

2025

TOGETHER IN EXCELLENCE

— NURSING REPORT —



Stormont Vail
Health



A LETTER FROM OUR CHIEF NURSING OFFICER

Dear Team,

It is my honor to share the **2025 Annual Nursing Impact Report**, a reflection of a year defined by nursing excellence, innovation, and deep commitment to those we serve. Our nurses continue to exemplify what it means to lead with compassion, clinical expertise, and a relentless focus on safety and quality.

A YEAR OF EXCELLENCE, INNOVATION, & IMPACT

We advanced toward our **fifth Magnet® designation**, a distinction held by fewer than **2% of hospitals nationwide**, according to the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) [data](#).

We also strengthened our nursing workforce and proudly secured our first **ANCC Transition Accreditation Program® (PTAP)** designation for our [Nurse Residency Program](#), demonstrating our commitment to supporting new graduates as they transition into practice.

LEADING WITH COMPASSION, DELIVERING WITH QUALITY

Our professional governance councils continue to thrive, ensuring a structure grounded in shared decision-making, respect, and professional growth. As evidenced in our new Professional Practice Model, nurses influence practice, policy, and professional development, ultimately improving patient outcomes, experience, and empowering nurses to drive change from the bedside.

GROUNDING IN PURPOSE, GUIDED BY PRACTICE

Our impact reaches beyond the walls of our hospitals and clinics. In partnership with schools, community organizations, and local leaders, our nurses promote health education, access to care, and the well-being of individuals across our Kansas service region. These partnerships reinforce our mission and strengthen the trust placed in us as caregivers and community partners.

TOGETHER, WE ELEVATE CARE

To our community: thank you for your trust.

To our board members, nurse leaders, clinical nurses, and professional governance members: thank you for your vision, dedication, and commitment to excellence.

Together in Excellence, we are building a future where innovative nursing thrives and high reliability ensures every patient receives the BEST care they deserve.

Amy Kincade
Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer





WHO WE ARE



Nursing Professional Practice Model

MISSION

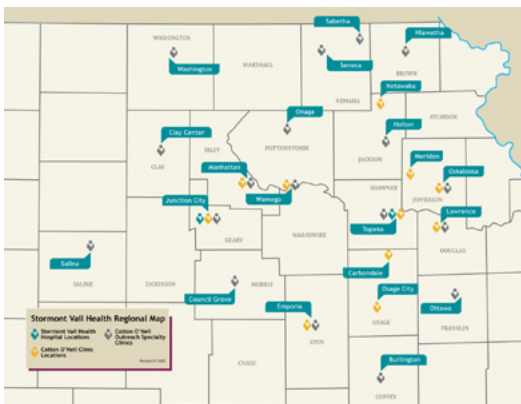
Working together to improve the health of our community.

STRATEGIC NURSING PRIORITIES

- Safety: “Don’t harm me”
- Quality: “Heal me”
- Experience: “Be nice to me”
- People: “Be engaged”

NURSING BY THE NUMBERS

- 1,865 Registered nurses
- 299 Licensed practice nurses
- 246 Advanced practice providers (with nursing licensure)
- 491 Certified nurses
- 1,489 BSN-prepared nurses
- 17,468 Combined years of tenure
- 700.9 Free nursing contact hours
- 204 Nurses hired
- 117 Nursing Promotions
- 21 Nurses retired



NURSING EXCELLENCE



The Nurse Residency Program assisted my transition from a nursing student to a competent and confident nurse. The combination of education, mentorship, and hands-on practice has equipped me to provide the highest quality of care to patients in our community.

Makenzie Brosa, RN - 2025 Nurse Residency Graduate

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

\$175,446 Tuition reimbursement provided

\$57,500 Nursing scholarships awarded

Completed in 2025 Stormont Vail Health Simulation Center Expansion

NURSE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

PTAP accreditation Achieved 2025

49 Graduates

85% Retention rate

24 case study posters evidence-based practice projects

Learning approach: Experiential and social constructivist methods, including hands-on training and group activities, shown to increase learner participation.

SDOH collaboration with The United Way of Kaw Valley to support social determinants of health understanding and interventions.



