WOW! Award for nurses who helped to resuscitate patient

THE skill and calmness under pressure shown by three nurses was celebrated during a special WOW! Awards lunch hosted by Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Shanti Gurung, Karen Sargeant and Beena Bala, who work at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, were nominated for the award after helping to resuscitate a patient.

Shanti and Beena were not working on their usual ward and during the course of their night shift a patient unexpectedly went into cardiac arrest. Karen was called in from a neighbouring ward to help and all three were praised by other staff for remaining calm, carrying out CPR and assisting the doctors as they managed to successfully resuscitate the patient.

Shanti said: “It was stressful, but we were proud to have been able to help resuscitate the patient. We worked really well as a team and being able to do something like that for a patient is one of the reasons why I love being a nurse.”

Beena added: “We were all surprised but really pleased when we heard we had won a WOW! Award. Helping the patient was reward enough, but it’s really nice to also get this recognition for what we were able to do that night.”

Shanti, Beena and Karen were three of many WOW! Award winners honoured for their hard work, dedication and care during the lunch event. Other winners included midwife Chris Butt, who was nominated for the care he provided to a woman going through a complicated labour, while Christine Stefanopoulos and Linda Cenci were separately nominated for supporting young people with special needs during work placements at the Trust.

Derek Williams, creator of the WOW! Awards, was on hand to present staff with their certificates. He also surprised staff from four departments with special presentations for reaching a landmark number of nominations. Staff on St Cross Ward at Royal Hampshire County Hospital and wards C2 and D3 at Basingstoke hospital have all received 50 nominations, while staff working in the Diagnosis and Treatment Centre at Basingstoke hospital has now been nominated 100 times.

Staff can be nominated for a WOW! Award by their colleagues, patients or visitors throughout the year, with a handful of winners selected by the trust’s public governors each month.

Speaking at the lunch, Donna Green, Chief Nurse at Hampshire Hospitals, which runs Andover War Memorial Hospital, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, in Winchester, said: “Thank you and well done to all of you for doing such a great job. We get almost 250 nominations every month and it’s a difficult task to choose the winners, so you have all achieved something really special.”

ENDS
Photo: Shanti Gurung, Karen Sargeant and Beena Bala during the WOW! Awards lunch at Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Notes to Editors

1. Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust provides hospital services to a population of approximately 600,000 people in Hampshire and parts of West Berkshire.
2. HHFT has around 6,000 staff and a turnover of £353 million a year.
3. HHFT delivers one hospital service across multiple locations including its own hospitals, Andover War Memorial Hospital, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester. It also provides outpatient and assessment services from Bordon and Alton community hospitals.
4. As a Foundation Trust, HHFT is accountable to the local community through a system of local ownership with members and elected governors. HHFT has around 18,000 staff and public members. Foundation Trusts are free from central government control and can reinvest any surplus to develop clinical services. They are authorised and regulated by NHS Improvement, an independent regulator.

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