

***2009 NIGHTINGALE RECIPIENT
SUSAN MIKLINEVICH, RN
WATERBURY***



The Waterbury office of New England Home Care proudly announces Susan Miklinevich, RN as the recipient of this year's Florence Nightingale Award. In the past year, Sue Miklinevich has traveled life's path of hills and valleys and has returned back again to solid ground. She maintains a positive attitude no matter what she encounters.

As a home care nurse Sue exemplifies care and compassion. She meets her clients where they are, often visiting in the early morning or evening hours, at times that best suits her patients needs, never her own. She finds the potential in every client she works with, and builds on the strengths of each of them, never hesitating to meet a challenge with her 'can do' attitude. Her approach is holistic, and she looks to mind, body and spirit to overcome obstacles.

Tina, a particularly challenging brittle diabetic, was spending more time in the hospital than she was at home. She was challenged by traumatic brain injury as well as depression, and required insulin coverage up to 4 times daily. Sue worked tirelessly to set up a comprehensive plan of care that incorporated multiple supports, some of which included finding individuals to watch Tina perform each BS check and insulin dosing as well as daily phone calls by Sue to assist Tina to remain compliant with diabetic management. Because Tina had a history of depression, Sue suspected self sabotage. Together Tina and Sue worked to identify a practitioner and to address Tina's depression; the combination of psychiatric intervention for medication management as well as routine counseling and daily supports for blood sugar management over the last year have assisted to minimize Tina's hospitalizations, alleviate her depression, and stabilize her diabetes. Sue also set Tina up with an eye specialist to address Tina's failing vision, another factor affecting Tina's ability to perform accurate insulin dosing. Sue's persistent efforts to address the multiple facets of Tina's health needs have contributed to this- just one of many success stories!!

This year, Sue is chairing her own Relay for Life team, "Walk for Joy". Her team's name exemplifies Sue's positive outlook. Her optimism and enthusiasm is contagious. We are proud to call Sue our Nightingale Awardee!!

Congratulations!