



PRESS RELEASE

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Another First for the First State

Recognizing Delaware's Extraordinary Nurses through Partnerships and an International Nurse Recognition Program

NEWARK, DE – November 11, 2021 – With the generous support of [Rhoades & Morrow LLC](#), a Delaware law firm, and the partnership of the [Delaware Organization of Nursing Leadership](#) (DONL), the Delaware Nurses Association is proud to announce all Delaware nurses are now eligible to become a DAISY honoree. We have seen extraordinary service, skill, and compassion from Delaware's nurses long before the current public health crisis, now we are elevating that service, skill, and compassion with an international recognition program.

This partnership and support means Delaware has become the first state nurses' association to partner directly with The DAISY Foundation to provide the full suite of awards to all nurses. The DAISY Foundation is a not-for-profit organization, established in 1999 in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, by members of his family. Patrick died at the age of 33 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. (DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System.) The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

Delaware nurses may be nominated by patients, families, and colleagues through an online nomination form at <http://www.daisynomination.org/DNA>. The award recipients are chosen by the Joint Committee on Nursing Recognition which includes nurse members and a representative from Rhoades & Morrow. Awards are presented throughout the year at celebrations attended by the Honoree's colleagues, patients, and visitors. Award categories include:

- Direct Care Nurse – nurses working in all health care settings providing care to patients, families, and communities
- Team Award – a nurse-led, interdisciplinary team of health professionals that have made a significant impact on a patient, family, or community
- Nurse Leader Award – a nurse leader that creates practice environments where compassion and expertise thrive
- Lifetime Achievement Award – nurses with over 25 years' experience delivering high quality, compassionate, and impactful nursing care
- Health Equity Award – for nurses whose work advances health equity, mitigating health disparities caused by social determinants of health

- Nurse Faculty – to recognize the contributions and impact of nurse faculty on educating and mentoring future nurses
- Nursing Students – recognizing current nursing students for their impactful and compassionate care of patients and families

Said Bonnie Barnes, FAAN, President and Co-Founder of The DAISY Foundation, "When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide patients every day and night. Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human, extraordinary, compassionate work they do."

Said Joseph J. Rhoades, Esq., Founder of Rhoades & Morrow, "After the extraordinary contributions Delaware's nurses and health care professionals have made for our community, we knew we had to do something to support and recognize these heroes. We reached out to the Delaware Nurses Association and began this great partnership to honor Delaware's nurse heroes. We are grateful to be a part of this program and recognize our community."

Said Karen Pickard, DNP, RN, CNE, President of the DONL, "Delaware's nurses are the largest sector of our health care workforce. They have given so much to our community and we are so proud to be able to honor them with this prestigious, internationally recognized award. We encourage all Delawareans and nurse colleagues to reflect and submit a nomination for those nurse/s that have made a personal impact. With so many nurses in Delaware, you don't have to look far to find a nurse to nominate."

The Delaware Nurses Association is working with all Delaware nurse employers to promote this program and offer resources to increase awareness, nominations, and honorees. There are several organizations that already partner with The DAISY Foundation, this new program will not affect their operations. Questions and inquiries can be directed to contactdna@denurses.org or 302-733-5880.

ABOUT THE DELAWARE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Found in 1911, DNA is the premier leading professional association bringing together, and advancing the profession of nursing for over 100 years, creating healthier communities for all Delawareans. We are the only professional association in Delaware representing all Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. We continue to advance health through the art and science of nursing supported by diverse members, advocacy, influence, professional development, generation of new knowledge, communication, service, and history.

ABOUT THE DELAWARE ORGANIZATION FOR NURSING LEADERSHIP

Found in 2009, the DONL's mission is to strengthen and promote nursing leadership and networking, to advance nursing and the delivery of safe patient care. Through a robust membership of emerging, novice, and experienced nurse leaders, DONL provides professional development, networking, advocacy, mentoring, and recognition to advance its' mission and impact.

ABOUT RHOADES & MORROW, LLC

Rhoades & Morrow is a Delaware law firm that was founded in 1990. Joe Rhoades and Steve Morrow are dedicated to helping people with legal needs, handling personal injury and workers' compensation matters throughout the state of Delaware.

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