

Vivian Walker McGee Class of 2024



Vickie graduated from Las Plumas High School (LPHS) in 1976 and was an outstanding student. She was a member of CSF and a Top Ten student her first two years, Girl of the Month as a junior, 2nd place for Girls State as a senior, and was awarded a Stare Scholarship from Stanford University. She was also listed in Who's Who in North American High School Students.

She was also very active in athletics, participating in track and field for three years, basketball and powder puff football for two, and a member of the Girls Athletic Association (GAA) for all four years. She was elected Class President all four years as well as a member of the Student Council each year. She was also active in the community, working at the Seventh Day Adventist Church assisting families in need.

Upon graduation, Vickie earned her AA degree from Spokane Community College, was on the President's List both years, and received an Academic Excellence Award. She earned her BSN degree at Eastern Washington University in 1984 and three years later became a Certified Geriatric Nurse Specialist.

Since 1984, Vickie has been in the medical field serving as a Registered Nurse specializing in Psychiatric and Geriatric Nursing. During her distinguished 40-year nursing career, her contributions have been extensive.

- 1984, Psychiatric Nurse, Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center (PSHMC) and teacher at Spokane Community College.
- 1988, Clinical Nurse Specialist for Child and Adolescent Adult and Geriatric Psychiatric staff, where she developed and taught classes to support nursing and mental health counselors with ongoing clinical skills.
- 1990, Co-developed and implemented a highly successful Partial Hospitalization program for older adults with a zero psychiatric re-hospitalization record.
- 1998. Assistant Nurse Manager/Interim Nurse Manager/Interim Director of Nursing at PSHMC. Vickie was the first African American woman to hold interim and senior management positions at PSHMC.
- 2011, Director of Nursing Services and Infection Control Officer of Frontier Behavioral Health, the largest community-based mental health services in Eastern Washington. She was the first African American woman to be in a senior management position at Frontier Behavioral Health (FBH).

During her 11 years at FBH:

- Oversaw and managed three inpatient psychiatric facilities and all adult, and children/adolescent outpatient nursing services.

- Restructured three inpatient facilities thereby improving patient care.
- Served as a member of the Eastern Washington Nurse Managers Behavioral Health Advisory Committee to identify and find solutions to common challenges in the changing care for the mental health needs of the community.
- Served as a member of the Eastern Washington Regional Support Network which was a collaboration of all the agencies providing mental health care to develop a community that worked together to provide seamless care from community agencies to inpatient care of those needing services.

Among Vickie's numerous honors: in 1997, received Recognition for Service by Women Helping Women. In 2013, received Recognition for Service by Women's Healing and Empowerment Network, for working with abused women and children, and in 2019, inducted into the International Nurse's Association.

Her community service in the Spokane area has been and is currently extensive.

One of her co-workers wrote in her letter of support, "Vivian is a "Do the right thing" human being. One day Vivian happened to notice that a young child was drowning, and she saved his life. Learning about the event made my heart beam with pride that she was and is my friend. She could have walked on by. The value that Vivian brings to life here on earth changes lives. Her interpersonal skills make her a standout human."

Vickie married Frederick Allen McGee, LPHS 1969, deceased. She is mother to two children Nathan and Natalie, and makes her home in Greenacres, Washington.