American Holistic Nurses Association Recognizes Marie Shanahan, MA, BSN, RN, HN-BC, as the 2016 Holistic Nurse of the Year Award

Marie Shanahan, MA, BSN, RN, HN-BC of Florence, MA was awarded the 2016 Holistic Nurse of the Year Award at the AHNA 36th annual conference in Bonita Springs, Florida May 31-June 5, 2016. The Holistic Nurse of the Year Award (HNY) recognizes an AHNA member with outstanding innovation and/or a change in the field of holistic nursing and who has demonstrated their commitment to the holistic nursing core values.

About Marie

Marie Shanahan, MA, BSN, RN, HN-BC is the Founder and CEO of The BirchTree Center for Healthcare Transformation and a Board Certified Holistic Nurse who received her BSN from Seton Hall University, and was the co-founder of the North Jersey American Holistic Nurses Association network.

Ms. Shanahan developed curricula for Holistic Nursing education programs that directly support the core values and standards of practice established by the AHNA. This model, the BirchTree Model, is now being used in the three BirchTree Center for Transformation programs in particular that prepare nurses and nursing leaders for holistic nursing practice through the courses; Reawakening the Heart: Caring and Renewal in Nursing Practice, the Integrative Healing Arts Program, The Integrative Healing Arts Academy and Transformational Leadership for Innovative Organizations.

In addition to providing education programs, the BirchTree Center for Transformation, under Marie’s leadership, provides customized consultative services to healthcare leaders and organizations who seek to enhance delivery of their holistic caring practices. This model is unique as it fosters the importance of self-care and renewal as foundational for exemplary professional nursing practice. The model also recognizes the importance of creating an environment that is conducive for professional excellence and healing opportunities for person-centered care.

Ms. Shanahan served as the AHNA Treasurer in 2011-2013 and most recently as the chair of the AHNA Policy Committee. She has published several articles in nursing journals on the BirchTree model and self-care.

About AHNA
At its founding in 1981, the American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) adopted as its primary mission the advancement of holistic healthcare by increasing awareness and promoting education as well as personal community-building among nurses, other healthcare professionals and the public. This non-profit professional membership organization is becoming the definitive voice for holistic nursing for registered nurses and other holistic healthcare professionals around the world. Holistic nursing focuses on integrating traditional, complementary and alternative treatment opportunities to improve the physical, mental, emotional and relational health of the whole person.

AHNA delivers valuable resources, improves educational tools, and offers superior networking opportunities to a vibrant and expanding universe of healthcare professionals. AHNA currently services almost 4,500 members through 143 local chapters/networks in the U.S. and abroad.

Holistic nursing is recognized by the American Nurses Association as an official nursing specialty with both a defined scope and standards of practice.

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