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Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses Announces Kathleen Ruccione as the winner of the 2019 Dr. Nancy E. Kline Mentoring Award

Chicago (Sep. 23, 2019): The Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses (APHON) has awarded Kathleen Ruccione, PhD MPH RN FAAN CPON®, with the 2019 Dr. Nancy E. Kline Mentoring Award. Ruccione's achievement was formally announced at the 43rd Annual APHON Conference and Exhibit, on September 6 in San Jose, CA.

The Nancy E. Kline award is given to an APHON member who demonstrates excellence in mentoring, has been outstanding in supporting, encouraging, and promoting the professional development of others, and whose impact has resulted in tangible accomplishments or outcomes.

Dr. Ruccione is a member of the Department of Doctoral Programs, School of Nursing, and an Associate Professor at Azusa Pacific University. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Western Conservancy of Nursing History and the Scientific Advisory Committee of the St. Baldrick's Foundation. She is an author of *Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents with Cancer and Blood Disorders*, 4th Ed.

Dr. Ruccione has received numerous awards, including the APHON Jean Fergusson Award for Excellence in Education in 1991, the *JOPON* Senior Writing Award in 1994 and 1999, the APHON Dr. Casey Hooke Distinguished Service Award in 2008, and the Children's Oncology Group Distinguished Service Award as Inaugural Chair of the Nursing Discipline in 2010. She was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2001 and was the recipient of the 2015 National Nurseweek GEM Nursing Excellence Award (*Advancing and Leading the Profession* category).

APHON President, Joan O'Hanlon Curry, MS RN CPNP CPON®, shared her thoughts about Ruccione: "I have had the privilege and honor to work alongside Kathy on the board the last few years. Kathy exemplifies everything the Dr. Nancy E. Kline award is about. The number of nurses that Kathy has impacted in APHON and COG is incredible. Kathy's mentorship to so many of us has translated into better care for the patients and families. Kathy truly embodies mentorship."

APHON is the professional organization for pediatric hematology/oncology nurses and other pediatric hematology/oncology healthcare professionals. Its members are dedicated to promoting

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optimal nursing care for children, adolescents and young adults with cancer and blood disorders, and their families. APHON provides the leadership and expertise to pediatric hematology/oncology nurses by defining and promoting the highest standards of practice and care to the pediatric, adolescent and young adult communities.

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