

# McLeod Health partners in nursing education programs

FROM A NEWS REPORT  
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Nursing represents the nation's largest health care profession and the largest single component of hospital staff. By the year 2030, South Carolina will be one of four states with a nursing shortage of more than 10,000 according to an analysis by the US Department of Health and Human Services. Additional nurses will be needed to care for the aging population, who typically have more medical problems than younger people.

"The need for healthcare services is increasing as the number of aging baby boomers continues to grow," stated Sherrill Nielson, Chief Nursing Officer for McLeod Health Seacoast. "As a result, more nurses are needed to educate and care for patients. This is why it is vitally important to McLeod that Horry-Georgetown Technical College continue to educate nurses."

According to Nielson, nurses serve an important role in the delivery of quality health care. "McLeod recognizes the value of the nurse's contribution in patient care," said Nielson. "Providing patient advocacy, promotion of a safe en-

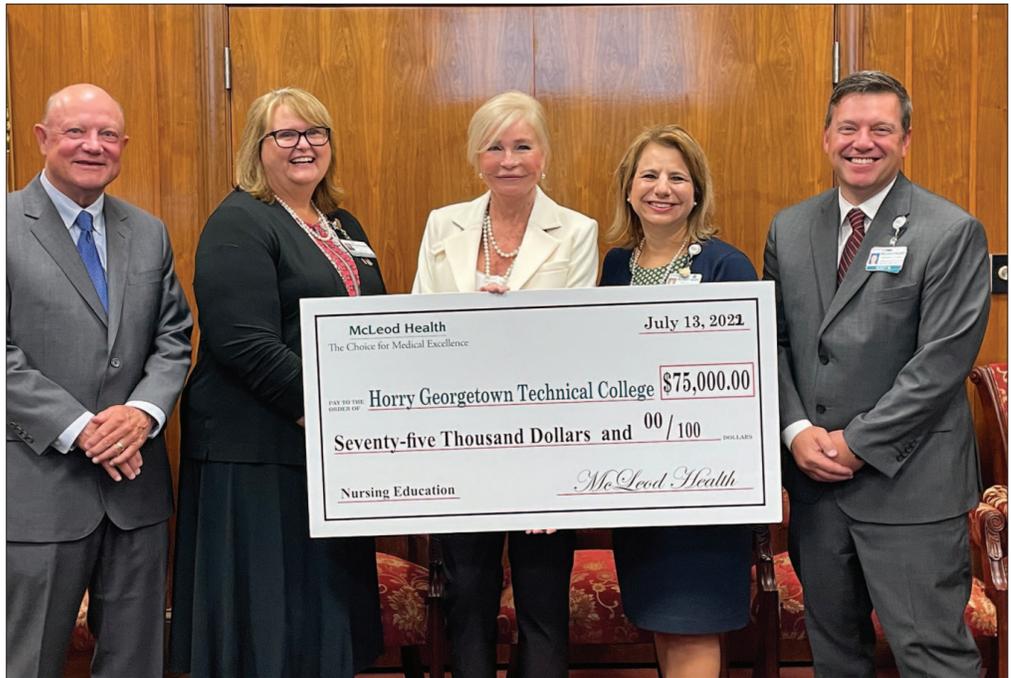
vironment, participation in shaping health policies and patient education are also key nursing roles. It is a tough job but with competent nurses as part of the medical team, McLeod is capable of carrying out its mission of providing quality health care for patients in the region."

Because nurses are essential to health care and the region's economy, this area is very fortunate to have a quality nursing education program at Horry-Georgetown Technical College.

"We are so grateful for our continued partnership with HGTC," said Monica Vehige, CEO of McLeod Health Lorris Seacoast. "McLeod Health is committed to finding the best nurses to provide excellent care to our patients. HGTC does an outstanding job of training quality students that we hope will be part of the future of nursing at any of our three our McLeod campuses throughout Horry County."

HGTC offers an Associate in Applied Science in Nursing (ADN) degree and a Practical Nursing (PN) diploma for students.

"HGTC is so pleased to partner with McLeod Health to strengthen instructional opportunities for the nursing program," said Dr. Marilyn



A donation is presented from McLeod Health to the Horry-Georgetown Technical College nursing program.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCLEOD HEALTH

Murphy Fore, HGTC president. "HGTC is developing a generation of well-trained and highly-skilled nursing

professionals prepared to meet the challenges of modern health care demands. We are fortunate to receive this

generous gift and have the support of community partners like McLeod to provide the best and latest equipment

for training our nursing students, so they are ready to respond to the everchanging healthcare needs."



Recently, Grand Strand Health's medical staff and colleagues celebrated the life of Dr. Andrew Schwartz, the health system's former chief medical officer, alongside his family. During the memorial event, a monument, left, to honor Dr. Schwartz was unveiled in a garden near the South Tower Entrance on the campus of Grand Strand Medical Center, shown on the right. Schwartz lost his battle with pancreatic cancer in 2021.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GRAND STRAND HEALTH



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