



# STRENGTHENING NURSING PRACTICE FOR THE FUTURE

*Raising funds to educate, recruit and retain the best nurses*



## Nursing practice in the 21st century: complex and dynamic care

Cardiac emergencies during surgery. Aggressive tumors needing comprehensive treatment. High-risk pregnancies with complications during childbirth. When these extraordinary situations arise, the nurses at Abbott Northwestern Hospital are ready to respond. They play an integral role on the patient care team, from providing exceptional treatment to comforting family members. Nurses are essential to quality, complex care.

At Abbott Northwestern, we are proud of our nursing staff and the exceptional care they deliver. But as patients are hospitalized with more complex, chronic and persistent health conditions than in the past, we must ensure that our nurses have the skills and knowledge to meet the needs of our patients and their families. Nurses require a unique and sophisticated set of skills for today's health care environment.



*"The nurse was friendly, kind, nurturing and very professional. I found her to be reassuring, highly skilled and wonderfully human. In fact, all the nurses who worked with me shared these characteristics." – Grateful patient*

## Advancing Excellence

Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation, with the generous support of the community, is raising funds to support excellence in nursing for the purpose of delivering exceptional patient care. Your gift will ensure that nurses are able to enhance their clinical expertise and develop the competencies, knowledge and leadership skills to combine the best of science and caring, advancing excellence well into the future.

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Allina Health 

ABBOTT NORTHWESTERN  
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

## Opportunities to support Nursing Excellence

- **Scholarships:** Responding to an industry standard for nurses to achieve a higher level of education, scholarships allow current nurses to pursue advanced education including baccalaureate and graduate degrees. Through a valued partnership with St. Catherine University, nurses with a two-year degree can efficiently complete a four-year degree, bringing their advanced knowledge and skills back to the bedside. Scholarships remove the financial barrier for our nursing staff to keep pace with their colleagues nationally.
- **Nurse-led research:** With their unique perspective, nurses are often best positioned to identify opportunities to improve patient care. Evidence-based practice research and fellowships give nurses the time and mentorship support to study and develop solutions that enhance patient outcomes and experience. For example, nurses conducted research that identified the most accurate and least intrusive way to measure body temperature, and another study is measuring the impact of acupuncture on reducing pain and anxiety after surgery. Through the research process, patient care improves and nurses gain important practical skills. Philanthropy makes this happen.
- **Ongoing education:** The health care environment is constantly evolving with new therapies, techniques and procedures always in development. Abbott Northwestern nurses must pursue certifications, attend conferences and engage in professional development to ensure that they can perform at the top of their license and continue delivering the best patient care possible.

Philanthropic support advances the mission of Allina Health and Abbott Northwestern to restore health, prevent illness and provide comfort. By investing in nursing excellence you ensure that Abbott Northwestern will continue to be a dynamic place of healing and innovation for all patients and their families.

*"I was in the hospital under very traumatic circumstances...The one thing that kept me going and sane was the love and support I received from all the nurses who took care of me." – Grateful patient*

To learn more about the Nursing Excellence Initiative, please contact the Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation at **612-863-4126**.