

# Black History Month Nurse Leader Spotlight

## Stacy T. Kelly MSN RN CNML



**Area of Oversight:** Associate Chief Nursing Officer/Director-ICU, PCU, CDU, and 4200 Telemetry

**Education & Experience:** Registered Nurse for 29+ years with over 15 years of Nursing Leadership Experience. Master of Science Degree in Nursing Administration, currently enrolled in the DNP program.

**My Motivation for Becoming a Nurse Leader:** Initially, my hero and role model inspired me to become a nurse, My mother! I saw how passionate, driven and determined she was in becoming a nurse and it made me aspire to do the same! I believe my faith, dedication, and commitment to growing motivated me towards becoming a leader outside the Charge Nurse role. It was also because of the support and encouragement from my family and the 4100 team at the time. The unit and I had experienced a great deal of leadership turnover and instability and after much soul searching and affirmation from a higher power, I began my journey into management. I have also had the support of other strong leaders that were willing to help manage me up and challenge me to keep going and growing as a leader!

**How has Diversity and Inclusion Impacted your Career Path - Did it Hinder, or Help:** My career path has been impacted by Diversity and Inclusion in many ways. If it were not for organizations and their strong efforts to drive a culture that supports D&I, I may not have been given the chance to share my talents as an individual and nurse leader. I recall the day I was informed that I had been promoted to the role of Nurse Manager and how humbling that was for me. I rejoiced and gave thanks because I knew this was an extraordinary moment on so many levels. I remember thinking that right now, at this very moment, I believe I am one of few diverse individuals at this organization holding this title! What an honor! The hindrance comes when organizations are not open, nor accepting and supportive of diversity and inclusion because it limits the possibilities of better business performance, innovation, and creativity.

**Who in Black History Inspires You:** There are many, but the few that have inspired me the most; My father because he instilled in me the belief that I could do and be anything I set my mind to achieving if I worked hard and believed in myself! More notably of a person, I would have to say Muhammad Ali because for someone to give up everything (money, title, fame, fortune, etc.) for what they believe-is unfathomable because I do not know many people who have such a strong belief in anything that they are willing to lose it all!

**Best Advice:** Be humble, never stop learning.

"There is a certain finesse that comes with being a leader, and everyone doesn't possess it."

**How Do You Engage with the Community (volunteering, boards, etc.)?**

- Active member of the Galen College of Nursing Advisory Board
- Active member of New Jerusalem Baptist Church
- Proudly serve on the Elizabeth Mosely Scholarship Committee
- Greater Cincinnati Nurse Executives (GCNE) member
- Actively enrolled at Mount Saint Joseph University.