

Faith Community Nursing Newsletter

Building Confidence in COVID-19 Vaccines

August is National Immunization Awareness Month and we are entering what has recently been described as a pandemic of the unvaccinated. What is the role of Faith Community Nursing for a time such as this? I thought it appropriate to go to the FCN Scope and Standards of Professional Practice, 3rd edition, Standard 7 (p63): *The FCN practices ethically*. One of the competencies that struck me was “The FCN advocates for healthcare consumer’s rights to informed decision-making and self-determination.” This is central to where we are right now; our individual right to make the decisions that affect *me* is only one piece of self-determination. The second and most important piece is that it be *informed* decision-making. As with every wave of this pandemic over the past 18 months, YOU, the FCNs practicing on the front lines in the communities throughout our 6-county service area, have an extraordinary opportunity to educate, empower, and support those we serve! As your FCN leadership team, it is our job to provide you with the resources and tools you need to successfully practice our subspecialty of professional nursing that focuses on the intentional care of the spirit, promotion of wholistic

“Nurses, the most trusted profession, must scrutinize all sources of information, decline to accept misinformation, and disseminate only accurate information from credible scientific sources.” (aacn.org)

health, and prevention or minimization of illness. We know that knowledge is power; we empower you with knowledge, so you will be able to empower those in your faith community.

As a BayCare Health System FCN partner, you have a plethora of print material as well as people resources available, such as access to the Infection Prevention teams who have provided CE classes, and also keep us in the loop with CDC Health Advisories. The most recent, from July 27, at the time this publication was written, notifies public health practitioners about the urgent need to increase COVID-19 vaccination coverage as unvaccinated persons account for the majority of new COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations, and deaths. The currently circulating SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern is the highly infectious Delta variant which is accelerating the spread of infection, with an over 300% increase nationally from June 19-July 23. COVID-19 vaccination is our most effective strategy to prevent infection and severe disease, but how do you build *Vaccine Confidence*?

The currently circulating SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern is the highly infectious Delta variant which is accelerating the spread of infection, with an over 300% increase nationally from June 19-July 23. COVID-19 vaccination is our most effective strategy to prevent infection and severe disease, but how do you build *Vaccine Confidence*?

The CDC suggests six ways to help build COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence:

1. Encourage leaders in your family, community or organizations to be **Vaccine Champions** (This has FCN all over it!)
2. Have discussions with your friends and family about vaccination to understand their perspective and encourage their decision to vaccinate.
3. Share key messages that promote action through multiple trusted channels (we can provide the resources)
4. Help educate about the vaccines, including how they were developed and their intense safety monitoring.
5. Learn more about finding credible vaccine information & responding to misinformation.
6. Make your decision to get vaccinated visible and celebrate it!

Deb Rivard, MSN/ED, RN-BC, System Director, FCN

Save the Date: 30th Anniversary of FCN Celebration

Parish Nursing (now called Faith Community Nursing) was founded by Sr. Dolores Thorndike, OSF, on September 10, 1991. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Faith Community Nursing program! Let’s celebrate this historic program on **November 6th, 2-5pm**, at the Arthur Boring Civic Center, Plant City. More details will be shared in the coming months.

Look What's Happening with Our Ambassadors of Health!



Shown L-R: **Phil Minden**, President SJH-South; **Linda Wilkerson**, RN, FCN, Manager, FCN program, SJH/SFBH; **Kenia Aguilar**, LEC Asst; Magda Setzer-Podowski, RN, LEC Coordinator; **Maggie Rogers**, Executive Director, Catholic Charities; **Stephanie Morrison**, APRN, FCN, San Jose Mission Clinic/LEC Nurse Coordinator; **Sr. Pat Shirley**, OSF, Catholic Charities (Ret); **Sr. Sara Proctor**, DW, Catholic Charities (Ret); and, **Karen Pena**, Clinic Coordinator, Catholic Charities. (Photo courtesy of BayCare)

LA ESPERANZA CLINIC RECEIVES NEW HOME!!

June 30th was a typical muggy Florida morning, but nothing dampened the spirits of those who attended the Grand Opening of La Esperanza Clinic (LEC) in Wimauma. The ribbon cutting ceremony pictured left was a collaboration of efforts from many individuals within BayCare and Catholic Charities. La Esperanza Clinic first opened its doors in 2013, operating from a mobile bus unit. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they moved services outdoors at their host site, Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. It is with great joy and appreciation that LEC finally has a permanent home. **Colleen Walters**, BayCare Vice President of Mission and Ethics, said "Establishing a permanent space for La Esperanza Clinic shows our unwavering commitment to serve the most vulnerable members of our communities. The journey to find a site that was easily accessible has been a long but important one.

