

# NATIONAL NURSES WEEK MAY 6 – MAY 12, 2025

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NURSES WEEK 2025

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Nurses Week holds an especially prominent place in our hearts  
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every day, for their compassion and commitment to care for all.



# KAYE HARBERD



PROVIDED

Kaye Harberd comes to nursing from education, and now works with critical care mental health patients.

**ANDY TALLMAN**  
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**K**aye Harberd has two passions: teaching and nursing.

In high school, she worked as a counselor at a summer camp for children with disabilities, which opened her eyes that she was capable of both teaching people and taking care of them.

She started her career as a teacher, graduating with her education degree from the University of Montana, but always knew she wanted to be a nurse. So she left education to pursue nursing, but doesn't see the two as contradictory.

"One of the biggest processes of health care is education," Harberd said.

After all, it's up to health care professionals to make sure patients leave the hospital knowing how to take care of themselves and their ailments.

In nursing school, Harberd signed up for a clinical class about mental health care, and instantly clicked with it.

"It was just exactly where I was supposed to be," Harberd said.

Now, Harberd has a job she loves. For four years, Harberd has worked at the acute care mental health unit at St. Patrick Hospital, helping people with severe mental health crises. Every day she meets patients, finds out their needs, and makes sure they feel safe and validated, whether they suffer from suicidal ideation or schizophrenia.

"There's a broad range of typical mental health needs within our unit," Harberd said. "Building trust with a person is a typical day."

Harberd said mental health issues are often stigmatized, and she prides herself on being a voice for her patients. Everyday, s h e

**"The most challenging part of the job is creating an environment where people feel safe enough to tell you how they're feeling and what their needs are."**

**Kaye Harberd**

applies her skills learned from working with children and families.

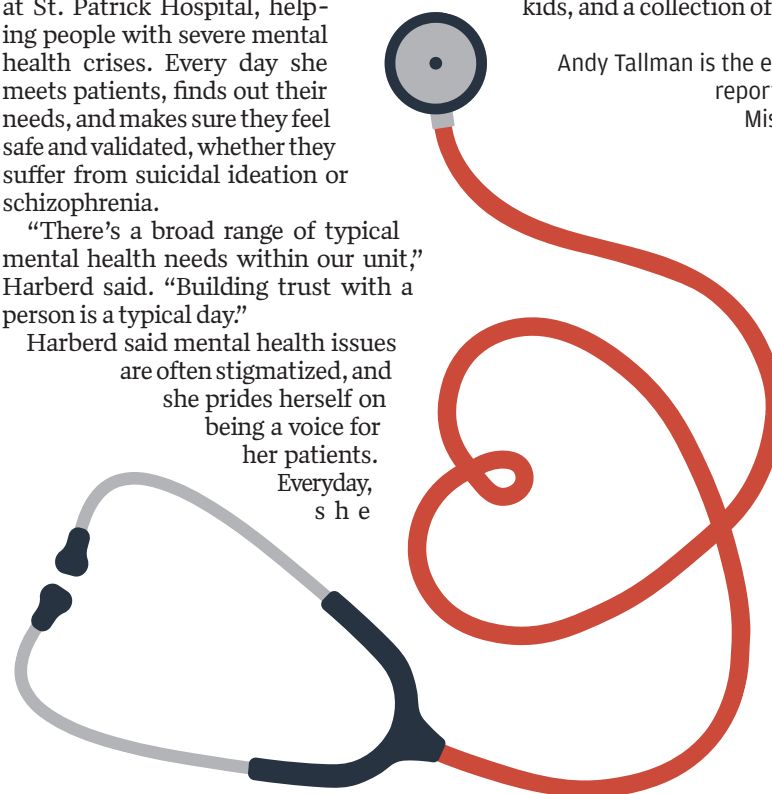
"Nursing is most important to me because there's always a time in somebody's life where they need someone to just listen to them," Harberd said. "The most challenging part of the job is creating an environment where people feel safe enough to tell you how they're feeling and what their needs are."

Harberd said she was "super honored" to be nominated for Nurse's Week.

"It blew me away that someone was thoughtful enough to nominate me," Harberd said.

When Harberd isn't helping patients on the ward, she likes to spend time outdoors with her family: her husband, her two kids, and a collection of dogs.

