



**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CIRCLE AWARD RECIPIENT**



## **NICHOLAS J. HALLER, MSN '98**

***Associate Chief Nurse, Long-Term Care  
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System***

Earning a master's degree in nursing from La Roche College provided the foundation for Nicholas J. Haller '98 to enjoy a successful career in health care.

Mr. Haller currently works as the associate chief nurse of long-term care for VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. Since 2014 he has functioned as the director of nursing for the system's nursing home, having administrative oversight for 207 nursing personnel. He is responsible and accountable

for the nursing care of a 180-bed facility, develops strategic plans, ensures quality care, addresses complex ethical issues and provides essential resources.

"My greatest professional accomplishment has been obtaining my MSN from La Roche College," he said. "I attribute my success to the knowledge, skills and character-building that I received in obtaining my master's degree."

Mr. Haller has held various positions with VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, having served as a health systems specialist, a staff adviser to the chief of staff, a supervisor of the credentialing and privileging department, a risk manager and a hospice nurse practitioner. His first experience with leadership was as a geriatric nurse manager providing administrative direction to the clinical services of the Geriatric and Extended Care Service Line. Previously he worked as a nurse practitioner for Minute Clinics in CVS pharmacies across Allegheny County. Most recently Mr. Haller earned a Pennsylvania license as a nursing home administrator.

In addition to his work with VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Mr. Haller provides the palliative care/hospice lecture for senior-year nursing students at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. He is a former adjunct professor of La Roche's undergraduate nursing program.

Despite the demands of his career, Mr. Haller said he continues to volunteer because it helps him to stay grounded. Currently he is as a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, a KidsFest Campus Nurse for Orchard Hill Church and a VA Leadership Mentor. Previously he served as a nurse staffing coordinator for the National Veteran Wheelchair Games (2011), a member of La Roche College Advisory Board (2012) and an assistant den leader for Cub Scouts of America (2013-2016).

