BOULDER, CO, May 4, 2015 — The Watson Caring Science Institute (WCSI) is proud to announce that it has designated four new inter/national Caring Science Affiliate organizations in recognition of their exemplary integration of caring theory and leadership commitment to evidence-informed caring science practices, research and scholarship.

- **Brigham and Women’s Hospital** (MA) under the leadership of Jacqueline Somerville, RN, PhD — Chief Nursing Officer & Senior Vice President, Patient Care Services
- **Children’s Hospital Colorado** under the leadership of Kelly Johnson, PhD, RN, NEA-BC — Senior Vice President, Patient Care Services & Chief Nursing Officer
- **James A. Haley VAMC** (Veteran’s Administration Medical Center – Tampa, FL) under the leadership of Laureen G. Doloresco, MN, RN, NEA-BC — Associate Director, Patient Care/Nursing Services
- **Washington DC VAMC** (Veteran’s Administration Medical Center) under the leadership of Kathleen J. Barry RN, MHA, NEA-BC — Chief Nurse Executive

These organizations join the following seven currently designated and highly respected WCSI inter/national Caring Science Affiliate organizations: **Atlanta VAMC** (GA), **Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville** (FL), **Einstein Medical Center** (PA), **Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center** (WI), **Kaiser Permanente Northern California** (system affiliate including 21 hospitals), **St. John Hospital & Medical Center** (MI), and the **University of Chihuahua Nursing and Health Science** (Mexico).

To become an inter/national Caring Science Affiliate, an organization must demonstrate deep-rooted and sustainable commitment to integrating caring science within practices and policies, seeking to transform and broaden the notion of health and healing for its staff as well as the patients, families and communities it serves. Accordingly, over the past several years, WCSI has established criteria to validate authentic, whole-person/whole-system caring science practices, research and scholarship in collaboration with leaders within its Affiliate organizations. These criteria exemplify the latest strategic, operational and philosophical thinking on how we can transform conventional institutional medical care practices into professional models of caring, healing, health and well-being for Self, System and Society.

Specifically, these criteria include evidence of:

- **Professional caring practice guided by caring science theory, values, philosophy** adopted across the inter-professional team, reflected in practice documents (e.g. job descriptions, clinical ladder requirements, and performance evaluations) and evident through theory-guided intentional practices (e.g. authentic presence/listening, preservation of human dignity, and other reflective mindfulness-based practices, plan of care created in collaboration with patient/family that recognizes whole-person needs)

- **Healing environment culture of caring for staff, patients/families, and community members**, including space, decor and design focused on promoting centering/healing, as much as policies, programs and outreach that seek to deepen awareness and competency in creating rhythms, rituals, patterns, and trusting relationships that foster healing

- **Integration and advocacy of Caring-Healing modalities and energetic healing arts** to honor whole-person needs and identity (e.g. healing/therapeutic touch, Reiki, aromatherapy, music, sound, visualization, imagery, and relaxation, etc.)

- **Investment in leaders, mentors, and staff who are able to act as resources to generate and guide a transformation in caring-healing ethic and culture**, including but not limited to Caritas Coaches (WCSI program) and certified HeartMath trainers

- **Participation in clinical caring scholarship/research**, especially as it relates to the intersection with and impact on quality outcomes, patient safety and perception of care experience
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• **Progression for Caritas to Communitas** (from hospital to home/community - from disease/problems to health/well-being) to foster resiliency and assure continuous care


In addition to these 11 Caring Science Affiliates, several organizations have demonstrated a deep commitment to support and promote Caring Science-informed practice, research and scholarship through participation in the [International Watson Caritas Comparative Database](https://www.watsoncaringscience.org) and/or by hosting a recent [International Caritas Consortium](https://www.watsoncaringscience.org). Adventist Hinsdale Hospital (IL), AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center (NJ), Chesapeake Regional Medical Center (VA), Good Samaritan Medical Center (CO), Hackensack Regional Medical Center (NJ), Kindred Healthcare (AZ), Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center (TX), Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center (NC), and Winter Haven Hospital (FL).

Hundreds of other hospitals use caring theory processes as the basis of their professional practice model, many of whom are designated and recognized as Magnet hospitals by the American Nursing Credentialing Center (ANCC).

To learn more about the innovative ways these organizations are embedding Caring Science into their practice, environment and culture, please reach out to:

**Dr. Jean Watson, PhD, RN, AHN-BC, FAAN** via [Jean@watsoncaringscience.org](mailto:Jean@watsoncaringscience.org)

Founder/Director Watson Caring Science Institute

Distinguished Professor Emerita–Dean Emerita, University of Colorado Denver, College of Nursing Anschutz Medical Center

American Academy of Nursing, [Living Legend](https://www.aaner.org/), 2013

### About Watson Caring Science Institute

The Watson Caring Science Institute is an international non-profit foundation created to advance the philosophies, theories and practices of Human Caring, originated by Dr. Jean Watson. The Institute seeks to:

• Transform the dominant model of medical science to a model of Caring Science by reintroducing the ethic of caring and Love (Caritas), necessary for healing.

• Deepen the authentic Caring-Healing relationships between caregiver and patient to restore Love and compassion as the ethical foundation of healthcare.

• Translate the model of Caring-Healing/Caritas into fully integrated transdisciplinary programs and services to help transform healthcare one nurse / one caregiver / one educator / one leader / one system at a time.

• Ensure caring and healing for the public, improve nurse and care provider retention in healthcare settings, enhance patient care outcomes, promote safe practices, and decrease costs to the system.