Andy Tallman is the education reporter for the Missoulilian.



# WYATT CARR

GRIFFEN SMITH

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**S**tabilizing people arriving at the emergency room is not for the faint of heart, but for Wyatt Carr, he couldn't be happier with his job.

Carr, a Community Medical Center nurse, said working in Missoula, where he can go from hiking the regions trails to bandaging his neighbors the next day, has been a dream come true.

"I love it, I love it," Carr told the Missoulian. "I like the ER especially for the variety of people you meet and helping people get back on their way."

Carr moved to Missoula around a year ago from Tennessee. He's been a nurse for eight years, mainly working in emergency rooms.

He first worked in Community Medical Center's in-patient rehab facility for 10 months before moving to his current position in the ER.

The two jobs are almost polar opposite, but Carr said he enjoys them both.

In rehab, Carr works to help people improve after serious incidents, from a stroke to a severe car crash. While he might see an ER patient for 15 minutes, he sees individual rehab patients for days to weeks at a time.

"It's really fulfilling," Carr said, citing times where people go from being bedridden to walking out of the hospital on their own power. "It's a great feeling as a nurse."

He said he also enjoys the fast-paced ER environment. Depending on the day, Carr said he will care for people with a runny nose, women in labor or critical cases where a person might not be breathing.

He credits other staff in the department for making the process a smooth experience for patients.

"It's certainly an all-hands-on-deck team effort," Carr said.

His coworkers have noticed as well. In Carr's nomination letter to be recognized in the Missoulian for Nurses Week, his colleagues praised him for his positive attitude, attention to detail and a "unique level of calmness."

"Wyatt is always willing to lend a hand, demonstrating a collaborative spirit and offering support to his colleagues whenever needed," his nominator wrote. "Wyatt's commitment to his patients, his team, and his profession sets him apart



BEN ALLAN SMITH, MISSOULIAN

Wyatt Carr, a Community Medical Center nurse, poses for a portrait outside the Emergency Room at the hospital on Thursday, April 3, 2025.

as an exemplary nurse."

Carr also said he enjoys Missoula because of the city's strong commitment to nurses and medical employees.

He cited the importance of a strong medical infrastructure needed to handle a growing city like Missoula and called on residents to vote for politicians who support unions.

Carr lives in Missoula with his wife.

**"Wyatt is always willing to lend a hand, demonstrating a collaborative spirit and offering support to his colleagues whenever needed. Wyatt's commitment to his patients, his team, and his profession sets him apart as an exemplary nurse."**

**Nomination letter**

Griffen Smith is the local government reporter for the Missoulian.



# Celebrating NURSES Week

**Congratulations  
to the following  
Bitterroot Health nurses  
who have been recognized by the community!**

**Bitterroot Health honors  
our nursing staff for  
their unwavering  
commitment to patients  
and their families.**

**You are vital to our  
future and we couldn't  
care for our community  
without EACH of you.**

*Thank you!*

## FEATURED NOMINEES:



**Katie Boone  
RN, IBCLC**

"It is with immense pleasure that I nominate Katie Boone. Katie's remarkable dedication, unparalleled expertise, and compassionate spirit have had a profound impact

on countless patients and staff members. Her extensive knowledge in breastfeeding and her caring heart have been invaluable to new mothers and their families. Katie not only offers support and guidance during difficult times, but also empowers her patients with the confidence and skills they need to thrive after going home. Katie's passion for nursing is evident in every aspect of her work. Her unwavering attention to detail ensures that each patient receives the

highest quality of care, tailored to their unique needs. Whether it is meticulously monitoring a patient's progress or providing a comforting presence during difficult moments, Katie's commitment to excellence is unwavering. Her ability to combine clinical expertise with genuine empathy sets her apart as an extraordinary nurse and an irreplaceable asset to our team."



**Michelle Yotter**

"Michelle is not only an asset to the BHDH Birthing Center but an exceptional nurse overall. She gives personalized and quality care to each individual she cares for but also is a valuable advocate

for patient's needs and her fellow colleagues. I know I can always count on Michelle if I ever need a hand and can rely on her vast knowledge of OB."

