



# LILLIAN RUSSO

## UNIT NURSE EDUCATOR

---

### CONTACT

---

[Phone](#)

908-956-5167

[E-Mail](#)

[lillian.russo@emoryhealthcare.org](mailto:lillian.russo@emoryhealthcare.org)

[E-Portfolio](#)

[www.lillianrusso.com](http://www.lillianrusso.com)

---

### EDUCATION

---

– **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

*Emory University*  
Nell Hodgson Woodruff  
School of Nursing  
August 2018 – December 2019

– **Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion**  
– **Certificate in Global Health**

*University of Georgia*  
College of Public Health  
August 2013 – December 2017

---

### CERTIFICATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

---

PCCN Certified

LVAD Certified

BLS/ACLS Certified

AACN Member

---

### PROFILE

---

Passionate and highly motivated nursing professional with two and a half years of experience as a registered cardiothoracic surgical nurse. Proficient in resource development, project management, and collaborative leadership. An enthusiastic advocate for patients and fellow staff determined to cultivate a unified and supportive environment through education.

---

### WORK EXPERIENCE

---

#### Unit Nurse Educator

*Emory University Hospital, 6E* | Atlanta, GA | February 2022 – Current

Serve as an educational resource for all cardiothoracic surgery and heart failure patient information and hospital policy. Functions as a primary charge nurse on the floor when working in staffing.

#### Collaborated with peers to create educational materials dispensed and utilized across the entire Heart and Vascular Service line.

- Participate in weekly Clinical Support Structure meetings with fellow Education Coordinators and UNEs across H&V Service Line as the chosen education representative for 6E.
- Formulated a Diabetes Discharge Education Step-by-Step guide for nurses to educate patients newly diagnosed with Diabetes or newly prescribed Insulin that is utilized across the entire cardiac surgery resource division.
- Designed and conducted the annual Skills Fair based on gap analysis results of employee educational needs.
- Collaborated with previous UNE to facilitate annual Mock Code training by leading staff through code simulation and education on proper debriefing procedures.
- Conducted Value Improvement Project assessing nurses' education level and comfortability in responding to clinically deteriorating patient conditions. From this research, developed the "Acute Changes in Patient Condition Reference Sheet" that empowered new graduate nurses and instilled critical thinking skills in rapid response situations - currently incorporated into 6E's orientation process.

#### Effectively developed and managed the orientation process for new staff members and provided support for in-staff preceptors.

- Involved in interview and hiring process of employees.
- Developed orientation calendars and paired each new employee with a qualified preceptor to cultivate the best learning environment.
- Taught four Clinical Acclimation Classes that provided hands-on time to practice clinical procedures and skills in a safe setting for new graduate nurses. Customized class resource material to correlate with Essentials of Critical Care Orientation (ECCO) classes.
- Presented slides in the CV Orientation class for the Heart and Vascular Service Line as the appointed unit subject matter expert for post-operative management.

#### Performed compliance management and tracking to ensure all staff are up to date with required certifications according to legal, regulatory, and industry standards.

- Developed educational flyers utilizing data from individual tracer-audits during the VAD Joint Commission survey to achieve successful re-certification.
- Ran reports through HLC to confirm completion of quarterly and annual regulatory requirements.
- Provided make-up assignments and office-hours time for staff unable to complete requirements during the scheduled time.
- Completed root cause analysis to identify potential risk and review processes and operations to mitigate barriers to safe patient conditions.
- Assisted in unit strategic planning to align with hospital goals.

# LR

# LILLIAN RUSSO

UNIT NURSE EDUCATOR

---

## CONTACT

---

### [Phone](#)

908-956-5167

### [E-Mail](#)

[lillian.russo@emoryhealthcare.org](mailto:lillian.russo@emoryhealthcare.org)

### [E-Portfolio](#)

[www.lillianrusso.com](http://www.lillianrusso.com)

---

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

---

- Nurse Residency Award for *EBP Project With the Greatest Impact on Patients, Families, Nurses, or Other Clinicians*
- Nominated for Daisy Award
- Nominated for Nurse Resident of the Year Award
- Recognized in Tier 3 Huddle at EUH as a wonderful preceptor

---

## WORK EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

---

### **Nurse Clinician III**

*Emory University Hospital, 6E | Atlanta, GA | May 2020 - February 2022*

Cared for various cardiothoracic surgery and heart failure patients – including but not limited to patients pre- and post-orthotopic heart transplant, LVAD implantation, congenital heart disease, CABG, valve repairs, and cath lab procedures.

#### **Acted as relief shift charge nurse and daily management of ten employees on a 24-bed cardiac step-down floor.**

- o Collaborated with nursing supervisor, bed placement staff, and charge nurses of transferring units to ensure appropriate and safe placing of patients and developed appropriate shift assignments for employees.
- o Lead daily huddle meetings involving the entire staff to discuss pertinent situations or continuing education opportunities.

