

On behalf of the Russian Advisory Board of the City of West Hollywood, we would like to extend our warmest congratulations to **Victoria Levitan** as the recipient of the **Outstanding Medical Professional Award** in the Russian-speaking community of the Greater Los Angeles area. This award recognizes an individual or organization that has devoted a significant amount of time, energy and/or resources to be in the front line during the pandemic and help people.

The Russian Advisory Board of the City of West Hollywood decided to recognize Victoria Levitan and her work because she has demonstrated an outstanding level of service to the community, and is, in short, a great example to many. Victoria's dedication to her work and helping people is exemplary and inspiring.

### **Victoria Levitan**

Victoria Levitan is a Russian Jewish immigrant who came to the United States in 1995 with \$200 in her pocket. Victoria started her education in Santa Monica College and then went to USC to pursue her medical degree and became a Registered Nurse. Victoria worked at UCLA for some time. Currently, she is working at Cedars-Sinai Hospital as a Registered Nurse. She lives in West Hollywood. All the time, during pandemic she was working with people, testing patients for covid 19 and later administering vaccines.

Victoria worked the longest shifts at Cedars-Sinai from the beginning of the pandemic, first, administering tests for covid-19 and then vaccinating people. She is a devoted medical professional, great friend, and amazing mother to her teenage son. Victoria is a true hero who should be recognized for her work.

During pandemic, Victoria's regular Pain Management department was closed, and she was moved to employee clinic where, starting from April 2020, her colleagues and she were testing about 100 patients every day. It was very uncertain and uneasy period because very little was known about the disease. Victoria also volunteered to do vaccinations of people starting in December of 2020. She, by herself, would vaccinate about 100 persons per day. At the end of the day, she would get exhausted, but happy because she could help so many people during this difficult time. Victoria loves what she does, no matter where she works. Her patients always feel her compassion and love for profession. She is sympathetic to people who she serves, and people are always grateful for that.