## ADDITIONAL 2025 NOMINEES:

**Christy Ellis**

"Christy is a hardworking, positive, inspiring, and knowledgeable nurse in the Bitterroot Valley. She is dedicated to her community and an amazing teacher who goes out of her way to educate and support The Ryans Training Program students."

**Falon Decker**

"Falon Decker is a Medical/Surgical nurse at Bitterroot Health. She is an excellent nurse who provides personalized and exceptional care. She genuinely cares about her patients. She instills trust by her competence as a nurse and helps even the most difficult patient to feel at ease. She truly goes above and beyond!"

**Lara Grover**

"She is always so caring to patients and is quick to help them."

*Congratulations*



**Bitterroot Health**

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# JANNA CONKLIN

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Janna Conklin, a Registered Nurse in the radiation oncology department at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula, has been at the hospital for almost three decades, so she's seen it all.

She's also a military veteran.

"I originally thought I wanted to be a pediatrician, but I went into nursing instead," she said. "I joined the U.S. Army and then they put me in a cancer ward, and I've been in cancer care every since."

She said it's the interaction with patients that's the most rewarding part of the job.

"I like treating patients, letting them know what to expect with treatments and managing side effects," she said. "It's a lot of one-on-one personal care. With radiation, I see them every day and get to know them."

Technology has changed a lot in her time in the health care industry, she said.

"When I first started it was all on paper, now it's all computerized," she said. "There have been a lot of technology changes in software."

When asked what advice she would give to young people looking to enter a career in nursing, she said empathy is important.

"Just be there for the patients, and treat them the way you want to be treated," she said. "Treat them as family members."

One of her coworkers nominated her to be recognized by the Missoulian for National Nurses Week, writing that she has dedicated a huge part of her life to patient care.

"Janna has been a compassionate patient advocate nurse for over 30 years," Conklin's colleague wrote. "She joined the Armed Forces after graduating from Carroll College. She found her passion in oncology and has been a radiation oncology nurse for over 20 years. She exemplifies putting the patient first and helping them



SHANNA MADISON, MISSOULIAN

Missoula nurse Janna Conklin, pictured on Friday, April 4, in Missoula.

**"I originally thought I wanted to be a pediatrician, but I went into nursing instead. I joined the U.S. Army and then they put me in a cancer ward, and I've been in cancer care every since."**

Janna Conklin

navigate their cancer journey. She is a great team player with her coworkers and is always on top of making sure things flow smoothly for the patient and staff."

David Erickson is the business reporter for the Missoulian.



# SHANNON DOHERTY

LAURA SCHEER

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**W**hen Shannon Doherty was in her sophomore year of college, her boyfriend was diagnosed with cancer. She spent the next year, alongside his parents, taking care of him through hospital visits and treatment until he eventually passed away.

"I was 20," the Missoula nurse said in a recent interview with the Missoulain. "If I can do this for someone I love, I can definitely do this for strangers."

The next fall, she declared nursing as her major.

"I learned that nurses make such a huge difference in the day you're having and how things are going and communicating with doctors," she said of the experience caring for her late boyfriend.

She's been a nurse for almost 20 years now, all but two of those spent working at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula.

For the last decade, she's been working with doctors at the hospital's Cardiac Cath Lab, placing stents and replacing heart valves.

One of the more interesting surgeries they do involves replacing valves through the patient's leg rather than opening their chest, which Doherty said is much less invasive.

"It's an hour and a half surgery rather than six hours," she added.

But the work of being a nurse goes well beyond performing complex medical procedures. They anticipate needs, provide comfort and reassurance, and help keep patients

**"That's what's rewarding to me, is to help provide a good experience and help relax them and make sure they know everything's going to be OK. It takes a lot of people to run a hospital. But I do feel like the majority of the work in a hospital is done by the nurses. They're the ones interacting with the patients, they're the ones on the front lines."**

Shannon Doherty

relaxed during some of the most stressful and scary times a person might go through.

Doherty's coworkers said she is able to stay cool, calm and collected during high-stakes situations, describing a recent example where she had the experience and knowledge to quickly get the patient in for additional imaging all while comforting the individual and putting them at ease after they experienced post-procedure complications.

"As a result of her actions and the actions of the entire team, the patient made a full recovery," her coworkers said in a letter nominating her to be recognized by the Missoulain for Nurses Week.

