

**Janice Kusserow '91, RN** *Embedded Care Manager* Gateway Health

As embedded care manager for Gateway Health, Janice Kusserow '91 provides education about services, benefits, health conditions and resources to members of the health plan.

Ms. Kusserow's responsibilities include coordinating care for all types of conditions, supporting positive self-management of health, providing resources for members and supporting providers at the practice.

An alumna of La Roche College's nursing program, Ms. Kusserow's professional career has focused largely on facilitating effective and innovative assessment and treatment interventions for opiate addiction across the lifespan, particularly by pregnant women who use alcohol and other drugs. As the director of the Narcotic Addiction Treatment Program and the Perinatal Addiction Center, Ms. Kusserow participated in research projects, technical assistance education, peer reviews, clinical supervision and program development – all targeted to improve the outcomes of women, children and families presenting substance abuse issues.

"My greatest accomplishment has been fulfilling the call of faith to use my talents to advocate for people who are poor and addicted, in order to alleviate their suffering and improve their conditions by empowering them in their recovery," she said.

As a volunteer Ms. Kusserow's service work has centered upon the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Homestead, Pa. She has served as senior warden in absence of a rector since 1996. Additionally she is a Lay Eucharistic Visitor and leads the parish in ministry initiatives in the community, such as a food bank, music ministries, parish nursing, a community garden, shepherding, community dinners and soup suppers.

She said, "I have recognized I have been called and blessed by the Spirit since an early age to use my talents to God's bidding, and this inspires me to continually seek His will and way."

A lifelong resident of the Pittsburgh area, Ms. Kusserow lives with her husband Art and a Great Pyrenees rescue named Polaris.