

Advocate Nomination

From: Co-Sponsor, Jesse Bell

Nominee: Kate Cappleman Sinz

I would like to nominate Kate Cappleman Sinz for the Advocate of the Year award for her outstanding contributions to complex care coordination for pediatric patients and their families. Kate is a Social Work Care Manager through the Integrated Care Management program at UVM Children's Hospital Pediatric Primary Care. She works closely with primary care pediatricians to identify and assess patients who require intricate care coordination, ensuring that each child and family receives the support they need to thrive.

Kate approaches each case with care and concern and a deep commitment to cultural competence; taking the time to understand the unique backgrounds and needs of the families she works with. She considers the cultural, social, and economic factors that impact a family's care and works to ensure that every aspect of her approach is respectful, empathetic, and tailored to the individual situation. This helps build trust and ensures that the care plans she develops are both effective and aligned with the values of the families she serves.

Her comprehensive assessments include identifying key team members, screening for Health-Related Social Needs, and developing individualized goals and care plans. She evaluates medical history, mental health needs, education needs, and works diligently to identify any absent services that could promote whole-child health. Kate makes referrals to other agencies and services and advocates for the appropriate support.

In addition to her exceptional care coordination skills, Kate has extensive training in suicide assessment and treatment, allowing her to assess mental health needs with sensitivity and expertise. Her ability to provide care in a variety of settings—whether in person, via televideo, phone, at home, in the community, or in schools—ensures that patients and families receive support in the most appropriate manner for their unique circumstances.

For her cultural sensitivity, unwavering dedication, and comprehensive approach to care, I highly recommend Kate Cappleman Sinz for this recognition.