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**ANCC ANNOUNCES 2011 CERTIFIED NURSE AWARD WINNERS
BRENDA J. KELLY, MA, RN, NEA-BC
JEAN VREELAND, RN-BC, PCCN, BSN, PHN**

SILVER SPRING, Md.—The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) announced its 2011 Certified Nurse Award winners at the National Magnet Conference® in Baltimore.

Brenda J. Kelly, MA, RN, NEA-BC received the Certified Advanced Nurse Award for her innovation, consultation, leadership, and risk-taking to advance the nursing profession. As Director of Nursing, Oncology and Behavioral Health, at Wake Forest Baptist Health in Winston-Salem, and advisor of the Shared Governance Professional Development Council, Kelly implemented a Clinical Advancement Program that rewarded nurses for implementing evidence based projects. She provided guidance for programs that have increased certifications and pursuit of advanced degrees among nurses at the medical center. She also led community efforts to establish low-cost housing resources for families who must stay in the area for long periods of time. Kelly served as Chair of the Commission on Magnet Recognition, where she had the honor of telephoning healthcare organizations to inform them they had received Magnet recognition. She is board certified as a Nurse Executive, Advanced.

Jean Vreeland, RN-BC, PCCN, BSN, PHN received the Certified Specialty Nurse Award for her leadership, clinical expertise, and patient care advocacy. As Assistant Clinical Nurse Manager, Interventional Cardiology, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital (ANW) in Minneapolis, she is a leader in the Safe Skin Initiative, which decreased reportable pressure ulcers at ANW by 43% in one year. To communicate her ulcer-prevention message to new audiences, Vreeland was instrumental in the creation of, and appeared in, a YouTube video, "Do the Patient Turn." She promotes excellence in patient care and safety by encouraging colleagues to pursue specialty certification. Vreeland is board certified in Cardiac Vascular Nursing.

"Brenda and Jean represent what is best about the nursing profession and the nursing community," says ANCC Executive Director Karen Drenkard, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN. "Both of these exceptional nurses are strong role models, mentors, coaches, and inspirational and visionary leaders. Their outstanding performance and significant accomplishments underscore the value and importance of certification for professional nurses."

About the ANCC Certified Nurse Awards

ANCC's Certified Nurse Awards recognize RNs who have gone the extra mile, both by becoming certified in their field, and by what they have achieved in their work. Certified nurses are recognized as experts both in their specialty areas and in advanced practice, and they serve as leaders in administration and education. Their accomplishments inspire and challenge the nursing profession to do even more to pursue excellence.



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The award is presented only to nurses who have made significant contributions in the area of clinical practice, education, research, or service. Nominees are judged for innovation, consultation, leadership, and professional risk taking.

About ANCC

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), provides individuals and organizations throughout the nursing profession with the resources they need to achieve practice excellence. ANCC's internationally renowned credentialing programs certify nurses in specialty practice areas; recognize healthcare organizations for promoting safe, positive work environments through the Magnet Recognition Program and the Pathway to Excellence® Programs; and accredit providers and approvers of continuing nursing education. In addition, ANCC's Institute for Credentialing Innovation® provides leading-edge information and education services and products to support its core credentialing programs. The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) is the first and only healthcare certification organization in the United States to have successfully achieved ISO 9001:2008 certification. www.nursecredentialing.org