## Nurse of the Month – December 2023

The <u>Division of Nursing Services</u> is pleased to announce the recipient of the <u>Nurse of the Month</u> for December 2023 is Gerald Dennison-Smith, RN from the <u>Crownpoint Service Unit</u> in the IHS <u>Navajo</u> <u>Area.</u>

Mr. Gerald Dennison-Smith is a dedicated and accomplished registered nurse at the Crownpoint Service Unit (CSU) Inpatient department, providing eight years of outstanding service. Gerald's unwavering commitment to patient care and his invaluable contributions to the Crownpoint inpatient department make him a truly exceptional member of our team.

Since joining CSU in November 2015, Gerald has consistently demonstrated his dedication to providing topnotch medical care to our patients. His role as a charge nurse on both day and night shifts showcases his exceptional leadership skills and ability to handle diverse challenges with poise and expertise. Gerald leads a team of 3-4 individuals, and participates in Performance Improvement projects, serving as a preceptor for new graduate nurses, employees and contract nurses.



Gerald's impressive list of certifications, including basic life support (BLS), advanced cardiovascular life support (ACLS), and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), highlights his commitment to staying current in nursing practices and ensuring the highest quality of care for our patients. His additional role as a BLS instructor underscores his commitment to sharing his knowledge and expertise with his colleagues, contributing to the growth and education of our entire team. Not only does Gerald excel in clinical responsibilities, but he also plays a pivotal role in the education department, stepping in as needed to assist with Employee Health Program assisting with vaccination drives, and being the Navajo Area Office Award Committee representative for CSU.

Gerald's willingness to take on various roles within the hospital showcases his adaptability and dedication to the success of our institution. Gerald's contributions extend beyond his professional responsibilities; his presence has a positive impact on the entire Crownpoint Community. His caring demeanor, genuine concern for patients, and willingness to go above and beyond embody the values that we hold dear at Crownpoint Healthcare Facility. We are proud to have Gerald as an esteemed member of our healthcare family.