Along with our Catholic Charities partners, Faith Community

Nurses and the Allegany Franciscan Ministries, we never lost sight of the impact that a permanent home for the clinic would have on those in need in Wimauma." The number of patients served in the free clinic has continued to rise annually from 121 its first year to approximately 900 so far this year, and has served over 3,500 people through community events and screenings. The ribbon cutting event was attended by approximately 75 people. Of special note were the touching, heartfelt tributes given by two patients from the clinic. The staff members of La Esperanza look forward to their increased ability to better serve the community and to continue providing high quality care to their patients. Congratulations, La Esperanza Clinic!!

SAVE THE DATE!!

SJH/SFBH will host a virtual event for its Faith Community Nurses and Congregational Health Promoters on Thursday, August 19th from 12-1:30pm. "ReThink, ReBoot, ReGroup" is an opportunity for you to hear from select speakers and receive tips on how to energize your programs following a year filled with many challenges. Save the date now, and make plans to attend.

WE'RE MOVING!!

SJH/SFBH Faith Community Nursing Office will be relocating on August 6th to SJH Main, 4th Floor MAB. During this time, we will be moving equipment, and our phone numbers will all change. As the move progresses, you might not be able to reach us, so please be patient. We'll soon be up and running, providing the usual high quality service. Thanks!!

On time statistics winner for June is **Barbara Barden**, FCN at First United Methodist Church, Plant City **AND** Grace Methodist Church, Plant City!! Barbara received a copy of "Dwelling Places: Words to Live In Every Season", by Lucinda Secrest McDowell, as a gift. From Linda, Darlene, and me, thanks for getting your stats in on time. Congratulations, Barbara!

Contact Information: St. Joseph's/SFBH FCN Program

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A Caring Community of Faith



BayCare Faith Community Nursing, Community Health, and Health Care Navigators had the privilege to serve alongside a Bartow community outreach for community members that are food insecure, called God's Pantry. Every Friday morning starting at 10am under a big oak tree, individuals line up to receive a box full of food staples on a first come first served basis until the last box is distributed. Before distribution, leader Resheka Harris comes out to address those gathered in attendance. She shares encouraging words, the importance of respecting each other while waiting in line, and offers prayer. Resheka runs this food pantry center out of a kitchen area located in the back of her beauty salon, Ultimate Designs, Inc. located at 905 East Summerlin Street. There are weekly volunteers who come to serve but her main leadership team (pictured left) makes sure all details of the outreach are followed. Faith community nursing stops by periodically to provide educational resources for Resheka to share with salon patrons. One Friday a month, community health and healthcare navigators are on site to provide health screenings and other health assistance needs. It is a joy that God's Pantry appreciates and welcomes BayCare services to their community outreach site. Thank you Resheka for partnering with us now and in the future! Pictured left to right: Ted Marcelin, Resheka Harris, Glennis Jones, James Worth.

Polk County Community Partnerships

Polk Faith Community Nursing, along with BayCare Community Health, and Health Care Navigators joined our community partners at the Donald Bronson Center in Polk City for a Mobile Health Fair on July 14th. Sun safety and heat stroke prevention were the topics for the Faith Community Nursing station. **Sara McNamee**, FCN, far right, noted that health fair participant, Trudy Nigh (pictured), was wearing a beautiful wooden cross which she explained was handmade in the Bahamas. Trudy also shared that her parents were missionaries in China, and that she learned to speak the Chinese Mandarin dialect as a youth. The love of God radiates through Trudy. Meeting our neighbors and sharing faith is an illustration of the specialty practice of faith community nursing. What a privilege it is to serve in the greater Polk County community.



Upcoming Back-to-School Events at Two Locations

Free backpacks for the first 250 students

Saturday, August 7 | 9am - 12pm

Bartow Regional Medical Center, 2200 Osprey Blvd.

Bartow, FL 33830 (Call 863-280-6076 for more info)

Groceries will be provided at no cost along with lunch totes

Saturday, August 14 | 10am - 12pm

Center for Behavioral Health, 1201 1st Street S.

