



This past year has challenged us all both individually and professionally as health care providers. Despite these challenges, our GI nurses have remained committed to providing the best care possible and NESGNA wants to recognize those in our region! Congratulations to these four units below and thank you for your commitment to the patients and the GI specialty.

### **Tufts Medical Center Marlene Neely Centers for Digestive Health**

*I am so proud of the amount of strength that each of my co-workers showed when we were taken out of our familiar work environment to care for such sick patients, my peers never faltered. And even though we had moments of tears, breakdowns, and sadness, we performed to the utmost professionalism and caring for the patients. During the roughest moments of this year, we were able to share our emotions with each other, because we knew what each other was going through, and we were able to support each other, even outside of our work environment, which has definitely brought us closer together. Our unit is a very busy Endoscopy unit, and we all work very hard, and have a strong work ethic, and put our patients first. I am very proud and honored to be part of such an amazing group of nurses, who stepped out of their comfort level to care for patients during this pandemic.*

### **Lahey Hospital and Medical Center- Endoscopy Department**

*The first surge, our unit was turned into a MedSurg overflow. We had much higher acuity patients than anticipated, but we all pulled together to provide the best care we could. We all advocated daily for our patients to give them high quality care. The patients had no TVs, room phones, or visitors, but they had us. We sat and talked with many of them to keep them company. We connected them with family members, put music and shows on the computers for them, and printed crossword puzzles, word searches, and sudoku games to keep them occupied. Seven of the nurses were working until they delivered their babies during the first surge. Our Endoscopy unit is not only a team, but we are a second family to one another. We supported one another during hard times, cried together, and tried to make the best of it together. I think just about every day I would say to my friends "I couldn't do this without you" and I certainly meant it.*



### Sturdy Memorial Hospital - Endoscopy Department

*I am proud to be GI and part of Sturdy Endoscopy because I was supported by my coworkers daily. Picking up extra time to cover for another co-worker, staying late to help with end of day clean ups, pitching in at the front desk when needed; and complimenting each other when feelings of frustration and fatigue set in. Everyone pulled together as a team to lift one another up to stay positive. I look towards the promise of a bright future with Our Sturdy Memorial Endoscopy Team and truly appreciate Everyone on Our team.*

### Milford regional Medical Center - Endoscopy Department

*Many of us were dealing with our own personal issues with the pandemic but continued to work to make patients comfortable in this very anxiety provoking time. We have an excellent staff that has always put the patients first. I joke with the patients when I ask them if they want a warm blanket that if you say no about 10 staff personnel will ask you until you give in and say yes. I have never seen a staff more concerned about each patient's comfort. I am very proud of each staff person our patients come into contact with during their stay on our unit. I think we will come out of this pandemic better and more resilient then we were before.*



Thank you for sharing your stories with us!