

# Faith Community Nursing Newsletter

## Foundations of FCN: Course to be offered 3 Times in 2022



Have you completed the **Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Curriculum** yet? If not, make it your goal to complete it in 2022! There will be 3 opportunities to take the course: Spring (February-March), Summer (June-July), and Fall (September-October), offered in a consecutive 5-Friday Format. BayCare Health System, an educational partner with the Westberg Institute, has long offered the Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Curriculum (2019 revision). Faith Community Nursing holds spirituality as central to its practice and is recognized by the American Nurses Association as a sub-specialty of nursing.

This intensive course, approved for 36.5 CE, provides a basic foundation for Faith Community Nursing and covers the following topics: History & Philosophy; Prayer; Spiritual Care; Health Promotion & Self Care; Assessment & Accessing Resources; Documenting Practice; Ethical Issues; Loss, Suffering, & Grief; Behavioral Health; Violence and the Role of the Faith Community Nurse; Legal Aspects; Advocacy, Care Coordination & Transitional Care; Communication & Collaboration; and Beginning Your Ministry.

This course will take place virtually, on Microsoft Teams, using a free application. System requirements are a minimum of Windows 7 or recent version Mac iOS. Computer camera & microphone are needed to participate fully.

Students must have an active RN license, specialized knowledge in the spiritual beliefs and practices of the faith community, and the ability to reflect spiritual maturity in role.

### VIRTUAL CLASSROOM DATES, FRIDAYS:

- February 11, 8:30am-4:30pm
- February 18, 8:30am-3:30pm
- February 25, 8:30am-4pm
- March 4, 8:30am-3:30pm
- March 11, 8:30am-4:30pm

**COST:** \$50 BayCare FCN (covers cost of textbook and refunded at completion of course); \$100 Out of BayCare Network

**TO REGISTER:** Request an application from your local FCN office or contact:

**Laura.stilwell@baycare.org**  
727-825-1703.

## Required Annual Competencies for FCNs & CHPs



**All** Faith Community Nurses and Congregational Health Promoters must complete a "Required Annual Competencies" (RAC) training session and 2022 forms, which is required for all volunteers of BayCare Health System. Three sessions will be offered virtually on Microsoft Teams. You only need to attend one session. Registration information will be coming out soon, with further instruction. **SAVE THE DATE** for the session you plan to attend:

- **Session 1:** Tuesday, February 22, 5:30-7pm
- **Session 2:** Tuesday, March 22, 2-3:30pm
- **Session 3:** Friday, April 8, 10-11:30am



*Faith Community Nursing, a specialized practice of professional nursing that focuses on the intentional care of the spirit, promoting wholistic health and prevention of illness through the cultivation of community health ministry teams to provide health advocacy for all people in need.*

**Message from our Manager, Linda Wilkerson**



During Advent I was reminded of Jesus being from the root of Jesse. I spent some time reflecting on roots and how this metaphor plays into us as faith community nurses. We are sons and daughters of Christ and in Paul's epistle to the Colossians, we are encouraged to be rooted and grounded in Him. This protects us from false teachings and philosophies that are so present in today's society. At St. Joseph's we are also rooted in the beliefs of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, living out the gospel of Jesus by serving others, especially the poor and marginalized. As nurses, we are rooted in the professionalism of our calling, which lends strength to our specialty practice. Dolly Parton said, "Storms make trees take deeper roots." We have truly come through some storms and tests and I have seen each of you, as well as our system-wide FCN program, become stronger because of them. As we enter into a new year, may these sources that have contributed to our deep roots, continue to strengthen and grow us into all that Christ desires for us.

