



MHIMA Rising Star 2020

Sandra Rasmussen, RHIA

The Rising Star Award

- This award recognizes professionals new to the field (5 years or less)
- Individual must demonstrate:
 - Progressive leadership in and commitment to the future of the HIM profession
 - Excellence in the workplace and/or participation in local, regional, state, or national related HIM activities.



Education and Professional Membership

- Sandra graduated in 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management and a minor in Computer Information Systems
 - Completed at the College of Saint Scholastica
- Sandra received her RHIA certification a month before graduation
- Active Member of AHIMA/MHIMA since 2017
 - Student Representative for MHIMA Board, 18-19
 - Marketing and Communications Committee, 18 - present
 - Current Social Media Coordinator
 - ✓ Daily management of social media platforms
 - ✓ Further engagement with membership



Matt (husband), Sandra, and Zoey (daughter)



Holly, Ayla, Imen, Christina, Sandra, Surbhi, Nick



Ayla, Sandra, Chandler, Michelle, Nick, Surbhi, Eze, Rob

Allina Health Experience

- Current Position: Associate Security Analyst
 - Assess incoming technologies
 - Security awareness and education
 - Create metrics to assess program performance
- Information Services Summer Intern, 2019
 - Planning, analysis, and presenting findings for optical character recognition project
- HIM Professional Practice Experience, 2018
 - Observed and interviewed HIM professionals
 - Analyzed de-identified discharge data to identify trends across hospitals



Christina, Surbhi, Ayla, Sandra, Nick, Holly

A Few Words About Sandra

"I first met Sandra as her mentor for her Professional Practice Experience (PPE) at Allina Health in the fall of 2018. Almost immediately, I was impressed with her passion and drive for participating, her curiosity for understanding HIM operations, and her overall positive demeanor. I have been a mentor for HIM students for almost 10 years, and in all this time, I have never met a student who was more engaged in learning all about the profession and how she can contribute to it. After her PPE was completed, she took the initiative to get even more experience before graduation and was able to secure a position with Be the Match (Minneapolis) as a Case Management Service intern. While not HIM-specific, the internship allowed her exposure to a more non-traditional role that incorporated data analytics and management of personal health information (PHI) with its patient database.

Sandra has built strong, positive relationships with almost everyone she's met. She's upbeat, creative, a team player and dependable. I am thoroughly impressed with how far Sandra has come in such a short period of time. In a little under two years, I have seen firsthand her dedication and commitment to this profession, and I have no doubt her contributions will continue to grow, especially within MHIMA. I couldn't think of a better individual deserving of this year's Rising Star Award."

- Christina Snaza

"Sandy completed her professional practice experience with us and went on to be selected as an intern in Allina's 10 week IS/HIM intern program in 2019. During both experiences, Sandy demonstrated self motivation, curiosity, problem solving and an eagerness to learn about anything and everything. Sandy consistently sought mentoring from others who could help "grow" her knowledge and allow her to collaborate and contribute more effectively. We totally enjoyed Sandy as a student and celebrated her status as the first HIM'er at Allina to join the IS Security team as full time analyst following her internship in 2019. Congratulations Sandy as MHIMA's 2020 Rising Star!!

- Stephanie Luthi-Terry

"As a first-time mentor, I had the pleasure of working with Sandy during the 2019 Summer Internship at Allina Health. Although I did not directly work with her as a mentor, she collaborated with the other Summer interns our team hosted. Sandy always demonstrated knowledge in Health Information Management and brought her MHIMA experience to the table each and every day. Her positive personality was extremely contagious and rubbed off on others. Allina Health is grateful for not only having her as an Intern (twice), but now as an Associate Security Analyst. Sandy's not only a great colleague, but a great walking partner as well!"

- Holly Knoll



Ayla, Curt, Jeri, Stephanie, Sandra, Christina, Surbhi, Nick, Holly



Travis (brother), Laura (his fiancé), Sandra's dog Holly, Rosie (sister), Max (brother), Sandra, Zoey, Matt, Pete the Dog, Robbi (stepmom), and Steve (dad)

A Note from the Recipient...

“I’m so grateful to be the recipient of this award. I’d first like to thank all of the wonderful people that I’ve gotten to know over the past two years through MHIMA, especially my friend and mentor, Christina Snaza, who helped me get started as a volunteer with MHIMA. I would also like to thank my friends and colleagues at Allina Health for helping me develop my skills as an HIM professional through their mentorship and guidance. Finally, I would like to thank my family: my mom, for always encouraging me, my husband for supporting our family while I went back to school and completed my internships, and my cousin Tiffany Davis, for encouraging me to become an HIM professional.”

**- Sandra Rasmussen,
MHIMA Rising Star 2020**



Mother, Sisters, and Daughter: Autumn, Sam, Zoey, Chris (mother), Sandra, Sabrina, Brooke

Congratulations NICE GOING!
GREAT! Way to Go!
Yea! FELICITATIONS
CHEERS Take A BEST
BOW! WISHES!

On behalf of the MHIMA Nominating Committee, Board, and Membership...

Congratulations to Sandra Rasmussen on receiving the 2020 Rising Star Award!!