Nurses Who Make A Difference  
2014 Award Winners

The Nebraska Center for Nursing and Nebraska Center for Nursing Foundation implemented the Nurses Who Make a Difference campaign in 2014 to recognize nurses across the state who make a difference in the lives of their patients and their communities. Here are the 2014 winners along with a glimpse of how they are making a difference in nursing and within their communities.

Nolan Gurnsey, Nebraska Center for Nursing Foundation President, presenting Julie Bydalek with the Nurses Who Make a Difference award. Julie is from Franklin, NE and works at the Franklin County Memorial Hospital. Julie was nominated by Jenny Mertens. Julie advances the profession of nursing by facilitating LPN-to-RN education in rural Nebraska as an adjunct faculty member for Bryan School of Nursing. Julie promotes the health of those in her community as a diabetic educator and BLS instructor. Julie does volunteer work in her community and in her parish. Congratulations Julie.

Alice Kindschuh, Nebraska Center for Nursing Foundation member, presenting Jody Kempnich with the Nurses Who Make a Difference award. Jody is from Omaha, NE and works at CHI Alegent Creighton. Jody was nominated by Juanita Sieben and Jane Carmody. Jody was described as an action oriented leader who is instrumental in Omaha CHI hospitals, obtaining and maintaining Magnet status as well as other programs that promote nursing and patient outcomes. Jody is an active member and leader of professional and community boards. Congratulations Jody.
Mary Wendl, Nebraska Center for Nursing Foundation member presenting Kristy Iwansky with the Nurses Who Make a Difference award. Kristy is from Omaha, NE and works at CHI-Bergan Mercy in Omaha. Kristy was nominated by Karen Campbell. Kristy has a passion for nursing and for promoting positive patient outcomes. Kristy serves as an educator, manager and mentor at Bergan. Kristy is an active member of a number of professional and community organizations aimed at promoting nursing and community health. Congratulations Kristy.

Nolan Gurnsey, Nebraska Center for Nursing Foundation President, presenting Kathy Murphy-Buschkoetter with the Nurses Who Make a Difference award. Kathy is from Lawrence, NE and works at the Franklin County Memorial Hospital as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). Kathy was nominated by Ronni Herrick. Kathy advances the profession of nursing by her professionalism and caring attitude. Kathy assists individuals in need within the community and always does so with a positive attitude. Congratulations Kathy.