

VAU.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

News Release

Providence VA Medical Center
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 1, 2015

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Providence VAMC Nurse Executive Presented National Award

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Providence VA Medical Center’s associate director of patient care and nurse executive was presented with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs’ Nurse Executive Award for the Advancement of Nursing Programs Monday at the Providence VAMC.

VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald presented the award to Dr. Deborah A. Clickner, a resident of Barrington, R.I., as part of a teleconference with other award winners. He specifically recognized her efforts in bringing the Pathways to Excellence designation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center to the Providence VAMC in March 2014, an honor earned by only one other VA medical center, and her active publication in professional journals, which are helping to advance the practice of nursing and the care of Veterans.

“It takes a village to achieve the accomplishments of the nursing program at the Providence VA Medical Center, but it takes a leader to develop a shared vision and organize the individuals to make that vision a reality,” said Dr. Susan A. MacKenzie, director of the Providence VAMC. “We are very grateful to Dr. Clickner for everything she does for Veteran patients and for her dedicated leadership of our nursing staff.”

The VA Secretary’s Awards in Nursing Excellence program annually honors one medical center director, one nurse executive, one registered nurse in a staff nurse role and one in a non-staff nurse role, one licensed practical nurse or licensed vocational nurse, and one nursing assistant. The awards recognize recipients’ contributions to the health care of Veterans, are patient-driven and demonstrate a recognition for excellence among the recipients’ peers. An award is given only once to an individual. The Veterans Health Administration is America’s largest integrated health care system, operating more than 1,700 sites of care and serving more than 8 million Veterans.

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Providence Nurse Executive National Award, 2 of 3



Dr. Deborah A. Clickner, associate director of patient care and nurse executive for the Providence VA Medical Center, holding the award plaque, and Dr. Susan A. MacKenzie, director of the Providence VAMC, far right, with Providence VAMC staff members after a VA Secretary's Awards in Nursing Excellence teleconference with VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald, during which he presented Clickner with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs' Nurse Executive Award for the Advancement of Nursing Programs Monday, Nov. 30, 2015. (Providence VA Medical Center photo by Winfield Danielson.)

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Providence Nurse Executive National Award, 3 of 3



Dr. Deborah A. Clickner, associate director of patient care and nurse executive for the Providence VA Medical Center, center, Dr. Susan A. MacKenzie, director of the Providence VAMC, right, and Dr. Satish Sharma, Providence VAMC chief of staff, after a VA Secretary's Awards in Nursing Excellence teleconference with VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald, during which he presented Clickner with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs' Nurse Executive Award for the Advancement of Nursing Programs Monday, Nov. 30, 2015. (Providence VA Medical Center photo by Winfield Danielson.)

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