Those situations remind Doherty of the importance the additional caretaking nurses provide has.

"That's what's rewarding to me, is to help provide a good experience and help relax them and make sure they know everything's going to be OK," she said.

And while Doherty praised anyone willing to work in medicine and health care, she said she's never forgotten the nurses that cared for her late boyfriend and all they did during one of the hardest times of her life.

"It takes a lot of people to run a hospital," she said. "But I do feel like the majority of the work in a hospital is done by the nurses. They're the ones interacting with the patients, they're the ones on the front lines."



PROVIDED

Shannon Doherty has been a nurse for almost 20 years, all but two of those spent working at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula.





# The role of certified nursing assistants

**T**he nursing profession is vast and attracts an array of talented people. A career as a nursing assistant can be a rewarding path for those who want to get into the profession.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, health care jobs are expected to grow by 13 percent between 2021 and 2031, making a nursing career an attractive option.

## What is a nursing assistant?

According to Premier Nursing Academy, a certified nursing assistant is an entry-level step into the medical field. A CNA is not a nurse, but these individuals will

work very closely under the supervision of licensed nursing staff, physicians and other health care providers.

## Why become a CNA?

Many people are drawn to becoming a CNA because the job presents a start in a career in health care. While some are content to remain CNAs for the duration of their careers, other CNAs use the position as a way to get on-the-job experience that can help them decide if they want to go further in the field of nursing. CNA certification does not require extensive education. On average, it takes between four to 10 weeks to complete the necessary

coursework to become a certified nursing assistant.

## Average day for a CNA

According to Indeed, a CNA can expect to perform these tasks on any given day.

- Administer medications to patients.
  - Assist patients with activities of daily living.
  - Bathe and dress patients.
  - Check vital signs.
  - Serve meals and help patients eat.
  - Watch for changes in patients' behaviors or worsening conditions.
  - Reposition bedridden patients.
- CNAs work in many different settings,

including at hospitals or in residential nursing homes.

## Salary and outlook

The BLS estimates that demand for certified nursing assistants will increase by 5 percent by 2031. Interested parties can expect to earn a median annual wage of \$30,290. Should one want to go on to becoming a registered nurse, he or she can expect a salary of \$77,600.

Certified nursing assistants play important roles in the medical field. CNAs hone their skills in facilities and can choose to stay put or go on to more advanced nursing careers.

# HAPPY NATIONAL Nurses Week!



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# MICHELLE YOTTER



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE YOTTER

Bitterroot Health nurse Michelle Yotter.

NICOLE GIRTEN

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**M**otherhood has been a throughline in Michelle Yotter's 30 years of nursing — with more than two decades under her belt as an OBGYN nurse.

She was first inspired to go into nursing by her mother, who worked as a nurse at an elderly-care facility. Yotter is now a mother to nine children and for more than two years has helped deliver babies in the Bitterroot, she said in an interview with the Ravalli Republic.

Yotter was nominated by her peers at Bitterroot Health to be recognized as a nurse who goes above and beyond for her patients as part of National Nurses Week.

Getting to see patients from prenatal education, to postpartum and out in the community is part of why Yotter prefers working at Bitterroot Health, as opposed to working at bigger hospitals where she was exclusively on the labor and delivery floor.

"It's a community of nurses literally coming together to take care of their community," she said.

Her mother at first warned Yotter against becoming a nurse, as there weren't many jobs available at the time. She originally started going to school for physical therapy at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash., but discovered it wasn't her "jam."

"I'm kind of an adrenaline junkie," she said.

She then transferred to Pacific Lutheran University in Parkland, Washington and started studying nursing.

Yotter started her career as an intensive care unit nurse in the emergency room and transitioned to being an OBGYN nurse in 2001, working for a long time in a high-risk pregnancy facility treating sick mothers giving birth or extremely premature babies.

She said it's an honor to be a part of a

**"It's a community of nurses  
literally coming  
together to take care of their  
community."**

Michelle Yotter

vulnerable and special day in a patient's life and do her best to try to make the mother's birth plan come to fruition.

"I don't think I've thought about changing careers ever since I've been doing it," she said.

Yotter also said passing mentorship onto the next generation of nurses was important to her, paying forward what older nurses had done for her when she first started. She said if they call at 2 a.m. she picks up the phone.

