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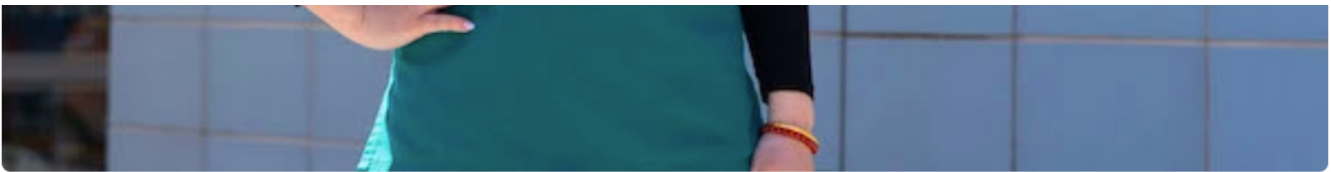
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You Are the Difference: Xindi Huang, RN, Sunset Park Family Health Center at NYU...





"Empathy and compassion are so crucial in building connection with my patients," says Xindi Huang, RN, who works at the Sunset Park Family Health Center at NYU Langone—Adult Medicine in Brooklyn. "Small gestures such as a smile or handshake can help build bridges."

Honoring National Nurses Week

At NYU Langone Health, our nurses make the difference 365 days a year. It's why we are the only health system in New York State to receive Magnet designation for nursing excellence across all of our hospitals.

To our entire nursing staff, we thank you for your service and commitment to the highest quality care.

Give a Shout Out to Your Favorite Nurse

Our month-long celebration of National Nurses Week is also the perfect time to visit our [employee recognition platform](#) to shout out your favorite nursing colleague or team. Show appreciation, recognize hard work, and spread positivity across our organization.

In recognition of National Nurses Week, honored at NYU Langone Health throughout May, Inside Health is proud to shine a spotlight on a few of our many outstanding nurses who embody this year's theme, "Nurses Make the Difference."

Here, Xindi Huang, a 12-year nursing veteran currently working at the Sunset Park Family Health Center at NYU Langone—Adult Medicine, shares her path to and love of the nursing profession.

My Career Path to Nursing

I came to US when I was 15. I was the only one in my family who spoke English, and even mine was fairly broken. My father, a construction worker, had an accident at work and badly wounded his leg. I was with him in the

Emergency Department, terrified as I watched the nurses and doctors working hard to help him. A nurse noticed me and came to my side, sat by me, held my hand and tried to comfort me using simple English words I could understand. I was amazed at her professionalism and kindness. It's the moment I realized I would like to be a nurse. So I started down my road to helping others the way that nurse had helped me.

Being an Advocate

I started my nursing career in the Emergency Room at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn and then worked in medical surgery for almost six years. In 2021 I joined Sunset Park Family Health Center at NYU Langone—Adult Medicine in Brooklyn. It's here I've built the strongest relationships with my patients, who improve every day with the support of our amazing nurse team and our programs that manage chronic illnesses such as diabetes, depression, and blood pressure. We advocate for our patients by educating them on the proper ways to take their medicine, so their blood pressure doesn't go back up, for instance, and we go the extra mile for them daily, scheduling appointments, calling doctors, or arranging EKGs. We also have a family support program that helps our patients with their financial needs, childcare, or housing issues.

Making a Connection

Working in Brooklyn, I have seen that many patients in this diverse community have difficulty expressing their health concerns. Sometimes it's language problems, other times it's just different cultures. That's why empathy and compassion are so crucial in building connections with my patients. Being the daughter of immigrant parents, I understand the hesitation and frustration some patients might feel. Small gestures such as a smile or handshake can help build bridges. I will always go above and beyond to help and understand their needs.

An Unforgettable Nursing Moment

Early in the Covid pandemic, in March 2020, I took care of a patient who forever impacted my perspective on nursing. I was by her side during her last moments. I fed her her last meal and stayed with her while she did her final video call with her 6-year-old daughter. I gave her all the support she and her family needed and made sure that she was comfortable. This experience taught me the true meaning of nursing: to care for ill, disabled, and dying people, to respect human dignity, and to help them through their most

difficult times.

I Make a Difference...

...Because every day at work, I can touch patients' lives. The smallest acts can lead to open connections and end up making great impacts on people. Nursing is a combination of heart and science. I am just one of the many nurses at NYU Langone Health who care, who advocate and support our patients every day. It is an honor.

Our Social Universe

See how we're celebrating our amazing nurses on NYU Langone Health's official social media accounts.

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