Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award

for Program Director Excellence

The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award honors program directors who find innovative ways to teach residents/fellows and to provide quality health care while remaining connected to the initial impulse to care for others in this environment. The ACGME congratulates the 2017 recipients of the Courage to Teach Award.

Jill A. Patton, DO
Program Director for Internal Medicine
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital
Park Ridge, IL

Nominators had this to say:
"I have learned through my medical training that a patient's priority lies in how much you, as a physician, care about them rather than how much medical knowledge you demonstrate. Dr. Patton illustrated this concept from day one of our residency training. Not only did she demonstrate the highest level of care and sincerity towards her patients but she showed us how much she cared about her residents by allowing us all to feel like part of a huge family. She has strengthened our voice and constantly supported the needs of each resident. Dr. Patton is always readily available, which was proven by the countless calls my fellow colleagues and I have made to her during overnight calls when she happily provided us guidance regarding patient care. Furthermore, she not only supported us but appreciated us for the initiative we took in seeking out solutions."

"Her most recent major accomplishment is leading the Advocate Primary Care Transformation Collaborative (APCTC). This involves coordinating not only the Department of Medicine, but also Departments of Family Medicine and Pediatrics. Her work in this group is bringing actual meaningful interprofessional teams to primary care practices. The APCTC when fully realized will be an actual patient-centered medical home visible to patients as a valued added service- not just check marks on the form. This innovative project also involves our residents and they will be better prepared to practice in the post- ACA world of medicine."