

# Celebrating Our Nurses

What are the qualities of a great nurse? It is an appropriate question to raise as we are in the beginning of National Nurses Week, which started Saturday, May 6, and continues through Friday, May 12.



Paul Arnell, executive director of Life Care Center of Treasure Valley, has the answer to that question. He is proud to hold up Laura Curran, his director of nursing, as the prototype of an outstanding nurse.

“Laura is one of a kind,” he said. “I admire what she does for our residents and our facility. I am very happy to have her on my team and couldn’t imagine having the success that we are currently enjoying without her efforts.”

Curran has 15 years of experience in health care – 13 spent with Life Care. She began her nursing career as a CNA, and after getting her nursing license, she was immediately moved into the role

of director of nursing for Life Care Center of Boise, where she helped lead that staff from a special-focus status to a deficiency-free survey facility.

“Laura is a servant leader,” Arnell said. “She has made it a point to round with her associates/residents daily to ensure needs are met and demonstrate to them that she is available and willing to help. She is often found in residents’ rooms assessing patients for changes in conditions, providing necessary care, answering call lights, or just visiting. She can be seen working in the facility in the evenings, early mornings and weekends as she strives to better the care our residents receive. She is constantly providing positive feedback to her nursing team and thanking them for what they do. During rough staffing times, she does not hesitate to pick up CNA shifts on the weekend to help where needed.”



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Curran is recognized by her peers as an example of quality leadership and is often sought-after for advice. She is proficient in systems management, “which helps provide stability in our ever-changing industry,” Arnell added. “She leads her nurse administration team with this guidance and created a successful group of leaders who have led this building to successful outcomes, including below-state-average tag surveys, CMS five-star ratings, *U.S. News and World Report* Top 100 ranking, and *Time* magazine top ranking for long-term care rehab facilities.

A strong Christian, Curran and her husband have five children and “she does everything to better the lives of her family,” Arnell said.

The theme of National Nurses Week is *Nursing: the Balance of Mind, Body and Spirit*. It’s all about celebrating nurses like Curran – and nurses throughout Life Care and Century Park – who lead the charge for health and wellness.



Find ways, especially this week, to show your appreciation to these remarkable individuals.

– Beecher Hunter