

SHELBY LACY, RN, MSN Athens Regional Medical Center

Shelby Lacy, RN, MSN wears many hats at Athens Regional Medical Center. For more than 34 years, she has been a visionary leader, a caring mentor and friend, and an advocate for nurses, patients and Athens Regional Medical Center. It was Lacy's vision that led in 1968 to the development of a cardiac resuscitation program at Sanford Stadium during the University of Georgia's home games – a move that made the University of Georgia second only to the University of Nebraska in implementing advanced cardiac care for football game spectators.

Lacy established the medical center's Education and Infection Control Departments and was responsible for implementing numerous visionary programs including enterostomal therapy services for patients; on-site critical care and CPR classes for staff; health and wellness programs for employees; and a nursing internship program for new graduates. She also developed coalitions and partnerships with other community organizations. She helped found the nurse-managed Athens Clinic for the Homeless and continues to serve on its Board of Directors. She has served two terms as president of the Georgia Nurses Association (GNA), District 11; and as a delegate and director of strategic planning for the American Nurses Association (ANA). She has served as chair of Clarke



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County's Board of Health (1994-2001) and as chairwoman of the Athens/Clarke County Family Connection Board (2000-2001). She has received numerous recognitions for her contributions to the community and patient care including the Medical College of Georgia E. Lewis Grant Award as the Distinguished Alumni (2005), and the Mary N. Long Award for Innovation in Nursing Practice from the Georgia Nurses Foundation (2000).