

Collection of statements from CVICU Team for Nominee, Cindy Desrosiers, RN, BSN:

“Cindy Desrosiers RN is passionate about nursing and about the congenital cardiac population of patients. She has over 35 years of bedside nursing experience, all in the ICU, focusing much of her career to congenital cardiac patients. Cindy is not only passionate about nursing, but she also has a magnetic personality. Cindy cares for the most acute patients in the CVICU and she will ensure not one detail is missed. She will even ensure she has a matching blanket, bow, socks, or stuffed animal, to make the patient look special for the parents. Cindy embodies the example of a nurse that we all strive to be. Cindy’s passion for nursing and the care she provides is an example for our new staff. Cindy has most recently taken on leading the Mentorship Program for our new hires and also has been chosen as CVICU Nurse of the Year for 2022.” -JP, CVICU Nurse Manager

“I have worked with Cindy Desrosiers for over 15 years, both as a bedside nurse and now as an APP. Cindy was one of the main nurses who spent time teaching and growing me when I was a new graduate nurse. She taught me all the fundamentals I needed to excel and continued to build on that knowledge with me over time. Thanks to her patience and willingness to teach me, I am the nurse practitioner that I am today. Not only did Cindy teach me about cardiac critical knowledge, but she also taught me the ways of having excellent bedside manner. She always introduces herself in a kind and gentle manner to the parents. She always provides the utmost and exceptional care for all her patients despite their level of acuity. She is a team player and will advocate for any patient, family, or team member as they need it. One story that comes to mind is a situation in which we had a patient unexpectedly suffer a cardiac arrest. Cindy and I were in the room during the entire resuscitation and the patient survived and even went on to get a heart transplant. That mother is still thankful for having Cindy at the bedside throughout that entire experience and sees her as a life saver. She appreciated the calmness and skill that Cindy brought to the room during the code event.” – RP, Senior APP

“Cindy has been a pillar in our CVICU since I started as a nurse 8 years ago. She has cared for the most critically ill and complex patients without fail. She taught me what to look for as she gave me nurse to nurse report when I started taking care of the more challenging assignments as a nurse. Now that I have become an NP in our unit, I more than ever realize her inestimable value to our patients. She takes time to make sure families are well informed and helps to address their concerns. She is intuitive about the changes happening with her patients and often guides me as a new provider when challenges arise. I know she will vigilantly watch and anticipate changes so that we can best support the sickest kids in the unit. Cindy will always double run the Epi. Cindy will make sure all the electrolytes are replaced. Cindy will make sure the ventilator gets weaned. She is the nurse you want to be teaching new hires, passing on her meticulous processes that prevent error and ensure safety. Cindy has shaped me both as a nurse and now as a provider. I could not be more grateful for her.” -SS, CVICU APP

“Cindy is an incredibly talented nurse and an anchor of excellence on the night shift. When I am on call I know that she will likely have one of the sickest patients in the unit and that she will be all over their every need. She thinks forward – she will anticipate problems based upon the patient’s physiology, existing risk factors, and her clinical experience. It is this mix of knowledge and experience which makes her incredibly special and a treasure for her team, her patients, and their families. She is also an outstanding team player. Her knowledge and concerns are not shared with aggression or derision but with patience, understanding and patient advocacy. She goes out of her way to recognize when trainees or other team members have demonstrated exceptional clinical performance and while she sets a high bar for the physicians she works with, she helps them to reach it, and encourages them in different ways if they are struggling.”- JK, CVICU Chief of CVICU

“Cindy is one of the most humble people I know, despite her many years of CVICU nursing experience. She is always kind and thoughtful, and treats each of these children as well as she would treat her own. Most often, when walking into her patient room at night, you will immediately notice that the baby is neatly tucked into a nest, perfectly positioned for comfort and safety. She promotes actual rest, even for her intubated and sedated patients, which I personally believe makes a huge impact on the recovery for these fragile children. Above all, she advocates for her patients by asking questions of the medical team. She isn’t afraid to question the team about the plan or order for a patient, but does so in a way that does not alienate the learners or newer faculty.”- KH, Lead APP