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### Pat Torrico Distinction: Named chief nursing officer at Good Samaritan Medical Center



Sunday, September 14, 2008

Good Samaritan Medical Center's new chief nursing officer says that for her, nursing is more than helping people get well.

"It's not a job for me, it's a ministry," Pat Torrico said. "My love of people helps me make a difference in the lives of those I work with and patients."

Education: M.S. in nursing from University of Phoenix in Southfield, Mich.; B.S. in nursing from University of Detroit Mercy and a B.S. in education from Normal University in Manila, Philippines.

Age: 57.

Personal: Married to Jerry Torrico, a mechanical engineer. They are in the process of moving to West Palm Beach. They have three daughters, Janette, 36 (a nurse), Jamie, 30, and Jenny, 22; and four grandchildren, Justin, 8, Joshua, 3, Jersey, 4 months, and Jenny Lynn, 3.

Hobbies: Reading, art and music.

Career highlight: Her work has been recognized with the Knights of Rizal Community Award. She was also an honoree for the Corporate Women of Achievement Award and was nominated for the Florence Nightingale Nursing Award.

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Torrico oversees 250 nurses at Good Samaritan, part of Tenet Healthcare Corp.'s Palm Beach Health Network. She is also an instructor of basic and advanced cardiac life support.

One of the ways she helps the nurses she supervises, she said, is by getting them equipment they need to give patients the best care possible. Another is by serving as a mentor. Earlier in her career, she was an elementary school teacher, a career that helped prepare her for mentoring.

Before joining Good Samaritan, Torrico was vice president and CNO for Community Health Partners Regional Medical Center in Lorain, Ohio. There, she was responsible for the day-to-day operation of clinical service lines, managing patient flow and process improvement.

She held similar positions at Barberton Citizens Hospital in Barberton, Ohio, Children's Hospital Central California in Madera, Calif., and McLaren Regional Medical Center in Flint, Mich.

Her job, she said, "is about making a difference in people's lives, both co-workers and patients. It's a very fulfilling profession. You can share your spirit with so many."

- *Mary Thurwachter* **Pat Torrico's favorite quote:**

'Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.'

- *Henry Ford*

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