THE Truly AWARDS

2026 Truly Rising Star Award finalists

The Truly Rising Star Award celebrates registered nurses who, though *new to the profession* (within their first five years of practice) consistently *go above and beyond* to provide exceptional patient-centered care.

Read what the nominators have to say about the award finalists. Vote for who you believe deserves a Truly Award in each of the award categories at **TrulyAwards.northwell.edu**.



Cleo Velle Anastacio, RN

Registered Nurse

Stern Rehab

Central market

"Cleo truly embodies the essence of a Northwell Health nurse. Her unwavering commitment to the highest ethical standards, maturity, and sound clinical judgment make her a trusted team member and an invaluable asset. her exceptional interpersonal skills and seamlessly collaborates across departments, fostering a culture of respect, teamwork, and compassion."



Valerie Craft, RN

Registered Nurse

Peconic Bay Medical Center

Eastern market

"Valerie Craft, RN, is the kind of nurse who reminds us all why this work is sacred—because when she listens, healing begins."



Michelle Delio, RN

Staff Nurse

Norwalk Hospital

Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut market

"Michelle stands for everything Norwalk values nursing, compassion, competence, and calm in the storm. She lifts her patients, supports her peers, and leads by quiet example. When you work beside her, you want to be better."



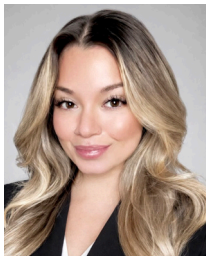
Frederica Forde-Blaise, RN

Registered Nurse

LIJ Valley Stream Hospital

Central market

"Frederica isn't just a rising star; she's already a guiding light. In three short years, she's given our ED a powerful voice, championed our advocacy, and tirelessly works to make this a better place for everyone. She truly inspires us all to shine brighter."



Jessica Marcello, RN

Registered Nurse

Glen Cove Hospital

Eastern market

"Jessica is the heart and future of our team. She supports her colleagues without hesitation and cares for her patients with incredible compassion. She inspires us to be better every single day. She isn't just a rising star; she's our star, and she absolutely deserves this recognition."

Vote Jan. 26 - Feb. 6, 2026
at TrulyAwards.northwell.edu

Northwell Health®

THE Truly AWARDS

2026 Truly Innovative Award finalists

The Truly Innovative Award celebrates registered nurses who embody the *spirit of innovation*, leadership, and unwavering dedication to *advance the nursing profession* and improve healthcare delivery.

Read what the nominators have to say about the award finalists. Vote for who you believe deserves a Truly Award in each of the award categories at **TrulyAwards.northwell.edu**.



Heather Caramanzana, RN

Director, Patient Care

Glen Cove Hospital

Eastern market

"Vote for Heather Caramanza, PhD because she doesn't just lead—she transforms. Through innovation, compassion, and evidence-based excellence, she's redefining rehabilitation nursing—elevating patient outcomes, empowering nurses, and proving that true leadership doesn't just manage change, it creates it."



Deirdre Casey, RN

Registered Nurse

Cohen Children's Medical Center

Central market

"Through innovation, compassion, and vision, Deirdre Casey, RN, transformed communication in the NICU. Her NICU Speaks program empowered non-English-speaking families to connect in their preferred language, driving a 200% surge in engagement and redefining what it means to deliver equitable, inclusive, and family-centered neonatal care."



Ann Marie Hasse, RN

Clinical Professional Development Educator

LIJ Medical Center

Central market

"Ann Marie's tireless efforts educating our staff and patients truly reflects her passion for improving outcomes and enhancing the overall patient experience. Her dedication, innovation, and exceptional contributions regarding the safety of our patients and the delivery of quality care by our nurses makes her worthy of a Truly Award!"



Mavis Rhodes, RN

Manager, Patient Care

Plainview Hospital

Eastern market

"Vote for Mavis because she doesn't just manage; she inspires. Her unwavering dedication to excellence and her belief in our team transformed Plainview's robotic program, elevating all our skills and making us a beacon of innovation. She's a true champion of nursing."



Rebecca Yi, RN

Registered Nurse

LIJ Forest Hills Hospital

Central market

"Rebecca Yi deserves your vote because she doesn't wait for problems to happen; she invents solutions that benefit every single one of us and our most vulnerable patients. Her dedication to continuous learning and implementing tangible improvements truly raises the bar for what nursing can be."

Vote Jan. 26 - Feb. 6, 2026
at TrulyAwards.northwell.edu

Northwell Health®

THE Truly AWARDS

2026 Truly Inclusive Award finalists

The Truly Inclusive Award celebrates registered nurses who demonstrate a commitment to *advancing health outcomes for all* and demonstrate an understanding of the importance of being *responsive to the unique and individual needs* of every patient and their families.

Read what the nominators have to say about the award finalists. Vote for who you believe deserves a Truly Award in each of the award categories at **TrulyAwards.northwell.edu**.