**Christmas Blessings**

Faith Community Nursing and Mission Integration recently visited the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany at St. Elizabeth Convent for an early Christmas celebration. This was the first time in almost two years that we were able to safely meet. It was wonderful to share time with **Sr. Mary Ellen, Sr. Shirley, Sr. Joan, Sr. Anne, Sr. John Francis, Sr. William Margaret, Sr. Pat, and Sr. Maria**. Activities for the event were planned by **Grace Cordero**, Cristo Rey High School senior, as part of her work study program with our offices. Shown bottom left, Grace is leading the group with a Christmas word scramble. She also led the group in several other Christmas-related exercises and events. An especially poignant exercise was to describe what Christmas meant to each of them. Their responses were very personal and touching. In addition, Grace was instrumental in getting a small Christmas tree and making star and dove-shaped ornaments to hang on the tree. We sang carols, and enjoyed decorated sugar cookies and hot apple cider. Thank you, Sisters, for the warm reception you gave us.



Christmas is a time of giving. One of the long-standing traditions of BayCare and St. Josephs' Hospitals is the giving of Mission Baskets to local families in need. **Magda Setzer-Podowski**, Coordinator, La Esperanza Clinic, far right, standing with **Aquilina Acosta**, a grateful mother of five boys, aged 3-12, as she received a Mission Basket donated by St. Joseph's Hospital South. Thanks to all who donated gifts to make the Acosta family's Christmas extra special this year!



**What's New in 2022: Transitional Care**



We are excited to announce that we are rolling out our new Transitional Care Program this year as part of a BayCare Faith Community Nursing system-wide effort to prevent hospital readmissions. **Sharon Cesare**, FCN coordinator, has been leading this initiative with a transitional care model that streamlines the process of identifying patients from our FCN/CHP partner churches and community organizations. This can provide opportunities for you to discern the most vulnerable members of your community who often need further health care education and services.

On time statistics winner for November is **Lynn Henderson**, FCN with St. Stephens Catholic Church, Riverview, FL. Lynn received a copy of "Dwelling Places: Words to Live In Every Season," by Lucinda Secret McDowell, as a gift. We thank you for getting your stats in on time. Congratulations!

## Holiday Outreach



Faith community nurses **Michelle Cobb**, pictured left, and **Ashlee Briggs** (not pictured) were a tremendous help December 13, at Gospel, Inc. in Lakeland. BayCare Community Health provided services as well. **Kristen Smith**, pictured right, Community Outreach Coordinator for Polk County also helped during the event. Over 40 attendees received blankets, clothing, hats, sunglasses, socks, underwear, and toiletries. FCN provided Christmas muffins and fruit to all who attended the event. Gospel, Inc. is a Christ-centered community providing a home and micro-enterprise work opportunities to the formerly homeless at Gospel Village. ([gospelinc.org](http://gospelinc.org))

On Tuesday, 12/14, BayCare team members hosted a Christmas party for individuals at The Mission in Winter Haven. Pictured right are **Sara McNamee**, Faith Community Nurse, **Keri Kozicki**, Community Health coordinator/East Region, **Kathleen Sabatino**, RN, Health Educator, **Jamie Wesson**, Community Health, along with **Eloy Rodriguez**, Health Care Navigator. They distributed 50 bags that included blankets, socks, hats, toothbrushes, and toothpaste to all in attendance at the event. Many thanks to Kathleen Sabatino, RN who spearheaded the planning. What a joy it is for BayCare team members to collaborate efforts within the community, especially during the holiday season. ([themissionwh.org](http://themissionwh.org))



A very sincere Thank You to all team members at Winter Haven Hospital, Winter Haven Women's Hospital, and BayCare Behavioral Health—Winter Haven Hospital Center who generously donated clothing, shoes, blankets, and hygiene products for our brothers and sisters in need. The Mission in Winter Haven, and Gospel Inc. in Lakeland, serve the homeless and will use these items throughout the year. Also, BayCare is grateful to St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Lakeland for the donation of fleece blankets.

