

## **Retreat Held to Launch Shared Governance and Pathway to Excellence at Coffee Regional Medical Center**

Nursing leaders at Coffee Regional Medical Center (CRMC) gathered to celebrate a commitment to excellence and launch the Shared Governance Council at CRMC.

A program founded by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the Pathway to Excellence is a multi-year journey that requires leadership and collaboration to achieve patient safety and clinical practice goals. The journey includes seating a Shared Governance Council as a platform for shared decision making and clinical policy development. The council will foster collaboration between nursing leaders and staff throughout the CRMC organization. It will also ensure healthcare-related decisions are made by the individuals caring for patients on the frontlines. The CRMC council established a purpose to support nurses feeling valued, empowered and inspired through shared leadership. The CRMC Shared Governance framework includes four sub-councils who all report up to the Shared Decision Making Council, making a total of 5 councils:

### **Shared Decision Making Council**

Co-chairs: Colby Herrin & Justin Dean

1. **Professional Development Council** (sub-council)
  - a. Co-chairs: Allison Norris & Kailyn Ward
2. **Nursing Quality & Safety Council** (sub-council)
  - a. Co-chairs: Mary Camp & Mitchell Tanner
3. **Patient-Centered Care Council** (sub-council)
  - a. Co-chair: Jodie Roberts & Morris Norton
4. **Clinical Practice Council** (sub-council)
  - a. Co-chair: DJ O'Neal & Chris Johnson

Before introducing the Shared Governance initiative's mission and councils, Sue Lane Hughes, VP and Chief Nursing Officer reviewed the strategic direction forward on the pathway to excellence. The goals and objectives for each council as well as chairpersons were also announced. Sue Lane serves as the accountable executive for this outstanding initiative.

Vicki Lewis, CEO spoke briefly to thank Sue Lane and the entire nursing leadership group for their commitment to excellence and shared governance. As a registered nurse, Vicki also emphasized the importance of sustaining this important journey for years to come. Robert Finch, VP Human Resources, spoke about diversity and collaboration. Brenda Reynolds shared that Coffee Regional will foster an environment that ensures every caregiver and team member is empowered to be a part of this shared culture. Millie Ward of Wiregrass Georgia Technical College led a fun and informative personality assessment exercise. This interactive exercise highlighted collaboration and an understanding of the strengths of each team member.

The retreat was a successful, action-packed day for all attendees. CRMC is committed to the professional growth and development of all clinical leaders and looks forward to celebrating the future successes these outstanding clinical leaders will achieve.