Winter Haven, FL 33880 (sponsored by Feeding Tampa Bay, BayCare, Florida Health-Polk, and Central Florida Health Care)

Contact Info: Polk County FCN Program

Lanet Owen, Coordinator, Bartow Regional Medical Center, 863-533-8111, ext 521831/lanet.owen@baycare.org

Sara McNamee, Coordinator, Winter Haven Hospital, 863-293-1121, ext. 7935/sara.mcnamee@baycare.org

Welcome Jeannie Urban



The Morton Plant Mease Faith Community Nursing program has a new team member!! Welcome to **Jeannie Urban**. Jeannie comes to us from the Florida Sheriff Youth Ranch of Safety Harbor where she was the program nurse for the past 2 years. Most of Jeannie's nursing career has been with pediatrics. She has a passion for literacy and advocates for kids with learning disabilities within the public school system. Jeannie is the mother of three daughters – Victoria (24) a new BSN NICU nurse, Olivia (22) currently attends law school and Julia (17) is a senior at Academy of the Holy Names. Jeannie's husband, Robert, is a practicing ophthalmologist with an office in New Port Richey. In her spare time, Jeannie enjoys wood-working (specializing in furniture building) and kayaking off the Dunedin causeway. Jeannie's responsibilities as a faith community nurse will be located primarily at Morton Plant North

Bay Hospital servicing the West Pasco communities. We warmly welcome Jeannie to the Morton Plant Mease Faith Community Nursing Team.

Community Outreach: BLDG 28 and North Greenwood

BLDG 28 (B-Believe Biblically L-Love Communally D-Disciple Intentionally G-Glorify God 28-Colossians 2:8) in Clearwater has a new Health Ministry that is growing and flourishing abundantly. **Eileen Nolan**, FCN, is leading BLDG 28's Health Ministry team and invited Faith Community Nursing to do two presentations for her congregation. Featured programs included *Advanced Directives*, presented by **Georgia Cuthbert**, FCN, and *The Model For Healthy Living* focused on whole-person wellness, presented by **Neppie Alexander**, FCN. These programs were well received and the Health Ministry team is looking to offer more topics to meet the needs of the congregation in the future.

DID YOU KNOW?

Presentations on *Advance Directives*, *The Model for Healthy Living*, and other topics, are available for your congregations!

North Greenwood community, located in Clearwater, and Faith Leaders Coalition sponsored a "Mental Health & Wellness Town Hall" gathering. The two main focuses were (1) Faith and Mental Health, and (2) Vaccine Hesitance and Mental Health Impact of Medical and Governmental Trust. Faith Community Nursing was actively involved. **Katrina Goodrich**, FCN, sits on the North Greenwood coalition and planning committee and invited Dr. Elizabeth Lawrence, BayCare Medical Group family medicine physician, to the program as a panelist. **Kathy Johansen**, FCN, served on the panel discussion to address vaccine hesitance and mental illness while **Christina Boyd**, faith community nurse, and Katrina Goodrich manned the FCN information table. The Town Hall meeting saw more than 100 local residents of the area participate in this valuable discussion.

Does your church have a topic that they would like to have a presentation on? Even if it is a small group from your congregation that is looking for specific topic, consider Faith Community Nursing as speakers or let us help you find a speaker to fill the need. For assistance, contact Katrina.Goodrich@baycare.org, or 727-736-9762.

Contact Information: MPM FCN Program

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Georgia Cuthbert, FCN Coordinator: 727-736-9761, Georgia.Cuthbert@baycare.org

Katrina Goodrich, Transitional Care Coordinator: 727-736-9762, Katrina.Goodrich@baycare.org

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FCN Required Annual Competencies: Recommit your Ministry



We are thrilled that so many of you attended the Required Annual Competencies virtual sessions in April and May. This is monumental, especially since this once hands-on, in-person event was reconfigured to fit a virtual format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Completing this training is an excellent way to hold yourself accountable that you have recommitted yourself to your ministry, your faith community and to your partnership with our program. We value each of you and by continuing your partnership with us, it allows us to be good stewards of our resources to help meet your needs and those of your faith community. Forty-seven FCNs and CHP's attended the May RAC sessions and 53 attended the April RAC virtual sessions. If you have not completed your competencies please reach out to us, we are here to work with you and your schedule. ***Please remember the Required Annual Competencies are to be completed by all Faith Community Nurses and Congregational Health Promoters this year.***

Faith Community Nursing in Action: Promoting Health Ministry

The Health Ministry Team at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church located in Sarasota, coordinated and hosted Healthcare Appreciation Sunday on May 23, 2021. The event recognized church members who are current and former healthcare workers in varied roles in the healthcare profession. Guest speaker, **Cheryl Track**, FCN at First Presbyterian Church in Sarasota, spoke at both services and beautifully shared the benefits and blessings of having a health ministry within the church. Pastor Rusty Leavitt shared a heartfelt sermon that tied the message to Cheryl's, that God wants us to thrive physically as well as spiritually



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2

and that God cares about all, body and soul. The Health Ministry Team at Beautiful Savior Lutheran continues to grow as they nurture their ministry to become a source of support and care for their church members and the community.

