



Michelle Pena, MSN, RN, NEA-BC is currently Chief Nursing Officer for Mercy Health Saint Mary's in Grand Rapids, MI, a member of Trinity Health. She earned a BSN from the University of Michigan-Flint and her MSN in Executive Management from Loyola University New Orleans. She is a board-certified Advanced Nurse Executive through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Michelle has been a registered nurse for 29 years. Her clinical career began in the areas of critical care and emergency services, then progressing to nursing education and leadership. Michelle has experience in healthcare design, programmatic development, and innovative healthcare models. She was instrumental in the building and planning of the Mercy Health's Hauenstein Center, Southwest Campus, the development of the organization's first urgent care centers and the area's only off campus emergency department. Michelle designed the organization's innovative care models of acuity adaptable units. In her current role as Chief Nursing Officer, Michelle has led the organization through the COVID-19 pandemic preparedness and response. She currently serves on the Board for West Michigan American Heart Association and was a 2021 West Michigan Woman Brilliance Awards finalists in the areas of Tenacity and People's Choice awards. Michelle previously served in a long-term Executive Board Member role of Kent County EMS (KCEMS) and a member of the Kent County Human Trafficking Medical Subcommittee. She is currently leading the path to Mercy Health Saint Mary's third Magnet® designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, demonstrating Michelle's transformational leadership style. This is the nation's most prestigious honor for nursing achievement excellence, a measure of quality earned by only about six percent of U.S. hospitals. Magnet designation is the national verification of the excellence in nursing care.

Mercy Health Saint Mary's is a 350+ bed top ranked teaching institution by Watson's, Level II Trauma Center, Magnet® designated and Leapfrog grade A organization that is also recognized by Healthgrades as Top 5% in the nation for overall clinical excellence, and overall patient experience. Mercy Health Saint Mary's is a member of Trinity Health, the nation's second largest Catholic Healthcare system.