



May 17, 2018

The Women of Influence Awards Selection Committee
Business Record
The Depot at Fourth
100 4th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Re: Nicole Gilg Gachiani, MD, MPH

To the Selection Committee,

I am extremely pleased to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Dr. Nicole Gilg Gachiani for consideration of the Business Record's Emerging Women of Influence Award. I currently serve as the Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Broadlawns Medical Center and have known Nicole since 2012 when I hired her on to our Primary Care Clinic. When I interviewed Nicole for this position, I was immediately impressed with her desire to serve the uninsured and under-insured patient population. Her postgraduate residency training was at a safety-net hospital in California and she was drawn to the Broadlawns mission. In fact, her Curriculum Vitae attests to a true mission-driven individual with dedication demonstrated through volunteerism at various free clinics.

When Nicole arrived at Broadlawns, she immediately demonstrated both a leadership interest and acumen and was appointed as the Section Chief of Primary Care in 2014. In this position she was responsible for leading a robust group of 10 physicians and advanced practice providers. In fact, under her leadership as Section Chief, the Broadlawns Primary Care Clinic has grown to become the largest patient-centered medical home at our hospital. Additionally, she has worked with the Iowa Department of Public Health to establish a refugee clinic attending to the largest number of refugees in the State of Iowa. Nicole extends her leadership beyond the clinic setting and serves on many internal hospital committees, most notably having been elected, by her peers, as Chairperson of the Credentials Committee. She has served on the Medical Executive Committee (the hospital's physician leadership) for several years and is integrally involved in strategic planning and development of patient services.

Nicole also holds the Masters of Public Health (MPH) degree with specialty concentration on global health. In fact, her thesis resulted in the submission of policy recommendations to the Malaysian government on HIV testing which she presented at the 9th International Conference on AIDS. She also spent two months as a volunteer in Lesotho at an orphanage for children diagnosed with HIV where she developed an approach for directly-observed therapy to ensure treatment adherence with highly active antiretroviral therapy. Nicole is keenly interested in addressing the Social Determinants of Health where she has made numerous presentations and spearheaded activities for both patients and employees. At the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, she presented on the Social Determinants of Health to promote a better understanding of how the effective planning of the community plays an integral role in the health of its citizens.

Nicole's leadership extends beyond the hospital setting and includes education of medical students at Des Moines University where she is positively influencing the next generation of physicians. Recently, she was nominated, at a national level, to develop testing material for the USMLE (United States Medical Licensing Examination). Closer to home, Nicole was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Board of Medicine (BOM) and was chosen as Chairperson of both the Screening Committee and Physician Monitoring Committee of the BOM.

Nicole is a very intelligent, highly motivated, professional and a life-long learner. She is credible, trustworthy, honest and ethical. Combining these traits with a true dedication to caring and compassionate care for all patients, it is clear to see why she is so well-respected. She brings all of these attributes to the table in her leadership roles and makes decisions with a balanced fairness and objectivity.

Nicole is a loving and devoted mother to Alex and Sophia and an outstanding partner to her husband, John. She has a wonderful ability to balance her home life and career yet still be integrally involved with the community. Her contributions continue to define her as a valued leader. One just needs to meet Nicole to feel immediately that she is indeed a woman of influence. Her engaging smile and demeanor is contagious.

I highly recommend Dr. Nicole Gilg Gachiani for the 2018 Emerging Woman of Influence Award. She is most deserving of this recognition and will continue to be a wonderful influence for everyone in our community as a strong healthcare advocate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Mandracchia', with a stylized, flowing script.

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