Get to know the unsung heroes across Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) whose dedication and team spirit have carried them through the difficult days of COVID.

At HSHS St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in O’Fallon, every staff member of the emergency department (ED) is an unsung hero. Team members and leaders came together, showed courage and fostered hope in difficult times. They supported each other and adapted to the many challenges of the pandemic.

"I could not be more proud of the teamwork and dedication of my colleagues," said ED Manager Erin Hazen. "COVID-19 has fundamentally changed healthcare, often feeling like we are running a marathon with no finish line in sight."

- Chris Engele, NP, hospitalist, communicates with staff and families to make sure patients are given the best care possible. With a higher patient census and more complex acuity, he still takes the time to call patients’ families with updates. Engele makes sure to educate patients and families on COVID safety protocols. A true role model, he is pleasant and cooperative no matter the long hours or heavy workload.

Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) is a multi-institutional health system with nine hospitals serving residents of central and southern Illinois.