[Explore Our Program](#)

RECOGNITION & AWARDS



Daisy Award®

738 nominations

21 recipients

[Daisy Award® Winners](#)



Sunflower Award

Launched by the Workplace Experience Council to recognize nursing support staff in Fall 2025.

2 recipients

[Sunflower Award Winners](#)



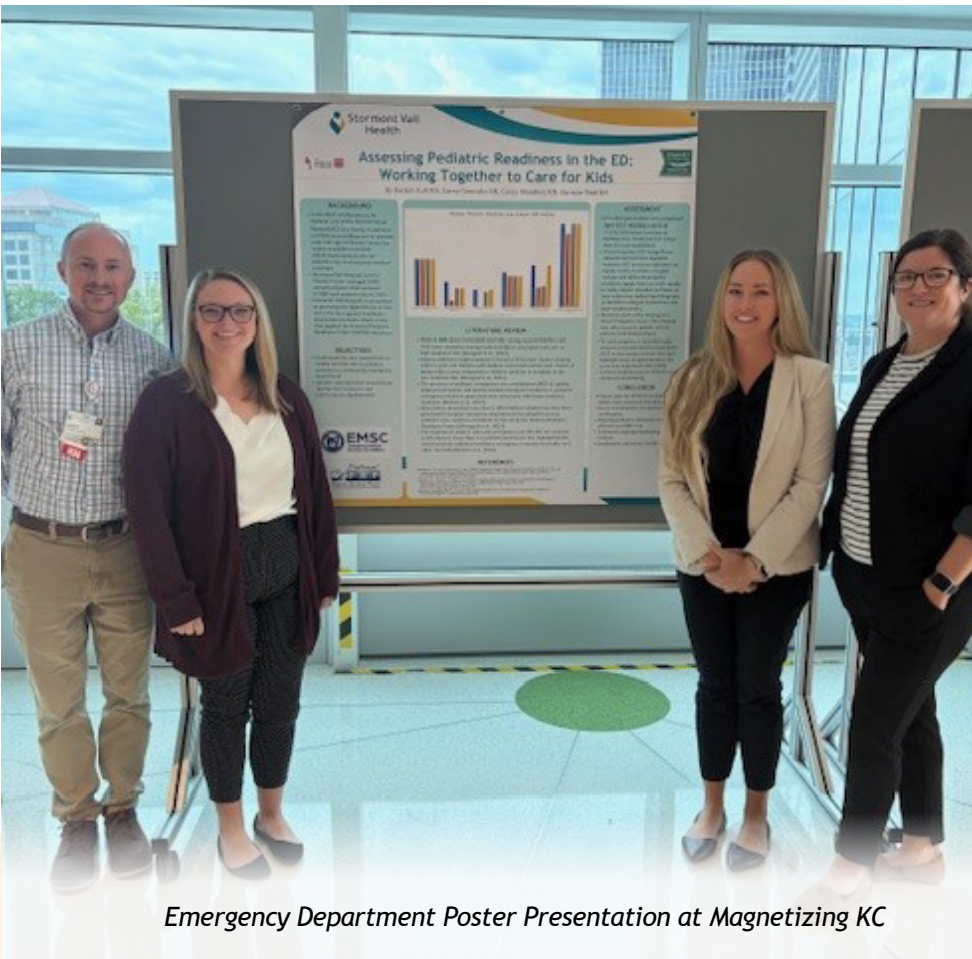
Excellence in Nursing Awards

127 nominations

18 recipients

[See 2025 Winners](#)

HIGHLIGHTS & CELEBRATIONS



Emergency Department Poster Presentation at Magnetizing KC



STAT Chat at Magnetizing KC



Workplace Experience Council's first Longest Night of the Year event for night shift teams working during the end of Daylight Saving Time.



Nursing Symposium

“
Her dedication, expert care, and kindness left a lasting impression on me.
DAISY nomination



Celebrating our new nurses at the 2025 Nurse Residency Program graduation.



Keeping teams engaged and connected with friendly competitions, laid-back activities, and more.



Nursing Excellence Awards



Spreading holiday cheer at the best place to work, train, and grow.