*He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.* Psalm 107:7-9 (NIV)

## BayCare Ministry Partner Provides Office Space for FCN



Bartow Regional Medical Center (BRMC), on behalf of the BayCare Health System, collaborates with the Church Service Center (CSC) in Bartow. **Lanet Owen**, faith community nurse coordinator, recently moved into office space provided by the CSC. This community outreach location provides faith community nursing with additional opportunities to address those who may need healthcare navigation or referrals. The Church Service Center began in 1992 as an outreach ministry of the Bartow's First Baptist Church Christian Action Committee. The group formed the Christian Action Corporation, doing business as the "Women's Care Center" which later opened a residence to women and children in need. It now operates with its own Board of Directors. Rusty Music, Executive Director of both the Women's Care Center and Church Service Center oversees daily operations. The CSC mission is Creating Healthy Families with services such as: Access, Free Tax Prep, Job Corps Program, Wellness Program, Emergency Food Pantry, Clothing Pantry, Thrift Shop, Free Bag Lunch Program, and Financial Education Program. The Polk County faith community nurse program is grateful to Rusty Music, **Clint Shoupe**, BRMC Director of Operations, and **Deborah Rivard**, BayCare Faith Community Nursing System Director, for their role in securing this new outreach office location. ([churchservicecenter.org](http://churchservicecenter.org))

## Faith Community Nursing: A Ministry of Shalom



*The webbing together of God, humans, and all creation in justice, fulfillment, and delight is what the Hebrew prophets call shalom. We call it peace but it means far more than mere peace of mind or a cease-fire between enemies. In the Bible, shalom means universal flourishing, wholeness and delight – a rich state of affairs in which natural needs are satisfied and natural gifts fruitfully employed, a state of affairs that inspires joyful wonder as its Creator and Savior opens doors and welcomes the creatures in whom he delights. Shalom, in other words, is the way things ought to be.*

(Source: Cornelius Plantinga, *Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin*)

Faith Community Nursing has been called a ministry of shalom. FCNs around the world share common elements of foundational training for this nursing specialty that is rooted in the Abrahamic faith traditions and the historic practice of professional nursing. Together, we embrace the assumption that we care for self and others as an expression of God's love. Health/wellbeing is viewed as an ever changing process, a harmony with self and others, with the environment, and with God, a continuum of physical, social, psychological, and spiritual well-being. Within this conceptual framework:

- A sense of well-being can exist in the presence of imbalance.
- Healing can occur in the absence of a cure.
- Harmony and wholeness are possible, regardless of circumstance.

The Hebrew word "shalom," which is often translated to English as "peace," sums up this wholistic concept of wellbeing.

(Adapted from the Westberg Institute for Faith Community Nursing and the Health Ministries Association.)

## Unity in Diversity

Many religions and cultures use greetings/blessings that incorporate the concept of shalom. Perhaps one of the examples below represents your own faith tradition. In our diversity, FCNs share common ideas and goals. In the past year, for example, our FCN partners and team members have increasingly worked together on initiatives that promote wellbeing in communities beyond our own congregations, while continuously caring for those within our congregations. Together, we have vaccinated and educated against COVID-19 transmission. We have begun to strengthen our connections to the Spanish-speaking community. We have partnered with trusted community leaders in neighborhoods where there is a general distrust of health care. We have gathered from across 8 counties to learn together in virtual continuing education programs, and so much more. In our shared work we've learned about each other's traditions, callings, passions and gifts, and this has also contributed to our wellbeing as a network. This combination of congregational "in-reach" and community outreach has blessed many.

*Peace be with you* [Response: *And also with you*] Latin: *Pax vobiscum*

Arabic: *as-salāmu 'alaikum (peace be upon you)* [Response: *Wa alaikumu s-salaam (and unto you peace)*]

Hebrew: *Shalom aleichem (well-being be upon you/may you be well)* [Response: *Aleichem shalom (upon you be well-being)*]

*The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

## Health and Human Service Sunday - January 30, 2022



The United Church of Christ (UCC) recognizes *Health and Human Service Sunday* annually on the 4th Sunday following Advent, bearing witness to the role of the church in "co-creating spaces of wholeness with communities across the country and around the world." May this lovely prayer of dedication from that annual ceremony bless you in your good work. Shalom!

