



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION AWARD

ESSAY

Submit an essay describing the employer's other methods of recognition, appreciation, encouragement and advancement of the WOCNCB® credentials.

Do not specify the organization by name. Always refer to the organization as "Nominee". The essay length should not go beyond two pages, typed.

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The WOCN team is very proud to submit this nomination for the 2024 WOCNCB® Employer Recognition Award. This "Nominee" is an independent 716-bed non-profit system with two inpatient hospitals, three outpatient wound healing centers, and other outpatient specialty services. The "Nominee" boldly pursues its mission by serving the community to help people live happier, healthier, and longer lives. The "Nominee" supports the WOCN's own Mission "to promote, maintain, and restore health in patients with wound, ostomy, and continence issues. Our WOCN Vision states, " Nurses will be empowered to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate care of patients with wound, ostomy, and continence issues based on national standards and evidence-based practice." We are proud to say that the "Nominee" is on the Journey to Pathway to Excellence."

The "Nominee" employs CWOC nurses and supports their continued education by completing a WOC Nursing Program and recertification reimbursement. The "Nominee" supports WOCNCB® -certified WOC nurses in attending conferences to maintain their professional practice and keep up with innovations.

In addition, the "Nominee" recognizes WOCNCB® nurses during the WOCN week and Certified Nurses Week by providing speakers, luncheon, small gifts, and certificates. The WOCN Team recently received a Daisy Team Award from the "Nominee." In addition, every year during Certified Nurses Week, the WOCN Team receives the Certified Nurses Badge, a recognition on the "Nominee's" internal website.



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The "Nominee" employs 6 WOC nurses (4 inpatient and 2 outpatient) with CWOCN or CWON certifications, and the WOCN Team continues to expand. The "Nominee" inpatient WOC nursing department is led by the WOC Nurse Director, who maintains CWOCN credentials and is pursuing CWOCN-AP certification. The Nominee reports that the WOCN Team has the highest job satisfaction and retention. The WOCN Team works closely with the multidisciplinary team, such as physicians, nursing staff, respiratory therapists, physical and occupational therapists, dietitians, etc., to provide evidence-based, patient-centered care for our patients with wounds. The WOCN Team educates nursing staff, participates in shared governance, updates, and writes new policies. The WOCN Team works with the Product Value Analysis Nurse and has significant input on the wound, ostomy, and continence products. The WOCN Team also sits on a Hospital Acquired Pressure Injury (HAPI) Committee, working closely with the Quality Team. The "Nominee" strongly supports the Skin Champion program that the WOCN Team created to aid in skin and pressure injury prevention and participates in the quarterly Prevalence Rounds.

Even though the WOCN Team is primarily inpatient, the outpatient wound healing center also offers ostomy care. Since they currently only have one full-time and one PRN CWOCN between 3 centers, the "Nominee" allows us to support our outpatient WOCN Team and travel between inpatient and outpatient to see patients with ostomy and fistula issues.

The "Nominee's" understanding of the WOCN roles and support for being credentialed by the WOCNCB[®] allowed for the WOCN Team to develop great respect and understanding of the multidisciplinary team and acknowledge how vital this WOCN role is in this organization.

The WOCN Team appreciates the "Nominee's" continued support in WOCNCB[®] certification, recertification, and recognizing the WOCN Team as their subject matter experts in providing quality, EBP patient-centered care.