

## **Atrium Health Navicent Shines Spotlight on Nurses During National Nurses Week**

*Nurses will be recognized for their unwavering commitment to patients, families and one another*

**MACON, Ga., May 6, 2024** – Atrium Health Navicent is proud to recognize and celebrate nurses during National Nurses Week, especially the approximately 1,800 dedicated nurses caring for patients in the health system’s hospitals and clinics across central and south Georgia. Nurses Week is recognized every year May 6-12 to honor those who see nursing as more than just a profession and selflessly answer the call to compassionately care for others.

The American Nurses Association officially began recognizing this week in 1990, concluding the week on the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the woman affectionately known as the founder of modern nursing and who helped revolutionize the field. Every year, Atrium Health Navicent proudly pauses to honor the nurses who give so much to care for their patients, day in and day out. Their service is invaluable to the health care field as well as our communities.

“Nurses don’t just treat patients; they care for the whole person, their families and their loved ones,” said Janice Walker, senior vice president and chief nursing officer for the southeast region of Advocate Health, which encompasses the entire footprint of Atrium Health. “Nurses are advocates and educators for the people who are in their care, sometimes guiding them through their most difficult days. We celebrate them this week as part of National Nurses Week, but also each and every day. I am so appreciative of their dedication to nursing excellence, leading the way in clinical innovation and providing compassion beyond all measure for the people who trust us with their care.”

Several events will be held at Atrium Health Navicent throughout the week to honor nurses including a pancake breakfast, pet therapy visits, massages, well-being webinar, ice cream social and more.

“While the role of nurses has expanded and changed throughout the years, the care, compassion and courage at the base of our work remains the same as nurses make a difference in countless lives daily,” said Atrium Health Navicent Chief Nursing Executive Tracey Blalock. “Nurses are the front line of health care leading the way. We thank all of our nurses for their tireless dedication and everyday commitment to ensuring each patient receives excellent care!”

Atrium Health Navicent The Medical Center is a four-time recipient of the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Magnet designation which recognizes a hospital’s commitment to excellence in nursing leadership, professional development, community impact, professional practice, quality patient care and innovation. Only 3 percent of all U.S. hospitals have received four or more Magnet designations.

Earlier this year, Atrium Health Navicent Peach received the ANCC’s Pathway to Excellence Program designation which recognizes health care organizations that demonstrate a commitment to establishing the foundation of a healthy workplace for staff. Atrium Health Navicent Peach is one of nine Pathway to Excellence designated hospitals in Georgia and one of 218 in the nation.

In recognition of the ongoing need for nurses, Atrium Health Navicent has partnered with local schools to create a career pipeline of trained nurses by providing tuition assistance and part-time employment to assist individuals pursuing nursing careers. For additional information about nursing careers at Atrium Health Navicent, visit <https://careers.atriumhealth.org/>.

*Editor’s note: Media representatives are asked to contact [amy.mccord@atriumhealth.org](mailto:amy.mccord@atriumhealth.org) if you are interested in speaking with a nurse about this important recognition week.*

### **About Atrium Health Navicent**

Atrium Health Navicent is the leading provider of health care in central and south Georgia and is committed to its mission of elevating health and well-being through compassionate care. Atrium Health Navicent is part of [Advocate Health](#), which is headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, and is the third-largest nonprofit health system in the United States, created from the combination of Atrium Health and Advocate Aurora Health. Atrium Health

Navicent provides high-quality, personalized care in 53 specialties at more than 50 facilities throughout the region. As part of the largest, integrated, nonprofit health system in the Southeast, it is also able to tap into some of the nation's leading medical experts and specialists with Atrium Health, allowing it to provide the best care close to home – including advanced innovations in virtual medicine and care. Throughout its 125-year history in the community, Atrium Health Navicent has remained dedicated to enhancing health and wellness for individuals throughout the region through nationally recognized quality care, community health initiatives and collaborative partnerships. It is also one of the leading teaching hospitals in the region, helping to ensure viability for rural health care for the next generation. For more information, please visit [www.NavicentHealth.org](http://www.NavicentHealth.org).

#### **About Advocate Health**

[Advocate Health](#) is the third-largest nonprofit integrated health system in the United States – created from the combination of Advocate Aurora Health and [Atrium Health](#). Providing care under the names [Advocate Health Care](#) in Illinois, Atrium Health in the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama, and [Aurora Health Care](#) in Wisconsin, Advocate Health is a national leader in clinical innovation, health outcomes, consumer experience and value-based care, with [Wake Forest University School of Medicine](#) serving as the academic core of the enterprise. Headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, Advocate Health serves nearly 6 million patients and is engaged in hundreds of clinical trials and research studies. It is nationally recognized for its expertise in cardiology, neurosciences, oncology, pediatrics and rehabilitation, as well as organ transplants, burn treatments and specialized musculoskeletal programs. Advocate Health employs nearly 155,000 team members across 68 hospitals and over 1,000 care locations and offers one of the nation's largest graduate medical education programs with over 2,000 residents and fellows across more than 200 programs. Committed to equitable care for all, Advocate Health provides nearly \$6 billion in annual community benefits.

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