

The difference between  
healthcare and true care™



462 Grider Street \* Buffalo, New York \* 14215 \* 716-898-3000 \* [www.ecmc.edu](http://www.ecmc.edu)

## NEWS

## For Immediate Release

January 29, 2019

### CONTACTS:

Peter K. Cutler at 716-898-6505 or [pcutler@ecmc.edu](mailto:pcutler@ecmc.edu)  
VP, Communications and External Affairs, ECMCC Corp.

Joseph B. Cirillo at 716-898-4300 or [jcirillo@ecmc.edu](mailto:jcirillo@ecmc.edu)  
Director, Public Relations and Communications, ECMC Corp.

## ECMC ACHIEVES NATIONAL PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE® NURSING DESIGNATION

*ECMC is one of only 182 organizations world-wide to receive prestigious designation for its Commitment to a Positive Practice Environment and a Culture of Sustained Excellence*

**BUFFALO, NY**—Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation joins a premier group of organizations that have received Pathway to Excellence® designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). ECMC is currently one of only 182 Pathway to Excellence®-designated organizations world-wide, one of five such designated organizations in New York State and the only Pathway to Excellence®-designated organization in Western New York. There are 6,146 hospitals in the U.S.

**ECMCC President and CEO Thomas J. Quatroche Jr., Ph.D., said,** “ECMC nurses have a long, proud history of providing high-quality exceptional care to every patient they serve. By meeting the rigorous Pathway to Excellence® requirements, our remarkable ECMC nurses have achieved another well-deserved confirmation of their tremendous skill and caring culture. This is a great accomplishment for our nurses and we thank them for their continuing dedication and commitment to providing True Care to every patient no matter their background or circumstance.”

**Karen Ziemianski, RN, MS, ECMCC Senior Vice President of Nursing said,** “ECMC’s nurses are an integral part of our healthcare team, with a voice in policy and practice. Pathway nurses are engaged, resulting in higher job satisfaction, reduced turnover, and better patient outcomes. As a Pathway organization, ECMC remains committed to enhancing quality of care, patient and nursing safety, and the continuing improvement of healthcare delivery.”

-MORE-

To qualify, organizations must meet six Practice Standards essential to an ideal nursing practice environment: Shared Decision-Making, Leadership, Safety, Quality, Well-Being, and Professional Development. Applicants undergo a review process to fully document the integration of those standards in the organization's practices, policies, and culture. Pathway designation can only be achieved if an organization's nurses validate the data and other evidence submitted, via an independent, confidential survey. This critical element exemplifies the theme of empowering and giving nurses a voice. Nurses trust that Pathway-designated organizations respect nursing contributions, support professional development and nurture optimal practice environments.

###

**ABOUT THE PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE® PROGRAM:** The Pathway to Excellence Program® is the premier designation for healthy work environments and recognizes health care organizations and long term care organizations for positive practice environments where nurses excel. Any size or type of health care group where nurses care for patients may apply. For more information on the Pathway to Excellence recognition program, visit ANCC's website at <https://www.nursingworld.org/pathway>

**ABOUT THE ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (ECMC) CORPORATION:** The ECMC Corporation was established as a New York State Public Benefit Corporation and since 2004 has included an advanced academic medical center with 573 inpatient beds, on- and off-campus health centers, more than 30 outpatient specialty care services and Terrace View, a 390-bed long-term care facility. ECMC is Western New York's only Level 1 Adult Trauma Center, as well as a regional center for burn care, behavioral health services, transplantation, medical oncology and head & neck cancer care, rehabilitation and a major teaching facility for the University at Buffalo. Most ECMC physicians, dentists and pharmacists are dedicated faculty members of the university and/or members of a private practice plan. More Western New York residents are choosing ECMC for exceptional patient care and patient experiences—*the difference between healthcare and true care*™.