

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

## RN Crystal Burrell named DAISY Award Recipient at Sarah Bush Lincoln

Crystal Burrell, RN, was honored with the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses at Sarah Bush Lincoln on August 24.

**Burrell was nominated for her reliability and ability to teach. Her nominator wrote in part:**

"I am nominating Crystal for the DAISY Award, due to her ability to manage any patient and address their critical needs in a calm, but urgent manner. She always uses her strong assessment skills to collaborate with medical staff. She's never afraid to advocate for her patients.

She is the epitome of a reliable coworker! She very rarely misses work, and often helps her coworkers by working additional shifts as needed.

Crystal is not one to get frazzled or frustrated by a situation – she just continues her job and does her best for her patients and coworkers.

In her 11 years as a nurse, Crystal has served as a mentor for many of our new nurses. She's always willing to train them, and I can trust her to train the new nurses correctly. She is also a good resource to experienced nurses, whether to lend advice, give constructive criticism, or help out when the day is busy. We are so lucky to have a nurse like Crystal!"

Sarah Bush Lincoln has joined more than 2,700 healthcare facilities by becoming a DAISY Award hospital partner. During



the award presentation, Burrell received a certificate, a DAISY Award pin and a unique, hand-carved serpentine stone sculpture from Zimbabwe, entitled, "A Healer's Touch."

The DAISY Award was established in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, who died at 33 of complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon autoimmune disease. (DAISY is an acronym for diseases attacking the immune system.) The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and families.

Patients, visitors, nurses, physicians and other employees may nominate a deserving nurse for The Daisy Award and a nurse will be selected by SBL's DAISY committee every month to receive this special honor. Nomination forms are located at [www.sarahbush.org](http://www.sarahbush.org) and at all SBL clinics and on patient floors. The forms can be submitted to any Sarah Bush Lincoln staff member, or sent via email to [daisy@sbllhs.org](mailto:daisy@sbllhs.org) or mail to Sarah Bush Lincoln, DAISY Nursing Award, 1000 Health Center Drive, Mattoon, IL 61938. For more information, SBL DAISY interim coordinator, Tracey McCord, RN, at (217) 238-4987 or [tmccord@sbllhs.org](mailto:tmccord@sbllhs.org).

## Eastern Illinois Foodbank honors community partners at recognition event

Eastern Illinois Foodbank (EIF) honored its community partners Saturday, September 25, at a partner recognition event sponsored by the East Central Illinois Building & Construction Trades Council. The outdoor event was held at EIF's facility and featured awards given to EIF's community partners that have contributed to its mission over the

last fiscal year. The evening also included a tribute to Jim Hires, EIF's former President & CEO who retired in April, and an introduction of Kelly Daly as the new President & CEO.

"We couldn't do what we do without the help of our community," said Kelly Daly, President & CEO of Eastern Illinois Foodbank. "From food donors to volun-

teers, we are grateful to have community partners that are so dedicated to helping us achieve our mission."

The event was attended by Feeding America's CEO Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, who also participated in a round table discussion with EIF's partner agencies prior to the award presentations. EIF is one of 200 foodbanks across the nation that are

part of Feeding America's network.

**The following awards were presented:** Food Donor the Year – Central Illinois Produce – What Chefs Want; Business Partner of the Year – Apex Clean Energy, Inc.; Community Partner of the Year - Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation; Lifetime Giving Award – Michael Barnhardt; Mis-

sion Impact Awards – Amanda Baker, FLEX-N-GATE, Illini Radio Group and Jason Reda.

**About Eastern Illinois Foodbank**

Eastern Illinois Foodbank works to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois through cooperation with a network of food pantries, agencies and programs. The Foodbank distributes do-

minated and discounted food throughout an 18-county service area in cooperation with more than 170 member agencies and programs. Through these agencies, the Foodbank provides food to more than 350,000 people each year. Eastern Illinois Foodbank is a member of Feeding America Feeding Illinois and the United Way of Champaign County.

## EIU again ranked a top public regional university in Illinois, Midwest

Graduation, retention, accessibility highlight EIU's reputation for excellence

Eastern Illinois University is once again ranked as one of the highest public regional universities in Illinois, according to new data released by U.S. News & World Report (USNWR). Rankings are based on schools' academic reputations, student selectivity, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources and alumni giving.

The USNWR magazine's annual 2021 college rankings also list Eastern as the highest-ranking independent public university in Illinois for value, boasting the lowest in-State average discounted cost of \$20,665. EIU's unique financial aid packages were a factor in how the university was acknowledged for creating maximum financial flexibility for students and families. EIU offers a variety of scholarships to assist students in funding their higher education experiences.

As part of their findings, USNWR also revealed an above-average average EIU first-year retention rate of 73 percent.

"Year after year, Eastern Illinois University is recognized for excellence and value in the Midwest by U.S. News & World Report," said EIU President Dr. David Glassman. "Our commitment to student success, the accessibility of our quality academic program-



ming, and our outstanding relationships with alumni are reflective of our mission, and we're proud to be recognized yet again in these premier rankings."

USNWR's Midwest region encompasses a 12-state territory including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,

Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. According to USNWR metrics, EIU is categorized as Midwest public regional university. As an independent university, EIU is not affiliated with a larger state university system.

Since 2017, EIU enrollment has risen 22 percent to just over 8,600 students in Fall 2021. Eastern leaders point to several contributing factors for these increases—including the university's more dynamic enrollment and marketing endeavors—but cite the university's

overall reputation for affordability, academic excellence, and student success rates as its primary advantage in keeping more Illinois students in the state for college.

For U.S. News & World Report's full profile of Eastern Illinois University, visit <https://www.usnews.com/>

[best-colleges/eastern-illinois-university-1674](https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/eastern-illinois-university-1674). For more information about EIU, or to learn more about its growing assortment of programs and services, visit the university's website at [www.eiu.edu](http://www.eiu.edu), or call EIU's public information office at (217) 581-7400.

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