The American Trauma Society recognizes the month of May as National Trauma Awareness Month. We invite you to consider hosting a "Trauma Reflections Ceremony". This Ceremony is an event that allows patients also known as “trauma survivors” and their families to continue their healing. Patients returning to the scene of the care and visiting with clinicians have described this as “rewarding”. Additionally, it can serve as an excellent venue to demonstrate gratitude, invite administrators, legislators, and pre-hospital staff and showcase your facility and its high level of care.

This event is also an opportunity to honor trauma nurses with the presentation of the annual Trauma Nurse Excellence award. Please consider hosting an event to commemorate National Trauma Awareness month and to celebrate your patient’s continued healing.

Items included for planning and hosting a Trauma Awareness Ceremony and Nurse Excellence Award:

- **Trauma Awareness Ceremony Checklist**
  - Provides a list of tasks and projects to be completed prior to the event.
  - Serves as a template for group organizers
- **Trauma Awareness Generic Ceremony Brochure**
  - Can be utilized as a keepsake for those in attendance, some patients have asked staff to autograph it at the end of the ceremony
  - Serves as a guide during the event
  - Provides names of care takers and providers for future referrals
- **Sample Flyer**
  - Send to pre-hospitalist, administrators and legislators as a “save the date”
- **Trauma Nurse Excellence Criteria**
  - This document is utilized to evaluate prospective candidate
  - A request is made for peer-nomination(s) from designee.
- **Trauma Nurse Excellence Award Letter**
  - This letter is the notification that the recipient is either the winner or receiving an honorable mention