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Children's Announces our Working Mother and Father of the Year

Children's would like to congratulate our new Working Mother of the Year, **Margaret Harrison** and our Working Father of the Year, **Glenn Pacifico**. In our annual contest, Children's asked working parents to submit essays describing how they successfully juggle career and family. A committee reviewed the submissions and interviewed the impressive finalists to narrow it down to these two stand-out winners.

Meet our Working Mother of the Year

Amy Rawls nominated her mother **Margaret Harrison** to be our Working Mother of the Year because she thinks her mother is a great example of how someone can balance work with a family and still be able to time to pursue an education. As a Day Surgery nurse at Scottish Rite, Margaret has worked for Children's for more than 20 years. Margaret's love of Children's has spilled over into her family. Three of her four children work here. She also recruits friends outside the family to work for Children's.

"I can say without a doubt that my mother believes in this place with her whole heart, and she strives to bring the best people to work alongside her," Amy wrote in her essay.

Using Educational Assistance from Children's, Margaret went back to school to complete her BSN degree, which inspired Amy to go back to school and pursue nursing as a career.

Margaret encourages the entire family to participate in Strong4Life activities. She is known for preparing healthy meals for her expanding family (she is now a grandmother), using fresh fruits and vegetables from the Eat Right Atlanta food baskets. Additionally, she has completed the IronGirl triathlon twice with her daughters. She motivated her daughters to train by planning bike and running outings that they could do together.

"Finishing that race with my mom was very exciting and meaningful for both me and my sister," shared Amy.

Meet our Working Father of the Year

Our Working Father of the Year started with Children's as a volunteer. **Glenn Pacifico** was a computer professional who decided after volunteering at Children's that he wanted a career that was more fulfilling and allowed time for family. Becoming a nurse seemed the perfect fit. He studied to become a Registered Nurse and now works the night shift three days a week in the TICU at Scottish Rite. This compact schedule allows him to act as a part-time stay-at-home Dad.

In his essay, Glenn stressed how important careful planning and communication is to making his household run smoothly. His two young children (ages 4 and 7) are active in many sports and activities, so he and his wife have to coordinate schedules carefully. The family benefits with a support system who pitch in when Glenn needs to catch up on sleep. He doesn't sacrifice his rest time because he knows that a well-rested nurse is a safe nurse.

Glenn believes that having extra time during the day allows him to be a more involved father and a healthier individual. He is able to participate in school functions with his children or relax with some personal activities like golf or exercising. He also takes the time to prepare healthy meals for his family, so when it's go-time with family activities, they are not relying on fast food. He credits Children's for influencing healthy decisions for his household. He uses Strong4Life Online to track his workouts and squeezes in a cardio workout in the new Strong4Life exercise room. Since participating in Strong4Life, Glenn has lost 50 pounds and is able to keep up with his active family.

The Working Mother and Father of the Year will help Children's by speaking at our Great Expectations baby showers and with the media as needed. Children's gives Glenn, Margaret and their respective families special thanks for their contributions.


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