



## **Eileen Duplechain**

### **RN, WCC, CWCP, GWC**

#### **A Career Built on Compassion, Leadership, and a Passion for Healing**

This month, NAWCO is proud to recognize Eileen Duplechain, RN, WCC, CWCP, GWC, as our Outstanding WCC. With more than 30 years of experience in healthcare, Eileen has built a career centered on caring for others, developing strong clinical teams, and improving wound care for patients in long-term care. Today, she serves as a Wound and Product Specialist for Gentell, supporting facilities throughout Louisiana. Eileen has been a WCC since 2024.

Eileen's healthcare journey began as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in a long-term care facility. From there, she continued to take on new challenges, eventually working as a social worker and later as the Residential Services Director of a group home. Many of the individuals served by the home had transitioned there following the closure of a local psychiatric hospital, giving Eileen valuable experience caring for people with complex needs.

After several years in that role, Eileen decided to pursue nursing and earned her LPN. She returned to long-term care as a floor nurse and quickly advanced to Assistant Director of Nursing. Determined to continue growing professionally, Eileen went back to school once again and earned her RN, eventually becoming the Director of Nursing at her facility.

It was during this time that wound care became an increasingly important part of Eileen's career. She helped develop her facility's wound care program and worked closely with a Gentell representative on wound care

supplies, products, and staff education. The experience allowed her to combine two things she enjoyed most- caring for patients and helping other clinicians strengthen their skills.

Eileen later spent time working in a hospital, gaining experience in cardiology and medical-surgical nursing, before ultimately returning to long-term care to be closer to her family. Her varied experiences gave her a broad clinical perspective that she continues to draw upon today.

In 2024, Eileen joined Gentell, where she now supports 24 facilities throughout Louisiana. She especially enjoys joining treatment nurses on wound rounds, working alongside them to assess wounds and make dressing recommendations. Her role allows her to remain connected to patient care while also serving as an educational resource for clinicians.

Eileen has become someone nurses know they can call when they have questions or need another perspective on a challenging wound. Rather than simply providing products, she focuses on sharing knowledge and helping clinicians understand the reasoning behind treatment decisions. One of her favorite parts of the job is hearing from nurses when a patient's wound is improving and knowing that the education and collaboration behind the scenes helped contribute to that success.

Throughout every stage of her career, Eileen has remained a compassionate clinician, dedicated educator, and supportive leader. Her willingness to share her knowledge while continuing to work alongside clinicians at the bedside exemplifies the collaborative spirit of the WCC community.

This recognition also carries special meaning for Eileen. She would like to dedicate her Outstanding WCC recognition to the memory of her son, who recently passed away. NAWCO is honored to recognize Eileen during this difficult time and to celebrate the compassion, strength, and dedication she has demonstrated throughout her career.

Please join NAWCO in congratulating Eileen Duplechain as this month's Outstanding WCC and recognizing the positive impact she continues to make on patients and wound care professionals throughout her community.

Do you know a NAWCO credential holder making a difference like Eileen? We would love to hear their story.

[Click here](#) to share their journey with us.