1. Cheryl Track, Mary Luecke and Carol Mader show off special treats created just to celebrate this event.

2. Christine Grushkus-Wright, Mary Luecke, Pastor Rusty Leavitt, and Cheryl Track.

New to the SAH FCN Office Team: Laura Stilwell, RN

Please give a warm welcome to **Laura Stilwell**! Laura is thrilled to be joining the St. Anthony's team as an FCN Coordinator. Laura first became a Faith Community Nurse on foreign soil and is so thankful that God has called her to serve here in Florida. Laura and her family come from 10 years of urban rescue mission service in Indianapolis followed by 16 years of service in Costa Rica where she worked in children's ministry, discipleship, and residential addictions as part of a local Spanish-speaking church. She brings a passion for the indispensable work of the church in the world and a first-hand view of how spiritual growth changes a community from the roots up. Laura's looking forward to meeting everyone and is excited to bring her experience in community-based programs to St. Petersburg. Please feel free to reach out: Laura.Stilwell@baycare.org



Contact Information: St. Anthony's FCN Program

Patti Carr Wolfenbarger, FCN Supervisor, 727-820-7880/ patricia.wolfenbarger@baycare.org

Andrea Rose, Grant & Operations Coordinator, 727-825-1709/ andrea.rose@baycare.org

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St. Anthony's Hospital
FCN Dept, MS 2021
1200 7th Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33705

Virtual Continuing Education Classes

	Date	Time	Topic/Class Title	CE	Presenter
	8/5 Thurs	10-11:30am	Moving Forward from a Season of Grief	1	Susan Jacob, PhD, RN Professor & Executive Assoc Dean of Academic Affairs, The University of TN Health Science Ctr
	8/13 Fri	9am-4pm	Foundations of FCN course Classroom Day 3 & Graduation (for participants currently enrolled in the course)	Yes	Multiple
	8/19 Thurs	10-11:30am	Perinatal Considerations Infomercial: Healthy Start Coalition (Pinellas)	1	Richard Woodruff, MD Board Certified in Obstetrics & Gynecology
	9/9 Thurs	10-11:30am	Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	Yes	Jemima D. Desir Douge, MD, MBA Healthcare Education Specialist FL Poison Info Center/Tampa General Hospital
	9/21 Thurs	2-3:30pm	Healthy Aging	Yes	Dale Wickstrom-Hill, DO Board Certified in Anesthesiology Board Certified in Integrative Medicine

Foundations of FCN Course: Offered in 5 Fridays

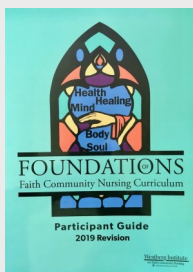
Foundations of Faith Community Nursing (34.5 CE)

BayCare Outpatient Center
900 Carillon Parkway, St. Petersburg, FL 33716
Conference rooms A & B on the first floor

September 17 & 24, October 1, 8, & 15

8:30am-4pm each Friday

Contact: Laura.stilwell@baycare.org

**REGISTRATION FOR ALL VIRTUAL EDUCATION EVENTS**

An email from Andrea Rose will be sent to you 1-2 weeks prior to the class that will include a flyer with Learning Objectives, a Registration link, the MS Teams "Join Meeting Link," as well as the phone number for calling in (audio only).

Opportunities to Promote in Your Faith Community



VIRTUAL SAFE SITTER COURSE Faith Community Nursing will offer a **FREE** two-part Safe Sitter class to students in grades 6–8. There will be two virtual classes on Microsoft Teams:

Part 1: Saturday, 9/11, 10am-1pm | Part 2: Saturday, 9/18, 10am-1pm

This class provides basic information such as child development, childcare routines (including diapering practice) and behavior management, as well as how to set fees and greet employers. In addition to CPR, students learn injury prevention and management, choking rescue, indoor and outdoor safety, online safety and personal safety. The course is designed to prepare students to be safe when they are at home alone, watching younger siblings or babysitting. Participants will receive a free T-shirt, back sack, handbook, and a CPR kit that includes a mini Annie Manikin (like the one pictured) to learn and demonstrate CPR. Register by August 27 to receive supplies in time for class. To register or for more information, contact ruby.hope@baycare.org



Purpose statement: *Faith Community Nursing cultivates a network of professional nurses for the purpose of health promotion for all people in need with a focus on the intentional care of the spirit.*