Joy Huntington, RN, MSN - Bio

Joy Huntington is an RN with the Roper St. Francis system in Charleston, South Carolina. She received a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina and a master’s degree in nursing from the Medical University of South Carolina. She recently completed a post-graduate certificate in healthcare informatics from Duke University. Throughout her thirty-year nursing career, Joy has had a wide variety of clinical experience including ICU and ER. After completing her master’s degree, she worked as a nurse practitioner in a school-based clinic and in adult diabetes and wound management. Joy’s leadership experience includes roles as clinical manager in the emergency department and as program manager for Joint Commission Chest Pain Center and Stroke Center accreditations. Joy also serves as subject matter expert for numerous quality initiatives. Most recently she led the Roper Saint Francis Emergency Services Division, and its five EDs through the evaluation, selection, build and implementation of a new electronic documentation system. Throughout the implementation, the EDs collectively achieved and maintained a mean ED throughput time for patient arrival to discharge for ED discharges of 108 minutes. Joy is currently is a Fellow in the Amy V. Cockcroft Leadership Development Program.
What are your short and long term leadership goals?

- **Long Term Goals**
  - Assume the role of Director of Emergency Services for the Roper St. Francis System upon the retirement of the current Director.

- **Short Term Goals**
  - Develop proven skills and strategies for successful leadership.
  - Understand what is necessary to successfully lead in the current changing healthcare environment.
  - Learn to think outside of the box, as it were, to develop creative strategies to meet the challenging times ahead.
  - Develop the confidence necessary to deal with the conflicts that undoubtedly will arise as we move through these changing times.

What impact do you expect this program to have on your personal and professional development?

I could not say it any better than if I simply listed the program objectives as outlined in the description of the Amy V. Cockcroft Leadership Development Program website. I have been in leadership positions much of my career, but lack formal education related to leadership. Much of what I have learned has been through trial and error and while I have been successful in many respects, formal leadership is not a comfortable role for me. Much of my success relates to the fact that I am recognized as a clinical expert in many areas. I desperately need to learn, practice and develop proven strategies for leadership that will lay the foundation for success in my future role.

What ideas do you have for a possible interdisciplinary project based on one or more of the Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) 2010 recommendations?

- Establish and pilot an interdisciplinary emergency department unit-based leadership development council (as part of our existing shared-governance councils), the purpose of which is to mentor and develop leadership among bedside caregivers at every level of patient care (patient care technician, unit secretary, registered nurse and physician) through the implementation of evidence-based mentoring, education and practical application activities, thereby improving the quality and value of healthcare in the emergency department.