

I am honored to write this letter of support for Angela Sorensen, BSN, RN, CCRN, for the PCICS Bedside Nursing Award. I was Angela's preceptor when she began working in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU) at Boston Children's Hospital 1997, and since that time, have worked closely with her in the unit, and on various global educational initiatives for the International Quality Improvement Collaborative (IQIC), where she presents live webinars on infection control practices for cardiac programs in greater than 60 low and middle income countries (LMICs). From the onset, Angela's compassion for patients and families was palpable to those she cared for as well as those who worked alongside her. Her ability to listen to families as they shared their experience generated a sense of connection and calm in an otherwise sometimes chaotic, and often stressful environment.

Angela's principle strengths include her exceptional critical thinking skills, being an excellent preceptor and resource for interdisciplinary staff of all levels, calm and soothing demeanor despite any crisis, and her incredible compassion for all those in her care. She has always been self-motivated, and advanced her practice independently in addition to completing work-based learning opportunities. Upon advancing to staff nurse level II, Angela assumed the role of charge nurse and clinical resource nurse with ease. As a facilitator of learning, she has precepted new nursing staff and taught classes during nursing orientation. Angela serves as a Nursing Team Leader, responsible for professional development and mentorship of a group of several nurses with varying levels of experience. She developed a Myocarditis Guidebook to streamline workflow during the evaluation period of this patient population. Angela cares so deeply about providing the best care to some of our most fragile patients, premature and term infants, as a developmental care champion in the CICU. Her passion for this patient population coupled with an interest for clinical inquiry prompted her to complete the Boston Children's Hospital Nursing Science Fellowship. Her time in the fellowship culminated in her recent manuscript publication, *The Use of Music for Newborns After Cardiac Surgery: A Pilot Study (2022)*. In 2019, Angela assumed the role of the CICU Infection Prevention Coordinator. In addition to providing bedside care, she has strengthened CICU infection prevention practices, event tracking, and staff education. She actively participates in unit-based and hospital-wide quality improvement initiatives with a strong focus on interdisciplinary collaboration in regard to infection prevention strategies. Angela's ability to bridge the challenges in providing care to complex patients in the CICU with infection prevention practices has built a strong connection with the nursing staff in an effort to provide the safest care. Her educational modules have been presented through IQIC and Children's Heartlink in an effort to support best infection prevention practices and reduce mortality and morbidity in LMICs worldwide.

Angela is an extraordinary bedside nurse, who is well loved and respected by patients, families and staff, and one of the most genuinely kindest individuals I know. It has been an honor to watch Angela grow from a novice to expert nurse. The impact of her care, commitment to education and infection prevention practices, and mentorship of colleagues makes her deserving of this honor and recognition.