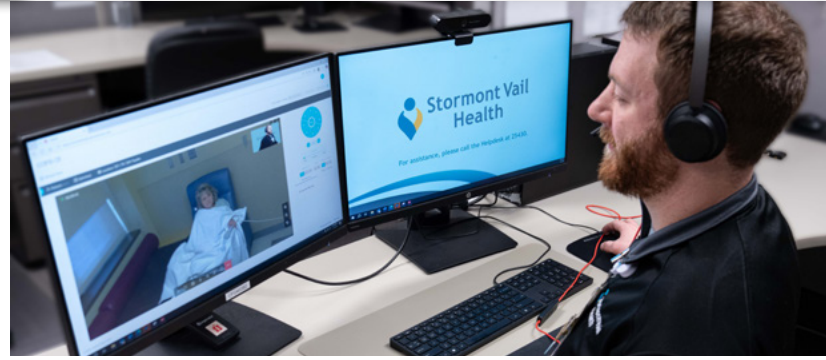
Sunflower Award
Valory Palmer

Sunflower Award
Koko Fuentes

“

She went above and beyond the way only few have. Because of the care she has shown me, I don't think I'll ever leave.

DAISY nomination



QUALITY CARE

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COUNCIL

- 182% increase in policy review efficiency
- 155 Policies reviewed
- 55 Lippincott procedures reviewed
- Improved access to Lippincott resources
- Streamlined policy update workflows

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 12 Journal Clubs
- 2025 Stormont Vail Nursing Symposium “Uniting Voices, Empowering Change and Soaring Together”
 - Full Day Conference hosted by the Stormont Vail Professional Development Council
 - 9 Stormont Vail Nursing Poster Presentations
 - 6 Podium Presentations by Stormont Nurses
- 2025 Magnetizing KC “Celebrating Clinical Nurses”
 - sponsored by the Kansas City Magnet Program Directors Consortium
 - 3 Stormont Vail Nursing Podium Presentations
 - 4 Stormont Vail Nursing Poster Presentations

ACCREDITATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

The Joint Commission (TJC)

Reaccreditations

- Hospital (system-wide)
- Laboratory (Flint Hills Campus)

Recertifications

- Chest Pain



Advanced Recertifications

- Primary Stroke Center
- Advanced Total Hip and Total Knee Replacement

American Heart Association (AHA) Get With The Guidelines® (GWTG)

Target: Stroke Gold Plus Achievement Award, Honor Roll-Elite, and Honor Roll Advanced Therapy (Topeka Campus)

Heart Failure Bronze with Target: Heart Failure Honor Roll and Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll

Target: Stroke Rural Recognition Bronze Award (Flint Hills Campus)

Resuscitation (Flint Hills Campus)

American College of Cardiology (ACC)

NCDR Chest Pain: MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award



QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

- Ambulatory colon cancer screening improvements
- Chronic care management and Care Transformation initiatives
- Wellbox program: expanding care management capacity for lower-risk populations
- Cesarean surgical site infection (SSI) reduction efforts
- Multimodal pain management enhancements for bariatric patients

PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

HAPI Prevention: Activation of the SWOT (Strengthening Wound and Ostomy Treatment) specialty-trained nurses as a targeted intervention for prevention.

Fall Prevention: Implementation of the CLEAR Program (Caring Liaisons for Elderly Assistance and Recovery), along with enhanced ambulatory risk identification and visibility improvements.

IVH Bundle Implementation: Introduction of the IVH (intraventricular hemorrhage) prevention bundle in the Stormont Vail Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

MILESTONES

CAUTI-Free Units		
1 Year	2 Years	3+ Years
Intermediate Care	7 North	Flint Hills Campus Medical Surgical
4 Pavilion		Joint Center
6 North		7 South
7 South		

CLABSI-Free Units		
1 Year	2 Years	3+ Years
Surgical ICU	6 North	Intermediate Care
	6 South	7 North
		Spine Center
		Pediatric ICU
		Flint Hills Campus Medical Surgical

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Escape Rooms

Team STEPPS Simulations

Residency Program Experiential Learning Activities

- Quality Scavenger Hunt
- Mentorship
- Wellness Passport



INNOVATION INITIATIVES

GROWTH AND COLLABORATION

- TeamBirth-March of Dimes Collaborative
- HIV grant implementation at the Flint Hills Campus
- BCBS Lincoln Center pre- and post-natal care model implementation
- Expansion of primary care managers and social work support
- General inpatient (GIP) hospice and respite services added at the Flint Hills Campus



Flint Hills Campus team members volunteering for Meals on Wheels and supporting local food banks in Junction City.