#### **Appointed as the primary preceptor for new, experienced, and traveling nurses during their orientation process and student nurses during their clinical practicums.**

- o Held weekly check-ins with preceptees to set goals, identify strengths, and explore weaknesses, as well as discuss ways to tailor orientation to fit their individual learning style.

### **Activities Coordinator for Arts in Health Program**

*Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University | Atlanta, GA | August 2017 - June 2018*

- o Established the Arts in Health (AIH) program within the Guest & Volunteer Services Department that integrated various forms of art into the healing process of patients, caregivers, and staff members.
- o Presided over the AIH Committee Board that met monthly to discuss fundraising events, organize on-boarding of new volunteers, and explore ways to improve our program.
- o Led four Masters in Public Health students from Emory University in researching the effects of art therapy on the emotional and physiological response to cancer treatment.
- o Wrote and received two \$7,000 grants that focused on researching the benefits of art therapy as a complimentary treatment to traditional cancer care.
- o Developed the orientation education material and lead the on-boarding for new AIH volunteers.

---

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

---

### **ABSN Mentor**

*Emory University SON Mentorship Program | Atlanta, GA | August - December 2019*

- o Guided a new ABSN student through the onboarding process of Emory Nursing School and addressed questions or concerns regarding the program.
- o Equipped mentee with study tips, clinical recommendations, and emotional support imperative to succeed in nursing school.

### **Social Medical Center Intern**

*Hellenic Ministries | Athens, Greece | May - August 2015, Spring 2013, 2012, 2011*

- o Collected research on the transportation routes of migrant groups from the Middle East & North Africa to Europe by leading interviews with refugee families to understand migration patterns and assess gaps in receiving proper medical management en route.
- o Prepared and delivered educational healthcare resources to over 200 asylum seekers daily.
- o Interacted with other local organizations on-site in Greece to coordinate care for refugees.

# LR

LILLIAN RUSSO  
UNIT NURSE EDUCATOR

---

## CONTACT

---

[Phone](#)

908-956-5167

[E-Mail](#)

[lillian.russo@emoryhealthcare.org](mailto:lillian.russo@emoryhealthcare.org)

[E-Portfolio](#)

[www.lillianrusso.com](http://www.lillianrusso.com)

---

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

---

### Unit Practice Council (UPC) Chair

*Emory University Hospital, 6E* | Atlanta, GA | September 2021 - Current

- Nominated by fellow staff members to serve as the UPC Chair.
- Advocated for nurse and nurse technician concerns to upper-level management through leading bi-monthly UPC Staff meetings.
- Developed projects on the floor to help improve patient care and facilitate a comfortable working environment.

### Exemplary Professional Practice Council (EPP) & Professional Development Council (PDC) Unit Representative

*Emory University Hospital, 6E* | Atlanta, GA | September 2021 - Current

- Attended monthly EPP/PDC meetings to discuss nursing practice issues and system-wide updates impacting staff.
- Consolidated information from meetings and distributed throughout unit.
- Brought 6E specific concerns to the council to explore potential solutions with other unit leaders and generate change.

### Code MET Committee Leader

*Emory University Hospital, 6E* | Atlanta, GA | September 2021 - Current

- Assisted in conducting the annual Mock Code for nursing annual required competencies.
- Certified Mock Code Trainer to educate and develop materials to improve code situations in-patient.

### Emory Residency Program Panelist

*Emory University Hospital* | Atlanta, GA | July - November 2021

- Spoke to four cohorts of new Nurse Residents about expectations and preparation strategies for their first year of working at Emory.
- Answered questions regarding the EBP Residency project and advancing into more leadership roles after residency.
- Asked to present Emory's Nurse Residency Program to a group of donors looking to fund the program and answered questions regarding its impact on staff, specifically discussing improved first year retention, nursing clinical competency, level of nurses' confidence, financial savings due to reduction in nurse turnover, and decreased burnout rate from mentorship.

### CAUTI Committee Leader

*Emory University Hospital, 6E* | Atlanta, GA | February 2021 - Current

- Led a committee of nine nurses and nurse technicians to decrease the rates of catheter-associated UTIs (CAUTIs) on the floor.
- Conducted audits on indwelling foley catheters to prevent CAUTIs among patients admitted.
- Educated committee members on CAUTI bundle and assigned each member additional staff members to disseminate the CAUTI bundle information.

### LVAD Dressing Super-User

*Emory University Hospital, 6E* | Atlanta, GA | February 2021 - Current

- Approved dressing change checkoffs for LVAD-trained nurses to meet their annual certification requirements.