

2023 Division of Nursing Services Nurse of the Month: August

The IHS Division of Nursing Services is pleased to announce the recipient of the Nurse of the Month for August 2023 is **Natasha Flurry**, MBA, RN, CPPS, and Chief Nurse Executive from the Clinton Indian Health Center in the IHS Oklahoma City Area.

As Chief Nurse Executive, Ms. Flurry has been instrumental in building leaders throughout our organization. She has a keen eye for identifying talent and has implemented comprehensive training and development programs to foster the growth of the nursing staff. Through her efforts, Ms. Flurry has helped to cultivate a strong pipeline of nursing leaders who are equipped to handle the challenges of the healthcare industry. One of the most notable attributes of Ms. Flurry is her ability to demonstrate trust within her managers. She provides guidance and support to her team, while also allowing them the autonomy to make decisions and take ownership of their work. This has created a culture of accountability and responsibility, leading to improved performance across our nursing department.

Ms. Flurry is also known for her willingness to do any job, no matter how big or small. Whether it is stepping in to provide direct patient care during a busy shift, or assisting with administrative tasks, she is always willing to roll up her sleeves and help out wherever needed. Her hands-on approach has earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues. In addition to her ability to multitask, Ms. Flurry supports growth within our nursing department. She encourages her team to pursue continuing education opportunities and regularly offers feedback and mentorship to help them reach their full potential. Through her leadership, Ms. Flurry has created an environment that supports personal and professional development, which has had a positive impact on patient outcomes.

Ms. Flurry presents herself as a subject matter expert in nursing, with an extensive knowledge of best practices and the latest advancements in healthcare technology. She is always up-to-date on the latest research and trends and is quick to share her knowledge with her team. Her expertise has helped to elevate the quality of care provided by the nursing department. In addition to her CNE role, Ms. Flurry serves as the service unit's lead patient safety officer, championing efforts to ensure all patient safety concerns are immediately reviewed, investigated within 14 days, and closed out within 30 days. Her leadership allowed the service unit to meet our internal goals in FY22.

Finally, Ms. Flurry is an excellent listener. She takes the time to listen to her colleagues and works collaboratively to find solutions to any issues that arise. Her approachable demeanor and willingness to hear all perspectives has helped to build strong relationships and foster a positive work environment.

Ms. Flurry is a truly exceptional nurse leader who embodies all the attributes of an outstanding nurse. She builds leaders, demonstrates trust within her managers, is willing to do any job, supports growth, presents herself as a subject matter expert in nursing, and is an excellent listener.