



January 21, 2016

Natalie Weaver RN, BSN, OCN, Clinical Coordinator's introduction of 2016 Nora Cooney Marra Compassionate Care Award recipient, Lauren Socol:

I have the pleasure of introducing our social worker, Lauren Socol.

When I heard about the Nora Cooney Marra Compassionate Care Award, I knew right away that Lauren deserved this award. 14 Prentice is a unique unit and we are blessed to have Lauren as our social worker. There are so many examples of how Lauren goes the extra mile, but there is one story in particular that stands out.

We had recently had a patient who wanted to go to his cabin in a remote location in Wisconsin to spend his last days with his family in a place he loves. Lauren worked for days on this case, making sure the patient had the proper equipment, travel accommodations, and support. The patient's daughter contacted Lauren a few weeks later and said ***"It was an epic task, but we did it and he passed away just 26 hours after crawling into his cozy bed with 60 family members surrounding him. You made a crazy experience doable."*** And that is just what Lauren does every day... makes impossible tasks doable.

Lauren connects more in 20 minutes with patients than some of us do in 12 hours or 3 days. Lauren is the first one to find out that the patient used to chase monkeys around the Amazon or that a patient was a professional singer in Poland.

And that's not all, Lauren also goes above and beyond for our staff. She takes time to check in with our nurses and PCTs that may have dealt with a difficult situation that day, she helps to organize a monthly remembrance for the patients we have lost to allow staff time to grieve, and she consults daily with the physicians to make sure everyone is getting everything they need. I'm not sure how she finds enough time in a day, but I am sure glad she does.

Lauren is our rock and even on her most stressed days always has a smile on her face. With that said, I am extremely privileged to not only introduce Lauren Socol, but to also have the privilege to work side by side with her. Thank you Lauren for everything you do, I don't think we say it enough!