



Please help us welcome Rita Hess as our new Chief Nursing Officer (CNO).

Rita and her husband will be relocating from Miami Florida. She will start her new position on or before March 2, 2012.

Rita has most recently been the CNO at a 365 bed Tenet Health System facility, North Shore Medical Center in Miami Florida.

Rita is married to Joe, and they have three children. Melissa, the oldest, is married and lives in Denver, Colby attends the University of Colorado at Boulder, and Jolene, the youngest, is planning on attending college somewhere in the Colorado, Utah area.

Rita is excited to join our senior leadership team and through her focus on professional nursing practice, continue our innovative path to improve the patient experience, advance our Magnet journey and help us meet the healthcare challenges of the future.

She enjoys living and working in a community that has a small town atmosphere. "Life is not just about a salary, there needs to be quality of life as well" Rita noted.

"I am super excited to be coming to Grand Junction! What attracted me to Grand Junction, and Community Hospital, was the community and sense of family that everyone graced me with from the moment I arrived. This feeling has continued with each interaction and step in the process!"

### Education and Training:

2000 - Penn State University, State College, Pennsylvania  
Masters of Education: Health

1995 - Millersville University, Millersville, Pennsylvania  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

1992 - Lancaster General Hospital School of Nursing,  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania  
Registered Nurse Diploma

### Experience:

2009- Present, Tenet Health System  
Chief Nursing Officer, North Shore Medical Center,  
Miami Florida

Chief Nursing Officer, Des Peres Hospital, St. Louis,  
Missouri

2007-2009, Chief Nursing Officer, Gateway Regional  
Medical Center, Granite City Illinois

2005-2007, Chief Nursing Officer, Southwest Medical  
Center, Lafayette, Louisiana

2005, Associate Chief Nursing Officer, Eastern Idaho  
Regional Medical Center, Idaho Falls, Idaho

### Licensure:

RN Wyoming, Pennsylvania, Idaho, Illinois, Missouri  
and Florida

### Certifications:

ACLS, CPR, TNCC, ATLS, PALS, ENPC

### Professional Organizations:

Emergency Nurses Association  
American Association of Critical Care Nurses  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
Wyoming Nurses Association  
Pennsylvania Nurses Association  
Idaho Alliance of Leaders in Nursing  
Louisiana Nurses Association