



## WELLMED NURSES RECOGNIZED BY EXPRESS-NEWS SALUTE TO NURSES

Two WellMed nurses were honored June 4 at the San Antonio Express-News Salute to Nurses recognition ceremony.

Liliana Mazzini, RN-BSN, manager, primary care medical home, was a Top 3 winner in the administrator/leader category and Jimmie Keenan, MSN, RN, FACHE, FAAN, senior vice president of enterprise clinic operations, received the Pandemic Response award from the Baptist Health System in addition to being named in the Top 3 category for Pandemic Response. Keenan and Mazzini were chosen from more than 200 nominations and were among 43 nurses honored in Top 3 and Best-in-Class categories.

Keynote speaker Nelson Tuazon, vice president and associate chief nursing officer at University Health System, noted the importance of nurses overall, but especially during the past year.

Comparing nurses to warriors and superheroes, Tuazon emphasized the sacrifice that nurses made during the pandemic, and continue to make, such as working long hours, burn out and exposure to COVID-19.

In addition to providing quality care, nurses are also strong advocates for people affected by social determinates of health, especially in the past year, when social inequities and health care disparities in vulnerable populations became even more pronounced, Tuazon said.

In the end, the Salute to Nurses is just that – a sincere thank you to nurses in all aspects of health care.

“This recognition is not for me, but for all of our WellMed teams who volunteered countless hours to ensure our communities were able to be vaccinated and cared for during the pandemic,” Keenan said. “This was truly a team of teams that provided compassionate care, whether delivering meals, giving vaccines, or supporting our clinics to provide care, one patient at a time.”

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