AT THE BEDSIDE

- CareAI and Virtual Nursing implementation
- Epic Alaris smart pump integration
- 65 new vitals machines added at Topeka Campus
- **Looking Ahead:** Incorporating Conversational Care principles and simulation to strengthen patient connection

IN OUR COMMUNITIES

- Collaboration between Case Management and acute care nurses to identify SDOH needs earlier and connect patients to appropriate resources
- Streamlined community resource referrals, helping patients access support more quickly
- Expanded specialty telehealth services at the Flint Hills Campus, including neurology, nephrology, cardiology, and diabetes care

FOR OUR TEAM

- Click-reduction workflow improvements to decrease documentation time for the nursing workforce
- Enhancements to the Simulation Center to create more effective training experiences
- Development of experiential escape rooms to reinforce learning and retention
- Nursing-led efforts to improve care team communication consistency
- Collaborative reporting, storytelling, and sharing of patient experience successes



Primary care team celebrating with each other.



Acute Care hosting a team building retreat for team members.

2025 DAISY AWARDS



Debra Fritts, RN
Cancer Center



Rachel Luthi, APRN
Weight Management
Center



Jim Hartman, RN
7 South Post Surg



Maria Cortez, RN
Birthplace



Chudney Williams, RN
Birthplace
Flint Hills Campus



Keely Wilson, RN
Pediatric Intensive
Care Unit



Jeannine McClellan, RN
Post-Anesthesia Care
Unit



Rachel MacNevin, RN
Neonatal Intensive
Care Unit



Chelsie Lowery, RN
Acute Care
Flint Hills Campus



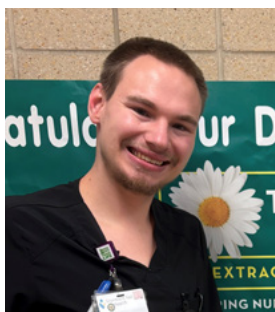
Shannon Gregg, APRN
Neurology



Maggie Scheck, RN
Transitional Care Unit



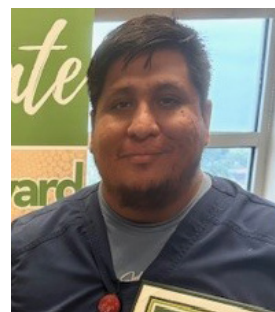
Maci Kasprzak, RN
Pediatric Care Unit



Brett Baker, RN
Emergency Department



**Michelle Clark-Galvan,
APRN**
CARE Clinic



Ivan Lopez, RN
Pediatric Intensive
Care Unit



Caitlyn Viergever, RN
Cancer Center



Marissa Arredondo, RN
Spine Center



Calli Pimple, RN
Neonatal Intensive
Care Unit



Nick Ahlert, RN
Medical Critical Care



Hannah Reynold, RN
Medical Surgical Unit
Flint Hills Campus



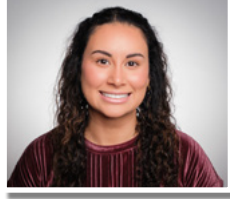
EXCELLENCE IN NURSING AWARDS



Excellence in Nursing Practice
Katrina Hinojosa, BSN, RN
Acute Care RN
Surgical Intensive Care Unit



Excellence in Nursing Practice
Savannah Diegel, BSN, RN
Acute Care RN
Topeka Emergency Emergency Department



Excellence in Nursing Leadership
Elizabeth Barnes, BSN, RN
Nurse Manager
Spine Center, Joint Center, & Transitional Care Unit



Excellence in Nursing Mentorship
Justin Barnes, BSN, RN
Nurse Manager
Behavioral Health



Excellence in Nursing Mentorship
Lydia Johnson, BSN, RN
Acute Care RN
Surgical Intensive Care Unit



Excellence in Nursing Preceptorship
Daniel Breeden, RN
Acute Care RN Preceptor
Flint Hills Emergency Department



Excellence in Nursing Preceptorship
Martie Long, BSN, RN, PNCB
Acute Care RN
Pediatric Intensive Care Unit



