

Nurse of the Month – September 2023

The **IHS Division of Nursing Services** is pleased to announce the recipient of the **Nurse of the Month** for September 2023 is Jordan McAdam, BSN, RN, CPEN, an Emergency Department Nurse Specialist (clinical coach) from the [Northern Navajo Medical Center, Shiprock Service Unit](#) in the IHS [Navajo Area](#).

Jordan joined the Emergency Department (ED) in 2015, took the lead clinical position in 2017, and was detailed to the clinical coach position in 2021, officially accepting the job in January 2022. In the past year, Jordan has trained and run our IHS area's first-ever ED residency program with five very successful nurses now working independently and competently in our unit. She developed and is the Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) for NNMC while implementing pediatric simulations for our nursing staff with Dr. Alisa Anderson and the University of New Mexico (UNM). Jordan and Dr. Anderson presented an IHS-wide talk, "Our journey to Optimal Peds Readiness Score" in April 2023. Jordan presented an IHS wide peds ECHO in May 2023. In September of 2022, she was invited to be a guest speaker at the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) National conference regarding her work in developing, training, and obtaining our department's Pediatric Readiness Accreditation with UNM, and raising our readiness score from 60 out of 100 to 94 out of 100 (the National average is 65 out of 100). The Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN) was so impressed with Jordan's presentation, her work, and her accomplishments for the organization, that they invited her to be a guest speaker at the May 2023 National Conference in Dallas Texas. Jordan was invited back and will be representing NNMC and IHS again as a guest speaker at the 2023 National ENA conference in September. Jordan is a nationally recognized, respected, and sought-after nurse by the two largest emergency medicine organizations and policymakers in the United States. She obtained her national certification as a Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse (CPEN), and was the first nurse in the emergency department to receive this certification.

Over the past year, Jordan has implemented, trained, and monitors our new stroke protocol within the ED. She used evidence-based practice, guidelines, and standards while working closely with her nurse resident and stroke team as well as collaborating with the University of Utah (UofU) to schedule trainings for our nurses, implementing tele stroke, and running stroke drills within our department. She developed all the QA protocols and monitors every stroke alert that is initiated. Jordan implemented the hospital-wide stroke alert in October of 2022 training ICU and radiology staff on the protocol while including them in all education from the University of UofU. Jordan now not only serves as the lead nursing contact for the UofU, but also as our facilities stroke coordinator. Our facility had no formal stroke protocol or any sort of stroke alert before 2022, but due to Jordan's leadership and initiative, this critical piece of emergent care was implemented here at NNMC for our patients and community. Following evidence-based guidelines, Jordan, with another of her nurse residents, was also vital in developing our diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) protocol while training the nursing staff and collaborating with the ICU to ensure continuity of care on this protocol.

Jordan has obtained her instructor cards in ACLS, PALS, TNCC, and BLS to help our education department and ensure all NNMC nurses have the opportunity to receive these required specialty certifications and education. She holds a PICC line certification, is part of the PICC team, and serves on the blood utilization review (BUR) committee. Jordan is a beloved member of our department as well as a crucial resource for all staff, who feel comfortable approaching her with any need, professional or personal. The ED director Jeanie Ringelberg, deputy director Carl Smith, and all of the ED providers describe her as highly skilled, intelligent, kind, a great communicator, a great leader, selfless, and compassionate, and as instilling those qualities in all the nurses she trains. She is my personal resource for any questions on up-to-date practices and guidelines. Jordan is who we seek out for this information knowing she will always greet us with a smile and makes time to teach, educate, and explain whatever she is asked. Jordan is truly an invaluable part of the ED, our facility, and IHS as a whole. Dr. Arnold said "A good leader leads the people above them. A great leader leads the people from within them." Jordan McAdam leads our department, facility, and IHS with class, skill, kindness, dedication, and passion, all while motivating those around her.