



Contact: Janine Logan
VP, Communications and Population Health
Phone: 631-334-8321, Email: jlogan@sha-nys.org

Long Island Nurses Recognized for Excellence

*Top Clinical Award to NYU Langone Hospital Long Island Nurse Manager;
Top Academic Award to Stony Brook Nursing School Professor*

HAUPPAUGE, NY (September 24, 2021) – Nurse leaders from Long Island’s hospitals and nursing education programs gathered Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at the Wind Watch Golf and Country Club, Hauppauge, NY, to bestow recognition upon their nurse peers at the Nurse of Excellence Award



2021 Nurse of Excellence Winners. Faith Lynch, MSN, RN, clinical nurse manager, NYU Langone Hospital Long Island (left) and Marijean Buhse, PhD, RN, clinical professor, Stony Brook School of Nursing.

Ceremony hosted by the [Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council](#) (NSHC). One nurse from each of the Hospital Council’s member hospitals was nominated for the award, which recognizes outstanding leadership and clinical practice. Deans of area nursing schools also submitted nominations recognizing nursing excellence in education and clinical practice.

This year’s award celebration marked the 25th anniversary of the tradition. It also, for the first time, bestowed two awards of excellence – one for clinical practice and one for academic practice.

Commack resident Faith Lynch, MSN, RN, clinical nurse manager of acute dialysis at [NYU Langone Hospital Long Island](#), took the top honor for clinical nursing excellence and

Dix Hills resident, Marijean Buhse, PhD, RN clinical professor at [Stony Brook School of Nursing](#), took the top honor for nursing education excellence. This year there were 24 nominees. Those nominees were selected from a field of about 500 nurses at hospitals and teaching institutions from across Long Island.

Lynch’s outstanding clinical expertise as a nephrology nurse and strong leadership skills were really put to the test during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. She said the high volume of COVID-induced kidney failure was something she and her staff had never seen before, and she worked hand-in-hand with her team of dialysis nurses to ensure all patient needs were met and her staff remained motivated and acknowledged. The American Nephrology Nurses Association, for which she serves as chair of the



group's Specialty Practice Networks, turned to her during the pandemic and designated her the organization's national expert on acute dialysis. She counseled other dialysis unit leaders from across the country and helped set the standard of care during this most critical time. She has authored textbook chapters on kidney care and dialysis and regularly employs innovative technology to promote high quality care for dialysis patients.

Buhse is an international leader in multiple sclerosis care and research, especially concerning the geriatric population. Her research focuses on closing the existing gaps in knowledge related to care of older adults with multiple sclerosis. She has secured nearly \$2 million in grant funding for inter-professional education of the care of frail, elderly adults living in the community. A fellow of the distinguished American Academy of Nursing, her philosophy of nursing education is built on the belief that research, education, and clinical practice are vitally linked. Bushe has served in many leadership positions during her 25-year career, including 10 plus years as chair of graduate programs. In this role, she mentored new and existing faculty and developed new graduate programs in nursing education and nursing leadership.

The Hospital Council's annual salute to nurses is fashioned after the New York State Legislature's Nurse of Distinction Program that ended in 1995. NSHC is one of the few hospital associations in the state to continue this program voluntarily. The NSHC represents Long Island's not-for-profit and public hospitals.

For more information about this program and a full listing of nominees, visit www.nshc.org.

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About the Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State

The [Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State](#) advocates on behalf of hospitals in the Hudson Valley and Long Island regions. It engages key lawmakers and regulatory decision-makers in Albany and Washington to ensure reasonable and rational health care policy prevails.

About the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC)



The [Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council](#) represents the not-for-profit and public hospitals on Long Island. It works in conjunction with the [Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State](#) to advance legislative and regulatory priorities. NSHC serves as the local and collective voice of hospitals on Long Island.

About the Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association (NorMet)



The [Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association](#) represents the not-for-profit and public hospitals in the Hudson Valley region. It works in conjunction with the [Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State](#) to advance legislative and regulatory priorities. NorMet serves as the local and collective voice of hospitals in the Hudson Valley.