



CAROLINAS HOSPITAL SYSTEM CELEBRATES NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

Recently, Carolinas Hospital System hosted the 2009 Nurses Week Recognition Ceremony for the dedication and achievement of all the nursing staff.

Pictured (l-r): *Melissa Sarmiento, Dr. Frank Lee, Jr., Tonda Spinks and Joseph Davis*

This year the Patient Choice Award was presented to **Tonda Spinks, RN, Day Hospital.**

Tonda was described as: eases the fear of both the patient and family, allowing them to focus on healing rather than treatment. She is skilled, personable, organized, efficient and compassionate. She has a knack for making patients and their family members feel comfortable and important, like they are the only one she is caring for at the time. She is very good at anticipating patients' needs. The award recognized the quality of care, comfort and compassion offered by the nurses at Carolinas Hospital System. This program solicited input from the community, which culminated with one nurse at Carolinas Hospital System receiving the Patient Choice Award.



"It warmed our hearts to read all of the outstanding comments made about our nurses. Choosing one recipient from our stellar staff was a daunting task, and we truly wish that all of our nurses could have received this prestigious award," said C. Edward Floyd, MD.

The 2009 Nurse of the Year award was presented to Melissa Sarmiento, RN, Sixth Floor. Her combination of impeccable clinical skills and sound judgment exudes professionalism and provides a near-flawless example to her peers. Melissa is highly respected by her colleagues and has the confidence of the medical staff. Her daily dedication and personal interest in the well-being of patients and families is overwhelmingly evident by the routine display of gratitude from the individuals whose lives she has touched. She makes us proud and helps us exemplify the Carolinas difference.

Also, two other awards were presented this year for Nursing Support Champion and Physician Friend of Nursing. Congratulations to Joseph Davis from Surgical Services, Nursing Support Champion and Dr. Frank Lee, Jr., Physician Friend of Nursing.

"All of our Nursing Service employees are extraordinary. They combine critical thinking with compassion, experience with imagination and knowledge with power. We thank them all for



their tireless efforts and the critical role they play in the health and well-being of our communities,” said Costa Cockfield, Chief Nursing Officer.