Jennifer Dixson, RN

Director, Magnet Program

Glen Cove Hospital

Eastern market

"She reminds us every day that true inclusion is not about being invited to the table—it's about ensuring every voice at that table is heard, respected, and empowered to make a difference."



Claudette Hill, RN

Director, Operations

Staten Island University Hospital North

Metro market

"Claudette is a visionary nurse, ensuring every voice is heard and dignity upheld. Her innovative programs, like Pop Up Pantry and Easy Breathers, are transforming Staten Island lives and inspiring our Western Region. She sets the standard for truly inclusive, compassionate care."



Lissa Nelson, RN

Director, Patient and Customer Experience

LIJ Valley Stream Hospital

Central market

"Lissa is not shy by any means and certainly commands the spotlight, but she is equally as comfortable fading into the background, grabbing a figurative pair of pom-poms and screaming from the rooftop on behalf of others. She lives not for her moments but to be in everyone else's moment."



Lorraine Owens, RN

Senior Manager, Patient Care

Northern Westchester Hospital

Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut market

"Lorraine is an extraordinary nurse whose inclusive approach, compassionate heart, and clinical excellence make her an invaluable asset to our team and a beacon of patient-centered care."



Nashia Williams, RN

Assistant Director, Nursing

South Shore University Hospital

Eastern market

"Nashia Williams is mindful to look through an objective, unbiased lens taking into consideration culture, values and beliefs when working with patients, families and team members going above and beyond to embody Northwell's values and mission. She embodies what the Truly Inclusive Award is about."

Vote Jan. 26 - Feb. 6, 2026
at TrulyAwards.northwell.edu

Northwell Health®

THE Truly AWARDS

2026 Truly Collaborative Award finalists

The Truly Collaborative Award celebrates registered nurses who foster a positive work environment, *empower colleagues*, and elevate patient care nursing through collaboration and a commitment to shared goals.

Read what the nominators have to say about the award finalists. Vote for who you believe deserves a Truly Award in each of the award categories at **TrulyAwards.northwell.edu**.



Alexis Aparo, RN

Clinical Professional Development Educator

North Shore University Hospital

Central market

"Alexis Aparo, our LDR Educator, exemplifies collaboration. She empowers colleagues, champions continuous learning, and fosters a positive, respectful LDR environment. Her visionary leadership, including pioneering the LPN pilot and enhancing patient education, strengthens our team and elevates patient care outcomes. She is truly deserving."



Christine Cullon, RN

Registered Nurse

South Shore University Hospital

Eastern market

"Christine doesn't just collaborate, she cultivates collaboration. Her presence improves workflow, morale, and patient outcomes. Her quiet, but powerful leadership is a model of excellence, and she is richly deserving of the Truly Collaborative Nursing Award."



Christina Misenti, RN

Manager, Patient Care

Danbury Hospital

Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut market

"When a problem is identified, Chrissy is the person you want on your team. She will work tirelessly, with complete dedication to solve any problem. She never hesitates to reach out to key stakeholders such as infection prevention, EVS, and physician leadership."



Jennifer Rosen, RN

Senior Director, Patient Care

Orzac Rehab

Central market

"Jennifer she lives the Northwell Values. This is evident in all her interactions with staff, colleagues, and patients."



Jennifer Whiffin, RN

Director, Patient Care

Manhattan Eye Ear & Throat Hospital

Metro market

"Jennifer is the architect of connection and collaboration across surgery in Manhattan. She empowers us to excel, connect with others, and fosters an environment where every voice is heard. Voting for Jennifer isn't just acknowledging her individual brilliance; it's recognizing her impact on patient care and our team's strength."

Vote Jan. 26 - Feb. 6, 2026
at TrulyAwards.northwell.edu

Northwell Health®

THE Truly AWARDS

2026 Truly Caring Touch Award finalists

The Truly Caring Touch Award celebrates registered nurses who embody *compassionate care*, going above and beyond to *make a lasting impact* on patients and colleagues alike.

Read what the nominators have to say about the award finalists. Vote for who you believe deserves a Truly Award in each of the award categories at **TrulyAwards.northwell.edu**.



Deyry Acevedo, RN

Registered Nurse

Vassar Brothers Medical Center

Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut market

"Our NICU wants our families to feel they are part of a family, and they are needed to care for their baby. Deyry is always thinking about the family. Finds the good in the difficult situations, helps families understand the why so they know how to be a NICU parent."



Michelle DeFonce, RN

Hospice Care Registered Nurse

Hospice Care Network

Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut market

"Michelle is not just a star for hospice, she is the whole universe to our patients. I am very proud to know her and to have her on my team."



Camille Gooden, RN

Assistant Manager, Patient Care

Zucker Hillside Hospital

Central market

"Under immense pressure and extreme risk, Camille executed a highly challenging transport with unparalleled professionalism and bravery. Camille's actions spoke volumes of her dedication and character. Facing unpredictable challenges, Camille's selfless courage shone brightest, exemplifying the very best of human dedication and bravery."



