



**Kathy Skarka, RN**Chief Nursing Office
Nassau University Medical Center (NuHealth)

Ms. Kathy Skarka is the Chief Nursing officer at Nassau University Medical Center. She functions at the senior leadership level to establish standards of practice in the delivery of nursing care, treatment and services and assumes an active leadership role within the hospitals governing body. She has a Masters of Science degree in Nursing Administration and Informatics. During her tenure, the hospital has earned Gold plus recognition for stroke as well as Silver recognition for cardiac care. Ms. Skarka was also instrumental in obtaining the status of Bariatric Care Center of Excellence as well as the award of an "A" grade on the Leapfrog report.

Ms. Skarka and her colleagues Dr. Amgad Makaryus and Dr. Venkatesh Sasthakonar participated in America's Essential Hospitals' yearlong Fellows program in 2013. Their culminating project was focused on "Improving Patient Perception of Nurse and Physician Communication Through Team Stepps Methodology."