



2016 National Awards

Honorary Nursing Practice Award

For outstanding direct-patient care.

Gloria Dobies, BSN, RN, CDE

ANA Member

For more than 40 years, Gloria Dobies has led a career in nursing dedicated to improving the lives of her patients and to educating physicians and nurses. As a practicing Certified Diabetes Educator for the past 25 years, she has devoted her time and expertise to educating patients, families, physicians and nurses about diabetes care.

Currently, Dobies is a registered nurse care coordinator and Certified Diabetes Educator with Flagler Hospital in St. Augustine, FL. She was born in Colombia, South America, and moved to the United States when she was 12 years old. She is an outspoken advocate of quality health care for immigrants and their families, and is known for her sensitive and respectful approach when treating patients.

Dobies is one of only a few Spanish-speaking Certified Diabetes Educators in Northeast Florida. She understands both the language and the culture of her Spanish-speaking patients, which allows her to offer culturally sensitive education and treatment, including meal planning, dispelling myths about the disease, providing information about medications, monitoring blood glucose levels, and encouraging family involvement. She is also a trained chef and graduate of the Southeast Institute of Culinary Arts in St. Augustine, FL, which allows her to help her patients prepare healthier meals.

Dobies started a Mobile Health van program that travels to rural communities outside of Northeast Florida cities to provide health screenings for migrant workers. She is a frequent guest on local talk radio shows and a regular “go to” person at community health fairs for diabetes expertise. She has made a significant impact in her community as a Certified Diabetes Educator by developing and implementing a comprehensive, preventive and proactive approach to diabetes treatment that includes facilitating classes that educate and empower her patients so that they have the knowledge they need to effectively manage their disease.

Dobies has been recognized with an Ascension Health “Living the Mission and Values Awards” nomination for dedication and service to the poor, and with a St. Vincent’s HealthCare Carol Wilder Pitman Nursing Recognition Society peer nomination for compassionate nursing care, and as one of the Great 100 Nurses of Northeast Florida for advocacy nursing.

