



May 2, 2025

Kristina Virden Chosen As Fourth DAISY Award Winner At SRMC

Salem Regional Medical Center (SRMC) recognized Kristina Virden, RN, as its fourth DAISY Award winner, since starting the program in mid-2024. This national award was created by family members of patient J. Patrick Barnes, to recognize outstanding nurses across the country, who go above and beyond in providing compassionate care along the patient care journey.

Virden, a registered nurse in the Emergency Department, was nominated by the sister of an SRMC patient.

“Kristina displayed characteristics of our mission, vision and goals; by serving her patients as she would her own family,” said SRMC Director of Nursing Leigh Knife, MSN, RN. “It’s clear she is passionate about what she is doing and making an impact on those she treats by providing compassionate care. Salem Regional Medical Center is lucky to have nurses like Kristina, who can ease our patients’ minds during their stressful interactions.”



Kristina Virden

Virden’s nominator, a retired nurse, wrote on her nomination form, “Kristina was so very kind and respectful of my sister’s condition, explaining each procedure flawlessly and helping to relieve my sister’s anxiety. She was the epitome of the ‘Nightingale Pledge.’”

Virden was one of 15 nurses at SRMC nominated for this quarter’s award by their colleagues, patients or their families.

“We launched the DAISY Award program to honor and recognize the excellent care that our nurses are practicing; and highlight those who demonstrate our organization’s ICARE values of Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, Respect and Excellence,” Knife continued.

To nominate an SRMC nurse for a DAISY Award, visit www.salemregional.com/patient-visitor-info/patient-information.