



NICK SIMONITE | ABJ

Toni Inglis has made a positive impact on her community and her profession through her job, her volunteer work and her writing.

CONSUMMATE PRO

Inglis impacts community with knowledge and passion

SANDRA ZARAGOZA | STAFF WRITER

Toni Inglis spends her days as a neonatal nurse and her evenings as an advocate for accessible health care and mental health services, and somewhere in there she writes insightfully about health care. In all her endeavors, she's made a difference throughout her community.

"The role of the professional nurse has expanded significantly over the past 20 years, and Inglis has been at the forefront of this movement," said Iliana Gilman of the Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center, whose board of trustees Inglis chairs.

Inglis has lent her perspective and wisdom as a nurse to numerous local boards and committees, Gilman said.

It was at the strong urging of former Mayor Gus Garcia that Inglis got involved in Austin Travis County MHMR, whose board she has served on since 1998.

The outspoken Inglis said the mental health safety net was a problem for decades until the Travis County Healthcare District was born in 2004.

The health care district "cast off its train-

ing wheels in 2006 and formed a stakeholder group to repair that safety net," Inglis said.

She played a role in creating a Mobile Crisis Outreach Team and the new Next Step Crisis Respite Facility.

Inglis also has been devoted for 30 years to neonatal nursing.

"The gratification for worthwhile work is immeasurable," said Inglis, who works at Seton Family of Hospitals. "The babies getting better, their sweet parents, my co-workers, contributing to best practice — it's a joy every time I work my shift."

Besides nursing and advocacy, Inglis has made an impact with her pen as a medical writer. Inglis edits a monthly nursing publication for Seton, and she has written

more than 40 articles in newspapers, scholarly journals and other publications.

Inglis is recognized for her ability to explain complex health issues in a clear-cut manner, Gilman said.

"I especially enjoy taking complex and difficult subjects and reducing them down to a nice, savory sauce — especially suitable for about 12 inches on the commentary page."

NURSE



TONI INGLIS
SETON FAMILY OF HOSPITALS