



Jeanne and her husband, Leonard, enjoying sightseeing along the Potomac River on a trip to Washington DC to visit their son.



Spirit Booster of the Month **Jeanne Franco, RN,BSN** *January*

Title: Certified Cardiac Rehab Professional

Department: Cardiac Pulmonary Wellness

MMCM Years of Service: 30 years

Spirit Booster for: 21 years

Jeanne's passion:

I like the idea of being able to support the Foundation directly from payroll. I think we all have benefited from this type of program that contributes to our hospital and the community we serve. I really appreciate what the Foundation has done for our clinic and its support for community wellness.

My biggest personal reward from giving philanthropically has been seeing the patients benefit from the different services and resources that the Foundation has supported. Moving into our newly remodeled clinic last February and seeing the patients work out in our new space was amazing. It had a very positive improvement in our staff's attitudes as well!

Many of our long-standing patients no longer have to travel out of town for procedures that are offered now locally (ie: Cath Lab, PCI, 3D Mammography, and robotic surgeries.)

Fondest memory while working at MMCM:

There have been so many fond memories over the years, but since I have worked in cardiac rehab for almost 20 years, I think seeing patients recover from major surgeries and health crises has been the most gratifying. We can spend up to 3-4 months with patients and become very familiar with them and their circumstances. I have also seen patients at their most vulnerable take charge of their own health. It has been very rewarding to empower patients to take an active role during their rehab to wellness.



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Spirit Booster of the Month Irene Miranda-Henson, RN February

Title: Clinical Manager
Department: Rural Health Clinics
MMCM Years of Service: Beginning 9th year
Spirit Booster for: 9 years

Irene's passion:

Being a part of an organization that contributes to our community is a big motivator by itself. I love to hear about all of the great things that we do as an organization to help and give back to our community. I love knowing that my contribution, although small, plays a part in helping to purchase equipment needed to provide services to our community whether it's in our hospital or at one of our outpatient centers. I'm passionate about caring for people, it's my calling. I know that my contribution goes to a good cause and contributing gives back to my community. My biggest reward is seeing and being a part of the growth of our hospital, and what we, as an organization, contribute to the health, growth and love of our community, our family.

Fondest memory while working at MMCM:

As an employee I have had the privilege of meeting and talking with many of our patients in the hospital as well as in our outpatient clinics. It's very rewarding when patients know you by name. During my leadership rounding I was very humbled to meet a

wife that had been caring for her husband that had cancer. I was honored to see the amazing love that she had toward him. My heart was thankful that she allowed me to be a part of that special moment. She not only shared that with me but with many others of our nursing staff.

Listening is such an important part of what we do. If we only allow ourselves the time, we can learn so much from others especially during their most vulnerable time. That's a memory that will stay with me for a long time. It was beautiful and a blessing.

Something fun we don't know about Irene:

A few years ago our family connected with our long lost brother and always questioned if I was a Native American Indian. Well it turns out that my long lost brother was a registered Yaqui Indian. So I am working on trying to get my American Indian documentation as a part of the Pasque Yaqui tribe.

Most people don't know who the Lone Ranger is from the original 1940's TV show, but the actor who played Tonto is a distant cousin of my father. HiHo Silver Away!!!



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Varilyn and her husband James enjoying a trip to Hearst Castle.

Title: Radiology Technologist III

Department: Radiology

MMCM Years of Service: 13

Spirit Booster for: 13 years

Varilyn's passion:

I wanted to contribute because I wanted to be a supporter to whatever project the Foundation was supporting each year. It is exciting to help our community and hospital acquire new equipment for us to use to help our patients.

Seeing how my donation helps others is very gratifying. My favorite donation to give each year is at Christmas time. We sponsor clean water projects in less fortunate countries.



Spirit Booster of the Month

Varilyn Adams

March

Fondest memory while working at MMCM:

One of my fondest memories was when I was able to participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony for our Hologic 3D Mammography machine. I was able to attend the gala that year, and to my surprise, the Mercy Foundation had raised all the money for the mammogram unit before the gala had even started. I am so privileged to be a mammogram tech here at Mercy. Breast cancer early detection is so important and I am grateful I am able to participate in helping save women's lives.

Something fun we don't know about Varilyn:

I have participated in Clean Up Merced several times with Gateway Church. We helped paint over graffiti at Gracey School here in Merced. I also help deliver donated items to a few new parents who need assistance with baby items. It is very gratifying to be able to help people in need.



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Roseli and her husband Dr. Leonard Oestreicher.

Spirit Booster of the Month

Roseli Oestreicher, RN

May



Title: Director of Patient Care
Department: Home Health
MMCM Years of Service: 12
Spirit Booster for: 4 years

Roseli's passion:

During my nursing school, I received a very generous scholarship from the Mercy Foundation. I used the scholarship to buy a reliable car. It was very hard going to nurse school wondering if I would have transportation to my clinical rotations. Because this act of generosity I was able to be free from some stress during nursing school. It just seems the right thing to do to give back to this organization that has helped me so much.

I enjoy knowing that my contribution is assisting the nurses. I still remember how excited the nurses were when I was working on telemetry and we received new blood pressure machines on our unit. Small floor equipment needs replacement from time to time and making sure we are able to replace equipment it is very important to the nurses.

I also enjoy helping our hospital to obtain cutting edge equipment and having the funds to assist the poor and disenfranchised from our community.

Fondest memory while working at MMCM:

I have a lot of nice memories while working here. One of these memories is from the Telemetry floor. I remember being very spoiled by my co-workers (especially Ray) when I was pregnant. Ray would make sure that I had breakfast every day after my terrible morning sickness. I also had a wonderful baby shower. Priscilla, Latresha, Desiree, Larissa, Kasey put together a very fun baby shower for my little girl. It meant a lot to me. Having my first pregnancy, without family here, having the kindness from the Tele team was very touching.

Another wonderful memory it is from Home Health. After becoming a US citizen, I arrived to work and the Home Health team had a surprise party for me with apple pie and American flags everywhere. It is very special to become a US citizen and celebrate this moment with people you care about.

Something fun we don't know about Roseli:

I used to be a very good writer in my native language (Portuguese). One time a college teacher suggested me to become a professional writer. I have a group of friends that are very fond of my writings and are always asking me for the "funny emails".



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Linda Montoya, RN, and a furry friend!

Spirit Booster of the Month

Linda Montoya, RN

July

Title: CDI RN

Department: Clinical
Documentation Improvement

MMCM Years of Service: 29

Spirit Booster for: 26 years



Linda's passion:

I believe in the philosophy of “giving back” to our patients and our community, and what better way to directly contribute to the needs of our hospital and our patients. I am passionate about providing the best quality of care to our patients and very proud that we can provide this with the revenue we gather as a Spirit Booster.

It makes me humbled and proud to be able to contribute to an organization that recognizes the benefit of looking out for the welfare of others. I hope I have been a mentor to nursing students and their goals of someday following in my footsteps.

Fondest memory while working at MMCM:

I could name so many. Probably the “Mercy Family” from days gone by that have provided me with many laughs, tears, and educational experiences.

Somthing fun we don't know about Linda:

I have a love of travel and the arts. My grandchildren (thank you to my wonderful son and daughter-in-law) and my dog are “my life”. My favorite day is April Fools Day and I am a Green Bay Packers fan.



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