



## ***MASBHC Annual Susan Borinsky Outstanding School-Based Health Center Nurse Clinician Award***

Awarded to a Maryland School Based Health Center (SBHC) Nurse Clinician who exemplifies Susan's commitment to SBHCs, passionate service, and advocacy for the underserved

### ***2021 Inaugural Recipient***

#### ***Patricia Papa, RN, NP***

Pat Papa is uniquely qualified to be the first recipient of the Annual Susan Borinsky Outstanding School-Based Health Center Nurse Clinician Award. She is one of the original nurse practitioners who opened Maryland's first school-based health center program in Baltimore City in 1985. She supervised the program from 1989 until 1992 and hired Susan Borinsky. She also was a provider and an administrator in Prince Georges County's school-based health program in 1999 through 2020 and now serves as a Catholic University provider in Montgomery County's school-based health centers program. While serving as a supervisor and administrator of these programs, she developed standards of care and policies and procedures that promoted the provision of high quality of care to patients. She also developed numerous quality improvement projects. During her work as a pediatric nurse practitioner, she provided health education and counseling to high school students focused on the prevention of health problems including sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy, and behavioral health problems.

Pat has been a nurse since 1970, first working in a local health department in the child and school health programs. She has been a dedicated and passionate contributor to both the nursing profession and the growth of school-based health centers by serving on the faculty of University of Maryland's and Catholic University of America's Schools of Nursing, authoring numerous articles in professional journals, and contributing to chapters in professional texts. This candidate has improved the quality of care provided in all school-based health centers by contributing to the development of the Maryland School-Based Health Standards. Her passion for caring for children and adolescents is demonstrated by her volunteering as provider at the Waxter Juvenile Detention Center. Her professional memberships include the: National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners, MD Nurses Association, Nurse Practitioner Association of Maryland, American College of Nurse Practitioners, School-Based Health Alliance (formerly the National Association of School-Based Health Centers) and Maryland Association of School-Based Health Centers where she served as a board member and past president.

Pat has demonstrated her passion and commitment to school- based health by working as a clinician and supervisor for thirty-five years in the programs of three Maryland counties. For many years, she has contributed to the provision of high quality of care by mentoring her colleagues and precepting nurse practitioner students. She has a long history of providing expert clinical and compassionate care to her patients and their families and implementing innovative programs to meet patients' needs. One of these programs included the implementation of a family planning/ reproductive health program in Baltimore City that included the dispensing of contraceptives, a first in Maryland.

With unanimous agreement by her peers and the MASBHC board, Pat Papa's career best demonstrates those qualities the Susan Borinsky Outstanding School-Based Health Center Nurse Clinician Award hopes to recognize in the inaugural year of 2021 and for years going forward.

**Congratulations, Pat and thank you for all you have done for your students, colleagues and for Maryland School-Based Health Centers.**

May 17, 2021