Christine Resti, RN

Registered Nurse

Northern Dutchess Hospital

Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut market

"If you've ever worked with Christine, you know she's the heartbeat of our team. She brings calm to chaos, compassion to every patient, and kindness to every coworker. Christine leads by example, lifting everyone around her. She doesn't just provide care—she embodies it, every single shift."



Timra Walsh, RN

Registered Nurse

Cancer - Radiation Oncology

Central market

"Timra doesn't just practice nursing, she lives compassion. From the smallest gesture to the most extraordinary act of kindness, she consistently puts our patients' well-being—body, mind, and spirit—above all else. She's the heart of our team, and the embodiment of what a 'truly compassionate award' means."

Vote Jan. 26 - Feb. 6, 2026
at TrulyAwards.northwell.edu

Northwell Health®

THE Truly AWARDS

2026 Truly Clinical Leadership Award finalists

The Truly Clinical Leadership Award celebrates nurse leaders (assistant nurse manager to assistant director) who *inspire and empower teams* to deliver exceptional patient care.

Read what the nominators have to say about the award finalists. Vote for who you believe deserves a Truly Award in each of the award categories at **TrulyAwards.northwell.edu**.



Kristin Farrugia, RN

Manager, Patient Care

South Shore University Hospital

Eastern market

"Kristin leads with heart, vision, and collaboration – transforming challenges into opportunities for growth and empowering her team to deliver exceptional care through education, respect, and unity."



Verona Henningham, RN

Manager, Patient Care

Syosset Hospital

Eastern market

"Verona has an incredible gift for inspiring and unlocking your true potential! She wholeheartedly believes that together we can achieve great things—joining forces can lead to amazing journeys and success."



Bree Joseph, RN

Clinical Program Manager

Northern Westchester Hospital

Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut market

"Bree is a visionary clinical leader who brought PEMF technology sessions to improve team wellbeing and cutting-edge virtual reality technology for palliative patient comfort with authentic kindness and caring. A tireless mentor, integrative leader, award-winning clinical researcher and Epic advocate—she is your truly innovative clinical leader."



Yolanda Malone, RN

Senior Manager, Patient Care

North Shore University Hospital

Central market

"Yolanda is a transformational leader who drives excellence across six Northwell dialysis units. Her commitment to innovation, quality, and patient-centered care improves outcomes and empowers nurses to be leaders. Through servant leadership, she fosters collaboration, respect, and growth—uplifting teams while keeping the human heart at the center of healthcare."



Colleen Saville, RN

Manager, Patient Care

Mather Hospital

Eastern market

"Colleen Saville truly represents the Northwell values!"

Vote Jan. 26 - Feb. 6, 2026
at TrulyAwards.northwell.edu

Northwell Health®

THE Truly AWARDS

2026 Truly Senior Leadership Award finalists

The Truly Senior Leadership Award celebrates nurse leaders (director and above) who are *visionary leaders*, empowering teams to achieve results and *cultivate a culture of excellence*.

Read what the nominators have to say about the award finalists. Vote for who you believe deserves a Truly Award in each of the award categories at **TrulyAwards.northwell.edu**.



Pradel Felix, RN

Director, Patient Care

LIJ Medical Center

Central market

"For his steadfast commitment to nursing excellence, his humility in leadership, and his genuine care for the teams he leads and the patients they serve, Pradel Felix is more than deserving of the Nursing Truly Leadership Award."



Florence Lefevre, RN

Director, Clinical Professional Development

North Shore University Hospital

Central market

"Florence excels in innovative change with "Hello-Care" implementation. She champions dignity and significantly reduced CLABSI rates. As a role model, mentor, and leader, she fosters teamwork and continuous improvement, making an invaluable difference to patients, families, and colleagues. She is truly deserving."



Amanda Guido, RN

Director, Patient Care

Manhattan Eye Ear & Throat Hospital

Metro market

"Amanda is a visionary leader who empowers every nurse to make a difference. Through her creation of the PPRAG, a Perioperative Peer Review Action Group, she's turned ideas into action, uniting our team across disciplines to improve patient care, inspire growth, and lead with compassion, collaboration and excellence."



Renee Sanchez, RN

Director, Patient Care

LIJ Valley Stream

Central market

"Vote for Renee because her unwavering dedication, visionary leadership, and commitment to empowering others have transformed patient care, uplifted colleagues, and made a lasting positive impact on both her organization and the community."



Eileen Yost, RN

Director, Patient Care Services

Norwalk Hospital

Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut market

"Eileen embodies everything we aspire to be as nurses—compassionate, collaborative, and relentlessly dedicated to excellence. She rebuilt a team through trust and respect, inspired growth through learning, and restored pride in our profession. Her leadership doesn't just change a unit—it transforms people and the care we deliver every day."

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