"I think it's important for them to have that support," she said.

Yotter works night shifts several times a week and homeschools her younger children during the day. But said on the days she hasn't had much sleep, being around the nurses at Bitterroot Health "rejuvenates" her.

"I've never found a group of nurses that are as honest and sincere and helpful and kind," she said.

Nicole Girten is the education reporter for the Ravalli Republic.



# KATIE MOROZUMI

JESSICA ABELL

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Growing up in a family of health care providers in Victor, Katie Morozumi was interested in a medical career at a young age.

"I've got nurses, doctors, pharmacists on my family side," she said. "So, I kind of always was a little bit drawn into health care."

Morozumi has been a nurse for nine years now and works in the Emergency Department at Bitterroot Health Hospital as well as True North Direct Primary Care in Hamilton.

Seeing both the emergency room aspect of medicine as well as the clinic side gives Morozumi unique insight into the delivery end of health care and how it affects her patients.

"I've only ever done emergency medicine, and I'm at a clinic right now that I am just absolutely loving because it," she said. "Actually being able to sit down and educate people and all of that in the clinic setting has been pretty awesome."

Morozumi enjoys the flexibility her work offers and the opportunity to educate patients about their health, but said the most rewarding aspect is helping people improve their quality of life.

"Helping people gain a better quality of life — I think that's great — That's part of the reason I'm a nurse," she said. "I'm all about quality of life... So, regaining activity, you know, the people with knee pain that we're able to help go hiking again. Just regaining activity and the quality of life that is fulfilling to people and helping them get there is kind of the most rewarding part for me."

The job doesn't come without its stresses though. The things nurses see and go through trying to help people in emergency situations can have an emotional weight that lasts long after one leaves work for the day.

"We give a lot, and sometimes I feel like you almost lose a piece of yourself when you lose specific patients in certain populations or certain situations, like a child, you know, I feel like there's a piece of my heart that's gone," she said.

Morozumi emphasized the importance of self-care for nurses to maintain their ability to help others, whether it be through counseling to manage stress and maintain emotional well-being or time spent outdoors, self-care is important to maintain one's ability to care for others.

"I think you can lose yourself," she said. "You can become very hardened as a nurse because you're trying to protect yourself from those constant onslaughts. But I think the most important thing for us to do is fill our cups, so then we can, you know, let somebody have a drink of it, if that makes any sense."

"I think you can develop better, strong interpersonal relationships and connections with your patients and clients, if you have a full cup. So it might sound a little selfish, but taking care of you first, that way, you have more to give to them and develop a stronger relationship."

**"I'm all about quality of life... So, regaining activity, you know, the people with knee pain that we're able to help go hiking again. Just regaining activity and the quality of life that is fulfilling to people and helping them get there is kind of the most rewarding part for me."**

Katie Morozumi



PROVIDED PHOTO

Bitterroot Valley nurse Katie Morozumi and her husband enjoy spending time in the outdoors with their dogs. Morozumi emphasized the importance of self-care for nurses to maintain their ability to help others.

# KATIE BOONE



Katie Boone

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**B**itterroot Health Labor and Delivery Nurse, Katie Boone came to the Bitterroot Valley in 2022 after working for nearly ten years as a nurse in Bend, Oregon. Boone said that the sense of community at Bitterroot Health was “pretty special.”

“I absolutely love the small critical access feel of the hospital,” Boone told the Ravalli Republic. “It’s very family oriented. It’s really close and you feel like you know everybody. I love that part of it, but it does have its challenges.”

Boone works in the birthing and delivery unit at the Bitterroot Health Primary Care facility in Hamilton. She and her husband moved to Ravalli County after wanting to find a smaller town once their two daughters graduated high school.

“We lived in Bend, Oregon for 30 years,” Boone said. “We came up here to visit and immediately put our house in Oregon on the market and decided to come. We were basically looking for a small town with a ski hill and this place fit the bill.”

Boone worked as a nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit in Oregon and said getting used to Hamilton’s smaller health center was, at first, a “challenging” adjustment for her.

