



# WOMEN IN HEALTHCARE SECURITY NEWS

## 2024 Quarter I

### SECURITY (S)HERO

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Leadership happens at every level, and it's really a mindset someone puts into play. Knowing which leadership traits are needed in the game at specific times requires empathy to be in action at all times.

Kirsten Proenza  
Executive Director Security Programs & Governance - National Security Services

**A** head of International Women's Day, National Security Services, in partnership with Women in Healthcare Security Network, presented a series of interviews with women and allies who work in different ranks on the Security team. The result was a deep dive into the security environment from the lenses of our best officers, managers, and leaders. In this article, you will learn about some of the challenges women and minorities face when working in security, strategies to overcome them, and the importance of support, mentorship, and diversity to build a more inclusive and equitable security force.



"The first question I was asked was, 'Are you sure you can handle this?' They were expecting some big hair-cutting security to show up to, you know, settle this man down, and I just able to engage their gentlemen and walk him out without any incident."

Sara Long, Security Manager

## WIHS Highlight

For this inaugural WIHS quarterly publication, National Security Services is celebrating women in the security team by featuring some stories from the field highlighting the actions and accomplishments of the security (S)heroes that help build an operation sustained in empathy and unwavering care. Check out their stories in this featured article from the Women in Healthcare Security community, where empowerment, diversity, and belonging come together for a more equitable workforce. **Read the full article in the WIHS-News page.**

Want to be featured or suggest a topic for Talking Security?

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## Mentoring Moment: Tips on Navigating Career Advancement in Male-Dominated Fields

Confidence and competence are key. Believe in yourself and your abilities, and continuously strive to improve your skills and knowledge. Be assertive and speak up, while also actively listening and learning from others. Build a support network. Seek out mentors, allies, and other women in your industry who can provide guidance, support, and valuable insights. Surround yourself with a strong support system that can help you navigate challenges and stay motivated. Embrace your unique perspective. Recognize the value of your diverse experiences and ideas. Use them to your advantage by contributing with innovative solutions and approaches that can benefit your team and your organization. Stay resilient. In a male-dominated environment, setbacks and biases may occur. Maintain a resilient mindset, learn from adversity, and keep pushing forward. Your perseverance can pave the way for meaningful change. Remember, you have the potential to make a significant impact in any industry, regardless of its male-dominated nature. Stay true to yourself, be proactive, and continue to strive for success.



## Shining STARS



Seraile Wright, AUS Healthcare Security Officer, Fontana Medical Center, SCAL – Life Saving Award

Officer Wright noted that an infant patient was cyanotic and in respiratory distress. Officer Wright alerted a nurse to examine the baby and emergency medical treatment was provided. The patient's life was saved.



Scan QR code or visit our STAR Program Wall of Fame at [www.bcitoolkit.com/star](http://www.bcitoolkit.com/star)



## Resources

InternationalWomensDay.com is a great place to find resources to help celebrate the women in our lives during this year's International Women's Day on March 8th. Share your celebrations via e-mail at [wih@kp.org](mailto:wih@kp.org).

## Team Building Idea



Foster a good culture by incorporating quick and fun team building activities such as "two truths and a lie" and scavenger hunts to your team meetings! See more in the WIHS-News page!

## Share Your Thoughts



Tell us about your topics of interest! Please complete the survey via QR code or on the WIHS-News page!



## Tips & Tricks: Building Your Leadership Skills

- Develop and communicate a vision & goals
- Encourage your team to reach goals
- Support and recognize your team
- Engage in active listening
- Support innovation and creativity
- Show your team that you trust them
- Work alongside your team
- Be aware of the level of guidance you provide
- Welcome different skills and experiences
- Learn to take risks when appropriate



## Ally Corner

One of the most impactful ways to be a good ally to your colleagues from minority groups is to be an advocate for them – create space, speak up when inappropriate behavior is observed, and treat everyone equally, just to name a few. We'd love to highlight examples from our department! Share via email at [wih@kp.org](mailto:wih@kp.org).

