforming the ED from one that relies on too much contract labor to one of absolute strength—a true pillar of the hospital. Through Sarah’s leadership and reorganization, the ED was able to cut the time from patient arrival to being seen by a provider from 27 minutes to 10 minutes while improving the care provided.

Debora U-Ren, RN, CCRN

Deb exemplifies the term “advocate” in all her actions, whether it is for patients, patient families, fellow associates, student nurses, or referral agencies. She goes above and beyond in her dedication to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) to make sure excellent care is provided to infants and parents. She is an instructor for the Neonatal Resuscitation Program and for STABLE, a neonatal stabilization course. She also precepts new hires and student nurses. Deb was instrumental in initiating a program to decrease unnecessary antibiotic usage in infants, which allowed them to remain with their mothers and away from the NICU. To date, antibiotic usage has been reduced by 30% with good outcomes for infants and families.
President's Award

Established by St. Mary’s CEO in 2007, Bob Ladenburger, the President’s Award recognizes a St. Mary’s associate who advances philanthropy as well as the hospital’s mission in an extraordinary way. Several winners of this prestigious award are on St. Mary’s nursing staff.

2018: **Lori Chabot**, manager of Medical Imaging winner of the President’s Award recipient.

RN’s Among President’s Awards Recipients

2013: **Michelle Shiao, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CENP**

Michelle joined St. Mary’s in 2008 as the Manager of Nursing Support Services and has been promoted several times. Currently, she is the Director of Emergency Services and CareFlight. In 2011, Michelle earned a Fellowship from the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) and, in that same year, was a Colorado Nightingale Award nominee. Michelle has worked tirelessly for St. Mary’s Foundation on a variety of fundraising activities.

2012: **Cathy Roberts, MSN, RN, CNML, NEA-BC**

Currently serving as the interim Chief Nursing Officer, Cathy came to St. Mary’s in 1978. She graduated from Mesa State College (now, Colorado Mesa University) and received a master’s degree in nursing administration from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Cathy was previously honored as St. Mary’s Nurse-of-the-Year, and she was a finalist in 1999 for the Colorado Nightingale Nurse-of-the-Year Award.

2010: **Connie Estridge, RN, ONC**

Connie was instrumental in securing HealthGrades number-one ranking in Colorado for St. Mary’s Orthopedic Services and for spine surgery for three consecutive years. The consummate nurse, Connie supports patients, families, physicians, associates, and volunteers with grace, skill, and a positive attitude. She supports the hospital through donations—her own as well as those she encourages from others.
Primary Stroke Center

St. Mary’s Medical Center is recognized as the only regional Primary Stroke Center on the Western Slope. The Joint Commission’s Certificate of Distinction for Primary Stroke Centers recognizes hospitals that provide the critical elements to achieve long-term success in fostering better outcomes for stroke care.

We are excited to welcome Dr. Robert Replogle to the stroke team. Dr. Replogle is a neurosurgeon trained in endovascular treatments to secure ruptured and unruptured cerebral aneurysms as well as arteriovenous malformations. In addition to Primary Stroke Center services, St. Mary’s provides acute ischemic stroke interventions in the interventional radiology suite 24/7/365 to remove the clot in patients with large vessel brain occlusions. St. Mary’s Acute Rehabilitation unit allows for patients to remain in our community as they recover. Continuity of care by therapists and physicians improves the transition of care from inpatient to rehab and greatly improves patient outcomes.

The Joint Commission’s Primary Stroke Center Certification program is in collaboration with the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. “In achieving Joint Commission advanced certification, St. Mary’s has demonstrated its commitment to the highest level of care for its stroke patients,” said Jean Range, M.S., R.N., C.P.H.Q, executive director of Disease-Specific Care Certification for The Joint Commission.

This certification is the best signal to our community that the quality of care provided at St. Mary’s is effectively managed to meet the unique and specialized needs of our stroke patients.

PRIMARY STROKE CENTER GUIDELINES

Eligibility & Key Requirements
- Acute stroke team available 24/7
- Neurologist accessible 24/7 via in person or telemedicine
- Designated stroke beds
- Sufficient diagnostic services
- Ability to provide IV thrombolytics
- Tracking, monitoring, & reporting of performance measures

Standards & Guidelines
- Uses advanced Disease-Specific Care Standards and additional expectations for transitions of care
- Organization chooses and implements clinical practice guidelines
About Us

AACN Beacon Award for Excellence
Silver Awardees
• ICU 2017
• CVICU 2016

Accredited Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence

American Cancer Society Certified Cancer Center

CareFlight of the Rockies
• Air and Ground transport providing immediate care and rapid transfer service

Children’s Hospital & St. Mary’s Joint Child Care Alliance
• Improving high-quality pediatric care in the Grand Valley

Hybrid Operating Room
• Completed 20 state-of-the-art TAVI (Transcather aortic valve implementation) procedures in 2018

20 Specialty Practice Clinics
• Our multi-specialty group practice features specialty providers serving Colorado’s Western Slope communities and patients.

Leapfrog Award- Grade A: 2017, 2018
• Best Teaching Hospital: 2017

Level II Trauma Center
• 24 hour lifesaving care and treatment

National Association of Epilepsy Centers
• Neuro Trauma Stroke awarded in 2018

Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC)
Accredited Chest Pain Center
• Primary PCI with Resuscitation

Top 346 bed Tertiary Regional Medical Center

The Joint Commission Primary Stroke Center

Women’s and Infants
• Comprehensive maternal-fetal medicine
• Most deliveries on Western Slope
• 24 bed Level III NICU
• Baby-Friendly Certification

Vizient AACN Nurse Residency Program
• 95% graduate nurse retention rate in 2018
The Year Ahead

As we look back on our achievements in 2018, we are ever mindful of the goals we’ve set for ourselves for the coming year. These 10 goals are shared by all SCL Health care sites; how they are achieved is specific to each hospital’s nursing service. We are eager to tackle these and other challenges in 2019.

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<th>STRATEGIC FOCUS</th>
<th>GOALS</th>
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| **Aligned and Empowered Organization** | ➢ Foster a work environment that actively supports nursing professional development  
 ➢ Accelerate associate engagement, retention, and recruitment |
| **Growth** | ➢ Provide nursing leadership resources for our western CO and eastern Utah region partners  
 ➢ SCL Health Nursing Congress and Professional Governance Councils at St. Mary’s will provide leadership in the adoption of evidenced based practices, clinical ladder participation and foster a healthy nursing practice environment  
 ➢ Innovate practices to provide an enhanced patient experience  
 ➢ Nursing will be a leader in continuous improvement of patient quality and outcomes  
 ➢ Explore care delivery redesign to provide value for our patients |
| **Clinical & Operational Transformation** | ➢ Implement continuity of care innovations  
 ➢ Nurses will participate in collaborative initiatives in service line development |
| **Aligned Clinical Network** | ➢ National recognition by programs dedicated to nursing excellence |

The way to reach a challenging goal is to set clear priorities and stay true to them. At SCL Health St. Mary’s, our ministry is continually improving and grown because we establish specific strategic imperatives and deliver on them. These priorities are shared and achieved by people at all levels of our organization.
Mission

We reveal and foster God’s healing love by improving the health of the people and communities we serve, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.

Vision

Inspired by our faith, we will partner with our patients and communities to exceed their expectations for health.

Values

Caring Spirit – We honor the sacred dignity of each person.
Excellence – We set and surpass high standards.
Good Humor – We create joyful and welcoming environments.
Integrity – We do the right thing with openness and pride.
Safety – We deliver care that seeks to eliminate all harm for patients and associates.
Stewardship – We are accountable for the resources entrusted to us.