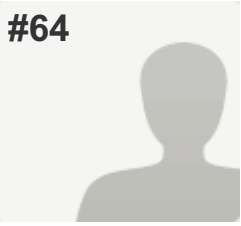


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**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link (Web Link)

**Started:** Thursday, September 25, 2014 7:31:27 AM

**Last Modified:** Thursday, September 25, 2014 7:45:29 AM

**Time Spent:** 00:14:01

**IP Address:** 107.0.43.201

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**Q1: Has the program been in existence for at least one year (since September 1, 2013)?** Yes

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**Q2: Staff person submitting this nomination.**

Name: Anna Seifert  
Title: Communications Coordinator  
Hospital/System: Presence Health  
Address: 200 S. Wacker  
City: Chicago  
State: Illinois  
ZIP Code: 60603  
Email Address: anna.seifert@presencehealth.org  
Telephone Number: 312-308-3911

**Q3: Name of Volunteer Program you are nominating.** Presence Resurrection Medical Center's Stroke Education Program

**Q4: Program Category: Select one of the four program categories.** Community Outreach and/or Collaboration – programs that designed and implemented an innovative approach with external partners to address needs or challenges within the health care organization or the community.

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**Q5: Provide a brief description of the program, including its goals and outcomes. (600 words max)**

Presence Resurrection Medical Center's Stroke Education Program began in 2002 when Richard Mika, volunteer and stroke survivor, founded the Peer Visitation Program with Dr. Michael Ingersoll, a psychologist from the Presence Resurrection Medical Center Rehabilitation unit. Patricia LaMontagna, fellow volunteer and stroke survivor, joined the group and became co-facilitator for the Afterglow Stroke Support Group in 2009. Each year, Mika and his fellow volunteers help develop new initiatives within the Stroke Education Program that benefit Presence Health's patients and community alike.

The Stroke Education Program includes the following initiatives which the Presence Resurrection Medical Center volunteers create and implement throughout the Presence Health System and its communities:

- The Afterglow Stroke Support Group provides support to other survivors through monthly discussions – participation of stroke survivors and caregivers has grown significantly annually.
- The Peer Visitation Program provides Presence Resurrection Medical Center's stroke patients with someone to talk with in the hospital who shares their experience and can relate to what they are going through while receiving encouragement and support. More than 775 patients have been seen since the program started in 2002.
- The Aphasia Training Program is led by volunteers who have helped Illinois become only the second state in the nation to conduct aphasia awareness training for newly hired law enforcement officers. Aphasia is a communication disorder that affects many survivors with slurred speech that can mimic a DUI so recognition is vital for officers.
- Stroke Patient Education booklets were developed in partnership with Presence Health Marketing to include information from the American Heart Association, American Stroke Association and the National Stroke Association about the types of stroke TIA vs. Ischemic vs. Hemorrhagic, stroke risk factor information and resource information. The booklets will soon be used by all hospitals in the Presence Health System.

**PAGE 5: Details of Nominated Program**

**Q6: Describe the role of volunteers in planning, developing, implementing and maintaining the program. (400 words max)**

Mika and LaMontagna continue to be the co-facilitators of the Afterglow Support Group, providing support to other survivors and leading the group in their monthly discussion. The volunteers also write a monthly newsletter which is sent to all members of the support group and health care providers.

Mika continues to be part of the Peer Visitation Program, among other volunteers, and sees patients every Thursday and as needed in Presence Resurrection Medical Center's Rehabilitation unit.

Both Mika and Lamontagna continue to lead and provide training to local law enforcement officers through the Cook County Sheriff's Police Training Academy and they're in the early stages of developing an on-site program at Presence Resurrection Medical Center.

**Q7: Describe how this program is unique and/or innovative.(400 words max)**

Because of their dedication and remarkable personal journeys, the volunteers are constantly helping others to make strides in stroke prevention, intervention and long-term recovery. They have encouraged other stroke survivors and caregivers to get involved with the program. They have recruited Al Autin, a stroke survivor who is part of the peer visitation program and Gayle Stevens, a caregiver, who helps with the stroke patient education folders and mailings for the Afterglow Stroke Support Group.

**Q8: Describe how the program benefits the service recipients, the health care organization and/or the community. (400 words max)**

Mika and LaMontagna attend other stroke support groups in the community and Chicagoland area so they can learn other ideas to improve their group and also to network with other stroke survivors outside Presence Resurrection Medical Center. Their hard work and dedication has made an impact for our patients and the community and they are an inspiration to the staff at Presence Resurrection Medical Center.

In 2010, the volunteers partnered with the National Aphasia Association to serve as volunteer educators. Together, they train law enforcement officers through the Cook County Sheriff's Police Training Academy to recognize the signs of aphasia, a common side effect from stroke that impairs survivors' communication abilities. Pat alone has trained nearly 500 officers in the past three years.

The volunteers also assemble the stroke education folders and booklets for five hospitals in the Presence Health System so they are readily available for distribution to patients. The folders contain handouts from the American Heart Association, American Stroke Association and the National Stroke Association including information about the type of stroke they had, TIA vs. Ischemic vs. Hemorrhagic, stroke risk factor information and resource information.

**PAGE 6: Contacts**

**Q9: Chief Executive Officer of the nominated hospital/system.**

Name	John Baird
Title	Regional President & CEO - Presence Resurrection Medical Center
Email Address	John.Baird@presencehealth.org
Telephone Number	773-792-5153

**Q10: CEO Support.**  Checked box confirms that your CEO supports the submission of the nominated program.

**Q11: Administrative Assistant to the CEO.**

Name	Christine Pawlik
Title	Executive Assistant
Email Address	CPawlik@presencehealth.org
Telephone Number	773-990-7609

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**Q12: Name of the volunteer or auxilian who will be representing the program at the AHA Annual Meeting, May 4, 2015.**

Name	Rich Mika
Title	Stroke Education Volunteer
Home Address	3842 N. Lockwood Ave.
City	Chicago
State	IL
ZIP Code	60641
Email Address	Richard.Mika@presencehealth.org
Telephone Number	773-725-4170

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**Q13: Volunteer Service Professional/Manager.**

Name	Sandy Hoelzel
Title	Coordinator, Stroke Care
Email	SHoelzel@presencehealth.org
Telephone	773-594-7875

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**Q14: In submitting this application, we give the American Hospital Association permission to use and disseminate the information herein.**

Agree