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ELLIOT NURSE ATTAINS NATIONAL AWARD IN PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY NURSING



Manchester, NH: Tracey Croteau BSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, a pediatric emergency nurse at Elliot Health System, has been selected as the 2014 Distinguished Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse (CPEN) Award winner by the Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing.

The annual award honors one Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse in the nation who makes significant contribution to pediatric emergency nursing through promoting and supporting the certification process.

Tracey was nominated by Karen Lutz, BSN, RN, CEN. Karen has worked with Tracey for over 14 years. "Tracey is special because of her passion and dedication to the pediatric patients," wrote Lutz. In 2008, the Elliot planned to open a four bed pediatric Emergency Department. Tracey, as a Clinical Leader at the time, volunteered to help facilitate along with the Director of the Pediatric ED, Dr. Michael Witt. They worked on the physical planning, educated staff and developed policies. The Pediatric Emergency Department opened in 2009 and treated over 1,300 children last year.

The first year CPEN was created; Tracey was the second nurse in the state of New Hampshire to be certified. Because of her passion and constant encouragement to others working in pediatrics, six more Elliot nurses are certified. Tracey has continued inspiring and educating others. She is an instructor for PALS, PEARS, ACLS, and ENPC. She is the Pediatric Educator for the department, running yearly pediatric mock codes and pediatric education classes.

"Tracey shows such passion and dedication to Emergency Pediatric Nursing. She is an inspiration to her peers, and just an absolute asset to nursing," wrote Lutz

Croteau, who holds numerous other specialized certifications, received her award on Saturday, October 11, during the BCEN Certification Recognition Breakfast, at the Emergency Nurses Association Annual Meeting in Indiana.

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