



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **BEAUMONT HEALTH IS LEAD SPONSOR OF NAANA 2016 ANGEL OF MERCY BANQUET OCTOBER 20**

**Detroit, MI, OCTOBER 7, 2016** – The National American Arab Nurses Association (NAANA) announces that Beaumont Health will be its lead sponsor at the Partner level for the 2016 Angel of Mercy Awards Banquet on Thursday, October 20.

Mohammad Rustom, president of NAANA, said, "We are honored by the support the new Beaumont Health has given NAANA for our 5<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the contributions of Arab American nurses in our community. This is a major boost to NAANA because it underscores the importance of Arab American nurses in the eight-hospital system, the largest healthcare system in our state."

Susan Grant, RN, BSN, executive vice president and chief nursing officer of Beaumont Health, said, "Beaumont is proud to partner with NAANA as it recognizes the importance of Arab American nurses in the care of our patients and nursing as a critical profession in our society."

The 2016 Angel of Mercy Banquet will feature international cultural competence experts Drs. Marilyn McFarland and Hiba Wehbe-Alamah as keynote speakers. It will be held at Byblos Banquets, 7258 Chase Road in Dearborn, at 6:00 p.m. Drs. McFarland and Wehbe-Alamah will present "Reflection in the Mirror: The Do's and Don'ts of Transcultural Communication."

New this year will be a two-and-a-half hour seminar for healthcare professionals on the topic of "Transcultural Healthcare in Increasingly Diverse Local and Global Communities," preceding the Angel of Mercy Banquet also held at Byblos Banquets.

Inherent in NAANA's mission is cultural competence in the nursing profession. Rustom said, "We are thrilled that the eminent transcultural nursing author, expert and educator, Dr. Marilyn McFarland, will be with us accompanied by 2013 Angel of Mercy Award winner, Dr. Hiba Wehbe-Alamah, a nursing educator, both from the University of Michigan-Flint.

"The contributions of nurses often go without public acknowledgement. We know that there are several nurses who positively impact the health and well-being of the Arab American community daily, whether they are Arab American themselves or unselfishly serve the community's needs for care. The board of NAANA believes that we can accomplish the dual purpose of elevating these nurses with the Angel of Mercy Award as well as showcasing nursing as a viable career choice for Arab Americans in our community."



In addition to presenting the Angel of Mercy winner, scholarships for 2017 will be awarded at the banquet.

Individual tickets for the Angel of Mercy Banquet are \$100; tickets for the Cultural Competence Seminar are \$20; if purchased together, banquet tickets are only \$80, a \$20 discount for the banquet. Individual banquet tickets and tables of 10 tickets as well as ticket for the seminar can be purchased at [www.n-aana.org](http://www.n-aana.org) or by [clicking here](#). Sponsorships are available by contacting Renée Ahee at 586-484-2390, by e-mailing [events@n-aana.org](mailto:events@n-aana.org) or by visiting [www.n-aana.org](http://www.n-aana.org).

NAANA was established in 2003 as a voice, a network and a resource for men and women in their pursuit of employment and advancement within the nursing profession. NAANA focuses primarily on the Arab American nurse but it is an inclusive nursing organization fostering knowledge of cultural diversity and sensitivity between members and the community in the area of transcultural health care.

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