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

*O God of loaves and fishes, of bread and of wine, we bring before you our diversity of gifts, knowing that they will be multiplied for the benefit of many.*

*O God of resurrection, who makes all things new, accept our offering to both give and receive, trusting that there is abundance in togetherness, and generosity in you.  
Amen.*

**Faith Community Nursing in Action**



Faith Community Nursing had an opportunity to impact the community of St. Petersburg, at two events, on December 4th. **Ruby Hope** and **Sandy Beall** led a team of faith community nurses at the Saturday Morning Shoppe at Tropicana Field event, providing 30 blood pressure screenings, and referrals to the DEEP and GIFT programs. **Patti Wolfinbarger** provided Influenza vaccines to 8 clients at an event hosted by a salon in the Grand Central district. We are abundantly grateful to the faith community nurses who volunteered their time to help with screenings: **Dawn Halvorson, Michelle Dolak, Ruth Frederick, and Corinna Harshaw**—we appreciate you! If you would like to volunteer at future community events, please email [Laura.stilwell@baycare.org](mailto:Laura.stilwell@baycare.org)

**THE SAH FCN PROGRAM HAS PARTNERED WITH FEEDING PINELLAS EMPOWERMENT CENTER** which opened November 1, 2021 and is located at Northwest Church in St. Petersburg. Feeding Pinellas, a solution of Feeding Tampa Bay, is a creative new program aiming to eliminate food insecurity by providing our neighbors with food for today, assistance for tomorrow, and a pathway to the future. Their service model brings community partners together to provide a holistic solution to hunger – addressing food assistance and breaking language, transportation, and financial barriers. The Pinellas Empowerment Center offers English classes, a twice-weekly food pantry, job training, and the Trinity Café, which offers a hot dinner served restaurant-style Monday thru Friday. SAH FCN **Laura Stilwell** provides one on one health care insight and referral to resources during the dinner hour. If you'd like to join Laura and volunteer your time, please email [Laura.Stilwell@baycare.org](mailto:Laura.Stilwell@baycare.org)

**In Memoriam**



It is with great joy and love that we remember the life of **Carolynn Drzycimski, MSW, RN**. Carolynn joined the St. Anthony's Hospital Faith Community Nursing program in 1999. In this early role she worked diligently to serve St. Joseph's Catholic Church, St. Petersburg, as an outreach of the SAH FCN program. There she lead and participated in events that provided resources to empower those she served as well as developed collaborative relationships with community partners. St. John Vianney Catholic Church was Carolynn's home parish, where she served as a volunteer FCN for many years. Carolynn made a difference in the lives of those she met and many were blessed through her service.

Carolynn has been deeply missed since she retired to Tennessee in January 2019, and news of her passing on December 12, 2021 has provided the opportunity to reflect on many wonderful memories. The leadership team and fellow faith community nurses of St. Anthony's Hospital Faith Community Nursing Program offer their sincere condolences to the family. Rest well, sweet friend.

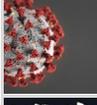
**SAH FCN CHRISTMAS DRIVE THRU EVENT**

We were happy to see so many smiling faces at the FCN Christmas Drive-Thru event, December 11. Here are just a few fun moments, pictured left to right, clockwise: **Laura Stilwell, Patti Wolfinbarger, Debbie Rivard**, and her grandchildren Mia and Cameron. **Joyce Brown and Patti; Laura and PJ Petit;** elf Cameron handing a gift bag to **Nancy Holcombe and Katie Levy**. Not pictured due to having too much fun for photos: Doriel Boyce, Karen Stoltz-Hansing, Linda Mostek, Carolyn Stoll, Joyce Johnson, Cindy Charland, Mary Luecke, Beth Long, and Carole Burkhart who celebrated Christmas with a beautiful event in Sarasota that coincided with the drive-thru.