Excellence in Research & Evidence Based Practice
Kathryn Baird, MSN, RN, NCC, APRN
Advanced Practice Provider
Neonatal Intensive Care



Excellence in Advanced Practice Provider
Tiffany McKinley, MSN, APRN, AANPCP FNP-C
Lead Advanced Practice Provider
Topeka Emergency Department



Excellence in Licensed Practical Nursing
Anita Chase, LPN
Ambulatory LPN
Digestive Health Center



Excellence in Licensed Practical Nursing
Audrieanna Robles, LPN
Ambulatory LPN
Behavioral Health



Excellence in Patient Care
Kara Lang
Medical Assistant
Breastfeeding Center



Excellence in Patient Care
Hailey Daughy
Patient Care Technician
7 North Cardiac



Excellence in Patient Care
Morgan Shea
Patient Care Technician
4 Pavilion



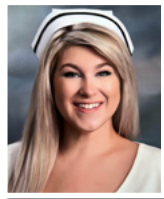
Excellence in Patient Care
Jenaro Fairley
Patient Care Technician
Behavioral Health



Excellence in Distinguished Community Outreach
Megan Thomas, BSN, RN
Quality Program Manager
PCS Administration



Rising Star
Heather Ferguson, BSN, RN
Clinical Nurse Educator
Clinical Education



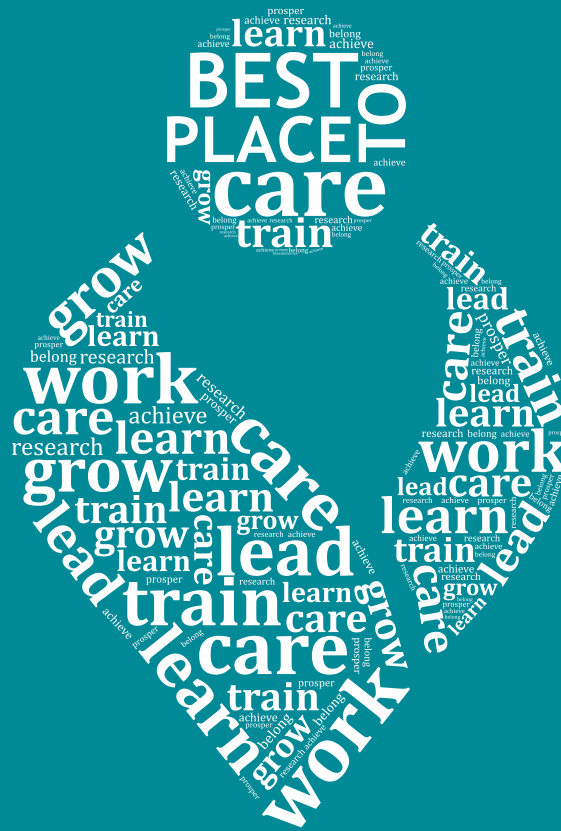
Rising Star
Samantha May, BSN, RN
Acute Care RN
4 Pavilion

Celebrating the **BEST** in healthcare!

These awards are sponsored by

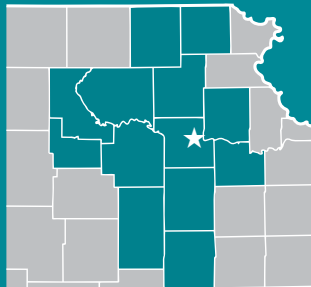


we are Stormont



Stormont Vail Health

Serving a multicounty region in Kansas, Stormont Vail Health features the region's only **Level II Trauma Center** and **Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit**. Stormont Vail provides primary and specialty care needs for patients in **Topeka, Manhattan, Junction City, and Emporia**, along with clinics in surrounding communities of **Carbondale, Emporia, Meriden, Netawaka, Osage City, Oskaloosa, and Wamego**.



The Stormont Vail organization is a **Mayo Clinic Care Network** member, meaning our experts have experts. The network provides Stormont Vail physicians access to top-tier expertise, innovative research, and collaboration on treatment options for complex medical conditions. Additionally, being a **Magnet Designated** facility reflects the organization's dedication to nursing excellence, providing patients with the highest standards of care, and fostering an environment of continuous improvement in patient outcomes.



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