“It’s a really big difference being in a small critical access hospital and it has been a challenge to get used to that,” Boone said. “There’s just not as many resources as far as back up. We only have one nurse on shift at a time and so you have to be really resourceful and really flexible. It’s been really challenging just learning a whole new nursing field.”

The ebb and flow of patients at the Hamilton hospital can change drastically from month to month, according to Boone, who said that the nursing team at Bitterroot Health had to be reliable to deal with the uneven influx.

“One we’ll have 20 births and another month we’ll have one,” Boone said. “You have to really be able to think on your feet and it’s been a lot to get used to, but I’m liking it.”

Boone said her favorite part of the job was her coworkers.

“We have to be flexible and willing to do extra in times of high census and be willing to come in and help each other,” Boone said. “We just have a really awesome team, so that’s probably my favorite part.”

Jackson Kimball is the local government reporter for the Ravalli Republic.

**“I absolutely love the small critical access feel of the hospital. It’s very family oriented. It’s really close and you feel like you know everybody. I love that part of it, but it does have its challenges.”**

**Katie Boone**

# KAREN TUCKER

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**K**aren Tucker said her friend was initially skeptical about putting her mother into a nursing home, worried the transition into apartment living would be difficult for her.

"She knew she couldn't care for her," Tucker said of her friend. "At first it was really difficult for her in adjusting, but as time went on she just absolutely loves it here and is flourishing."

An infection prevention specialist-

ist at The Village Senior Residence in Missoula, Tucker noted her job carries a lot of responsibility. She's the point person for monitoring potential outbreaks of COVID and other diseases at the senior living community, and must ensure staff are aware of precautions they need to take in response.

But she said working with people like her friend's mother makes the job deeply rewarding.

"She was so happy, because her mom feels like she's being well cared for," Tucker said.

Originally from Minneapolis, Tucker has been a nurse since graduating from Montana Tech in 2005, after which she and her family moved to Missoula. She got into the field working on-and-off as a

certified nursing assistant before getting her degree.

"I just really enjoyed taking care of people," Tucker said. "I just loved seeing their smiles, I loved making them comfortable and feeling good about themselves and being happy to know that their families were not able to be with them all the time, that we were just able to be part of their family."

The field of nursing didn't get easier after the pandemic. And working with elderly residents and patients requires strict adherence to federal COVID guidelines that much of the rest of the country no longer thinks about.

"It's staff burnout, wearing the gowns and gloves and goggles and masks," she said. "It's hard on them."

It's one of the reasons Tucker sits on the "Fun Committee" at The Village. The group plans events to buoy morale among the staff, including banquets and a 12-day Christmas celebration.

**"I just loved seeing their smiles, I loved making them comfortable and feeling good about themselves and being happy to know that their families were not able to be with them all the time, that we were just able to be part of their family."**

**Karen Tucker**

Asked what advice she'd give a new nurse interested in her job, Tucker only paused briefly.

"Hang onto your hat," she said. "This is a very challenging position, but it's very rewarding."

Sam Wilson is the criminal justice reporter at the Missoulian.



## THANK YOU, NURSES!



This is  
**Our Community**



Our nurses are the beating heart of our hospital. They offer comfort in times of joy and sorrow. They provide essential treatment, from emergency care to wellness check-ups and everything in between. Through their skill and compassion, our nurses transform our hospital into a community of care.

This Nurses Week, we want to share our gratitude for all the exceptional caregivers who have devoted their hearts and their minds to patients across Missoula and beyond. Every day, you make our community a better place. Thank you.



**CommunityMed.org**

# How to get ready for in-home care services

**E**nsuring that aging loved ones can be as independent as possible while also safe and secure may require the services of a caregiver.

According to the Family Caregiver Alliance, on average, caregivers spend 13 days each month on tasks like shopping, food preparation, housekeeping, laundry, transportation, and administering medication.

Many caregivers provide help with activities of daily living, whether they are informal caregivers (unpaid family) or formal caregivers (paid caregivers). Skilled nursing homes or assisted living facilities are options, and many families choose to rely on in-home care providers a few days a week or even for 24-hour-per-day care. Here's how to make the transition go more smoothly and prepare a home for the caregiver's arrival.

■ Identify the main care space(s). Receiving care at home may necessitate moving the person to a different room or

rooms. Ideally that space should be on the ground floor, easily accessible and close to a bathroom. If an in-home caregiver will be a live-in as well, he or she will need a room close to the individual's room.

