

Susanne Yeakel is an experienced nurse leader who has impacted the growth and development of numerous nurses with whom she encountered in her 18 years of leadership. She is highly respected by her peers and the intraprofessional team. Susanne has demonstrated success over the past 35 years in various roles of clinical leader, nurse educator, interim nurse leader in critical care, nurse manager and most recently, nurse director.

Her service on intraprofessional committees produced evidence based standards resulting in safe patient outcomes, particularly in the use of a Nurse Driven Protocol for early removal of foley catheters across the hospital system. She is published and has given numerous presentations. Susanne was the Keynote Speaker at the University of St. Joseph Nursing students' "White Coat Ceremony".

Susanne is the recipient of many awards including the Doris Armstrong Leadership Award. She participated in the inaugural AONE Nurse Manager Fellowship Program. Her involvement and commitment to AONE is apparent in the following: leading a team in Transforming Care at the Bedside where initiatives such as bedside handoff were replicated hospital wide, service on local AONE chapter affiliates as program chair, secretary, and most recently nominating committee. In addition, Susanne served on the AONE Strategic Planning Committee four times, AONE Foundation Education Committee, CNML Practice Analysis Committee and Innovative Approaches to Recruit Nurse Managers Task Force. Recently, Susanne was featured in the AONE 2017 video "50 Years of Inspiring Nurse Leaders".

Susanne is passionate about having an impact on the future of nursing leadership. She coaches new grads as they begin their career performing mock interviews. One of the most significant achievements of her professional life is the five year mentoring relationship that developed from the AONE Leader2Leader mentorship program. She is also proud to say that her son is a nurse in Denver Colorado.

Susanne graduated from Albright College with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and completed a Master of Science in Nursing Administration from the University of Hartford. She is board certified as a Nurse Executive, Advanced and is also an AONE certified Nurse Manager Leader.

In her current role as Nurse Director, Susanne provides leadership oversight for the following clinical areas: vascular thoracic, general surgery, dialysis and the wound/ostomy program at Hartford Hospital Hartford Connecticut. She is the nurse lead for the Enhanced Recovery after Surgery (ERAS) clinical redesign project for the hospital and serves on the System Nurse Executive Council. Susanne provides the monthly orientation of the Professional Practice Nursing Model for nurses and serves as the chair for the Hospital's annual Nurses' Week celebration. She enjoys reading and spending time with her family.