## Virtual Continuing Education Classes

**REGISTRATION FOR ALL VIRTUAL EDUCATION EVENTS:** Links for Registration & joining Teams will be emailed from Andrea Rose.

	Date	Time	Topic/Class Title	CE	Presenter
	1/13/22 Thurs	9-11:00am	<b>Topic: Sexually Transmitted Diseases</b>	1.5	Presenter TBD Metro Inclusion Health
	1/19 Wed	11am- 12:30pm	<b>Topic: COVID Update</b> Infomercial: Area Agency on Aging	1	Presenter TBD Infection Control, St. Anthony's Hospital
	1/25 Tues	5:30-8pm	<b>Human Trafficking</b> (for CE renewal)	2	<b>Kadian Parchment, BS</b> Safety & Trauma Consultant Heartland for Children
	2/10 Thurs	3-5:30pm	<b>Medical Errors</b> (for CE renewal)	2	<b>Kay Coulter, CRNI, VA-BC</b> Infusion Knowledge, Inc.
	2/15 Tues	12-1:30pm	<b>Topic: Common Cardiac Concerns</b>	1	<b>Amanda Van Hook, APRN, FNP-BC</b> Tampa Bay Cardiovascular Center Mease Countryside Hospital, Oncology Unit

## A NEW TOOL FOR SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

The nationwide platform FindHelp.org provides a real-time listing of social service agencies. It was previously known as "Aunt Bertha." Visit the local site, **FindHelpFlorida.org**, now sponsored by BayCare, and enter a zip code to seek out services for financial assistance, food pantries, medical care, and other free or reduced-cost help.

## Contact Info for BayCare FCN Programs

<b>EAST REGION:</b> Hillsborough, Polk	<b>St. Joseph's Hospitals (SJH) &amp; South Florida Baptist Hospital (SFBH)</b>
	<b>Linda Wilkerson</b> , Manager, 813-757-8006/ linda.wilkerson@baycare.org <b>Darlene Winterkorn</b> , Coordinator, 813-357-0875/ darlene.winterkorn@baycare.org <b>Cathy Gunn</b> , Coordinator, 813-357-0816/ cathy.gunn@baycare.org <b>Sharon Cesare</b> , Coordinator, 813-357-0869/ sharon.cesare@baycare.org <b>Carla Williams</b> , Department Secretary, 813-357-0868/ carla.williams@baycare.org
	<b>Winter Haven Hospitals (WHH) &amp; Bartow Regional Medical Center (BRMC)</b>
	<b>Sara McNamee</b> , Supervisor, 863-293-1121 ext 207935/ sara.mcnamee@baycare.org <b>Lanet Owen</b> , Coordinator, 863-293-1121 ext 207935/ lanet.owen@baycare.org
<b>WEST REGION:</b> Pinellas, Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Manatee/Sarasota	<b>Morton Plant Mease Hospitals (MPM)</b>
	<b>Neppie Alexander</b> , Supervisor, 727-736-9767/ neppie.alexander@baycare.org <b>Georgia Cuthbert</b> , Coordinator, 727-736-9761/ georgia.cuthbert@baycare.org <b>Kathy Johansen</b> , Coordinator/ kathleen.johansen@baycare.org <b>Katrina Goodrich</b> , Transitional Care Coordinator/ katrina.goodrich@baycare.org
	<b>St. Anthony's Hospital (SAH)</b>
	<b>Patti Wolfinbarger</b> , Supervisor, 727-820-7880/ patricia.wolfinbarger@baycare.org <b>Andrea Rose</b> , Grant & Operations Coordinator, 727-825-1709/ andrea.rose@baycare.org <b>Laura Stilwell</b> , Coordinator, 727-825-1703/ laura.stilwell@baycare.org <b>Lavina Ward</b> , Coordinator, 727-820-7884/ lavina.ward@baycare.org <b>Ruby Hope</b> , Coordinator, 727-825-1692/ ruby.hope@baycare.org