■ Gather important information that will be needed. Companions for Seniors suggests collecting important supplies, paperwork and information, such as contacts for doctors and other important people, and making them easily accessible. A caregiver may need access to healthcare directives and maybe even bills or other financial documents if the person will be helping with tasks of that sort.

■ Label and organize the home. Consider labeling cupboards, drawers and storage containers so that caregivers can find things more easily. Also, this is a good time to clear out clutter and organize rooms even further.

■ Stock the home. Purchase certain necessities, such as groceries, pet food and supplies, paper products, cleaning sup-

plies, and whatever else is needed. Even if the caregiver agrees to do some shopping, supplementing can be a big help.

■ Install safety gear in the home. Be sure that the home is safe to navigate for the senior as well as the caregiver. Remove tripping hazards like area rugs, and take out excess furniture that isn't serving an immediate purpose. Utilize mounted grab bars near the toilet and tub, lower the hot water heater temperature, purchase a shower chair, and ensure that walkers, scooters or canes are in good repair. Ask the caregiver if there is anything else that is needed in terms of home modifications.

■ Consider a security system. Installation of cameras and alarms can make everyone in the home feel safer. Be sure the caregiver knows the placement of cameras and that they will be monitored for everyone's protection.

In-home care is a necessity for many aging adults. Certain steps are needed to prepare for the caregiver's arrival at home.



## At your fingertips

4 of the best mobile apps for nurses

EBONY WILLIAMS | The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**N**urses stay busier than just about anyone. So it's only natural that they turn to the many apps that offer a little help organizing and streamlining their duties. In recent years, there has been a huge increase in the development of mobile apps designed specifically for nurses. From apps that help improve accuracy in care to those that promise increased efficiency, there are plenty of apps to consider.

Here are four of the most popular mobile apps for nurses. All are free and available in the Apple and Android stores.



### Nurse.com app

This app is the only social networking app that's exclusive to nurses. While using the app, fellow health care workers can build a community specifically designed by and for nurses. The app also provides an array of educational

tools and resources.

### Adni

The Adni app is perfect if you're looking for community and where to get the latest gear in the marketplace. Used to sell and buy products, the Adni app is a digital resource for clinical tools, resources and shopping.



### My Shift Planner

If you're worried about your constantly changing schedule, the My Shift Planner app will send direct updates in real time, and allows you to see when your co-workers are working. It can also help with payroll issues and HR concerns.



### MedScape

This app is designed to provide immediate clinical answers, the latest clinical news, tools, and information on diseases and drugs. The app offers step-by-step videos on procedures and safety information on more than 9,200



DREAMSTIME

# ALAN WYLAND

CORY WALSH

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Alan Wyland, who's worked as a nurse for 16 years, says a clinic is a refreshing and exciting environment where you're surrounded by people who are there for a common purpose: helping others.

"It inspires me and motivates me to get up in the morning and go to work," he said.

Wyland is a clinic nurse at the Providence Heart Institute. Working in general cardiology, he takes on everyday clinic operations with medical assistants and patients, handling phone triage, educating patients on their cardiac diagnosis, test results, and rationale for their treatment and medications, and more.

In his nomination letter, a colleague wrote that Wyland "consistently shows up in the workplace with a contagious energy and a heart far too big for his chest. His dedication to caring for not only his patients, but also his colleagues, consis-

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tently pushes and encourages others to do the same."

An Illinois native, Wyland got a degree in psychology and then moved to Montana, where he worked with juveniles in a demanding direct-care role. He wanted to start a family and needed to change to a field with better schedule and pay. Wyland, who grew up with nurses in his family, went back to school to study nursing at Montana State University.

It also allowed him to continue working with people. He said our culture has

two sides — while we strive for success and comfort, underneath there's pain and suffering.

"I was uncomfortable with that facade and really needed to reach out and connect to people, to see where they're at, knowing that I'm often in a vulnerable state and so are others, and to validate that and make that normal rather than something we need to avoid or hide from," he said.

Cory Walsh is the arts and entertainment reporter for the Missoulian.



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**"Nurses dispense comfort, compassion, and caring without even a prescription."**

—Val Saintsbury



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