

Forensic Nursing - Excellence



Patty Metzler

Urbana, Illinois

Work Setting: Immediate Past SANE Coordinator/Mentor, Hospital setting

Patty is not only a phenomenal sexual assault nurse examiner, but she is also a great colleague and friend. Patty has been instrumental in improving the care and services being provided to sexual assault patients in her county. She has been a mentor for so many other nurses who have become SANEs throughout the State of Illinois and continues to mentor the SANE that will be assuming her role as SANE Coordinator for her hospital. Patty is a great sounding board for when you want to understand why a decision was made and provides extensive knowledge as to how things should look in the future. She has been an innovator from day one and has lead one of the only consistently staffed SANE 24/7 only call programs in the state for many years. She is reminding others that the truth is always the most important thing to get at and that without the truth, our society risks injustices occurring. She is not only victim-centered, but also thinks about the accountable that we each need to have towards the accused. Patty is never afraid to speak of the trials and tribulations that she has endured in this profession. She reminds us that when we give too much of ourselves that sometimes we can get lost and need to find our direction again. Her vicarious trauma presentation is one of the best I have ever seen. And the fact that she is not afraid to share her hard times proves to others that even the strongest can fall. But as a community of SANEs and professionals, we can all stand back up and move on. It would be an honor for Patty to be recognized for her many, many hours of dedication to this profession.