

RIDGEWOOD

Nurse at The Valley Hospital is finalist for the GEM Award

Beth McGovern, R.N., Clinical Practice Specialist in Women's & Children's Services and Coordinator of the Simulation Program at The Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, has been named a 2016 Nurse.com GEM Award Finalist in the category of "Education and Mentoring."

The Nurse.com GEM Award program publicly recognizes and celebrates nursing excellence. The GEM Award for Education and Mentoring recognizes a nurse who has shared knowledge with other nurses through formal nursing education, skills training or continuing education, and who has demonstrated, supported or influenced nurses' career development in meaningful, measurable ways.

McGovern was specifically nominated for her leadership with the Simulation Program at The Valley Hospital. As the coordinator of the Simulation Program, McGovern coordinates all of the

simulation activities in the hospital at the present time. She was the lead in getting \$4 million in funding from The Valley Foundation, and she also secured a women and health grant for \$120,000 based on her presentation of the program.

"Beth McGovern has truly become a champion of the Simulation Program and its growth," said Paul Quinn, Director, Inpatient Women & Children's Services, The Valley Hospital. "Additionally, her day-to-day mentoring of staff, her development of protocols for nurses and staff, and her clinical expertise in daily rounds and coordination of treatment plans for complex patients has made her invaluable to Valley."

The Valley Simulation Program started about four years ago with one female simulator and has expanded to also have an adult male simulator, a pediatric simulator, and a newborn simulator. The

simulators are programmed to simulate heart attacks, strokes, cardiac arrests and much more; it is based on the identified needs of particular units. So far, the simulators have been used by emergency room staff, in the Operating Room, the OB, The Center For Childbirth, the ICU and at Luckow. Simulation is recognized as most effective way to teach skill and team training in the health-care environment, as it bridges the gap between classroom learning and real-life situations.

McGovern will be honored at a GEM Finalists gala in early September. Regional winners will be selected in November, and the 2016 Nurse.com GEM Awards national winners will be announced in early 2017. Finalists are chosen following nominations by their nursing colleagues.

