



**Wisconsin League
for Nursing**



HONORING NURSES INTERNATIONALLY
IN MEMORY OF J. PATRICK BARNES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE WISCONSIN LEAGUE FOR NURSING ANNOUNCES FIRST HONOREES OF THE DAISY NURSE
LEADER AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY NURSE EDUCATORS**

Two Honorees Selected from Academia and Healthcare Practice

November 2021 (Wisconsin) – The Wisconsin League for Nursing (WLN) announced at their 2021 Fall Conference the Honorees of the first pilot cycle of the DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators. This award was created in 2021 in collaboration with The DAISY Foundation™ and the WLN to recognize exceptional nursing mentors that exhibit, inspire, and nurture compassion and respect amongst peers, mentees, students and colleagues. The WLN is pleased to announce the first Honorees of the DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators are: Donna Goelz and Susan Hoefs.

Donna Goelz, MSN RN, is the 2021 Academic Nurse Educator Honoree. Donna is a Clinical Instructor for Waukesha County Technical College and teaches clinical at Froedtert Hospital. Michele Nelson, Dean of the School of Health at Waukesha County Technical College, commented: “Our students and college are very blessed to have Donna as a nursing faculty and our healthcare community is better for having students that have been taught by her.”

Susan Hoefs, BSN RN CCRN FCCS, is the 2021 Healthcare Practice Nurse Educator Honoree. Susan is a Clinical Educator for the Medical Intensive Care Unit at Froedtert and Medical College of Wisconsin Froedtert Hospital. Kathy Bechtel, MSN RN NEA-BC, Froedtert Hospital Vice President Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer, shared the following: “Sue is a highly respected educator and mentor, recognized throughout our entire organization for her exceptional skill in translating and facilitating clinical application of complex concepts and topics. For many years before COVID and now during these difficult times, Sue instills confidence, motivates, inspires and provides consummate support for the entire health care team.”

WLN's Treasurer and Chair of the DAISY Task Force, Katie Weis, DNP RN AGCNS-BC, shared, "I would like to sincerely thank everyone who made this first pilot of the award a success. Thank you to the WLN DAISY Task Force Members for their brainstorming, ingenuity, compassion and flexibility over the past year. Thank you to the DAISY Foundation for your vision, believing in our vision and supporting us. Thank you to all the nominees for your dedication and compassion you bring every single day. I also want to thank all of the nominators; this award would not have happened without people like you taking the time to recognize an exceptional nursing mentor who directly influenced your practice at the bedside." Bonnie Barnes, FAAN, Co-founder and CEO of The DAISY Foundation added, "With the WLN, we at DAISY are proud to recognize and honor in such a special way the very important role of the nurse educator."

[Visit the WLN website](#) to view more information about the DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators.

About the Wisconsin League for Nursing

The Wisconsin League for Nursing, Inc. (WLN) was incorporated on June 23, 1954 to foster development and improvement of organized nursing services through the coordination of nurses, allied health professionals, and citizens to meet the health care needs of the community. Today, the WLN's mission is impacting the lifelong learning of nurses in diverse health care environments. WLN achieves this mission by providing collaborative educational opportunities, promoting professional development, supporting writing and research, and disbursing scholarship funds for nursing education.

The WLN is a full affiliate Constituent League of the National League for Nursing, Inc. (NLN) and adopts bylaws and policies consistent with the NLN. More information available at

<https://wisconsinwln.com/>

About The DAISY Foundation

The DAISY Foundation is a not-for-profit organization, established in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, by members of his family. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. (DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System.) The care Patrick and his family received from Nurses while he was ill inspired the creation of The DAISY Award® for Extraordinary Nurses, an evidenced-based means of providing Nurse recognition and thanking Nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

In addition to the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses, the Foundation expresses gratitude to the nursing profession internationally in over 4,900 healthcare facilities and schools of nursing with recognition of direct care Nurses, Nurse-led Teams, Nurse Leaders, Nurses Advancing Health Equity, Nursing Faculty, Nursing Students, Lifetime Achievement in Nursing and through the J. Patrick Barnes Grants for Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Projects, Health Equity Grants and Medical Mission Grants. More information is available at <http://DAISYfoundation.org>.

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