



STURDY
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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For More Information Contact
Public Relations at (508) 236-8020

**STURDY MEMORIAL NURSE LEADER SELECTED
FOR TWO PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS**

ATTLEBORO, MA, June 20, 2014 – Marita Prater, Vice President for Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer for Sturdy Memorial Hospital, recently received two awards at the Organization of Nurse Leaders/MA & RI (ONL) Annual Meeting.

The Mary B. Conceison Award for Excellence in Nursing Leadership criteria included being an articulate spokesperson on health care issues – speaking to the media, having articles published in professional journals, and presenting at professional conferences or seminars; being recognized by colleagues, physicians and health care executives for implementing collaborative and innovative professional practices; promoting nursing research within her organization; and, very importantly, successfully developing future nursing leaders.

Among the numerous nominating comments for this award, it was written that under Marita’s leadership, we have established a culture of open dialogue, teamwork and innovation. “The Nursing Department at Sturdy, with Marita’s vision and support, is an exciting and rewarding environment for the professional nurse.”

Ms. Prater is the first ever recipient of **The Janet Madigan Advocacy Award**. The award was established to honor Janet Madigan, who passed away in 2013. Janet Madigan was considered a tremendous advocate for the nursing profession in Massachusetts. To be considered, nominees needed to demonstrate excellence as a leader committed to supporting and advocating for the nursing profession and patient care, offering his or her expert knowledge of nursing and health care to a broad audience of fellow nurses, health care colleagues, government officials and/or the general public.

Ms. Prater holds a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Nursing from Ohio State University and a Master of Science Degree with a Specialty in Child/Family Psychiatric

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Nursing from Boston University. Ms. Prater has served the Organization of Nurse Leaders/MA & RI as President and was on the Board of the American Organization of Nurse Executives.

Sturdy Memorial Hospital is a full-service, independent, financially stable, not-for-profit acute care community hospital in Attleboro, which serves southeastern Massachusetts and nearby Rhode Island.

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