Giving All Nurses a Voice

2013 ANNUAL REPORT
AMERICAN NURSES FOUNDATION
Giving All Nurses a Voice

Nurses’ voices are essential to the delivery of quality care. What they have to say — in operating suites and boardrooms, in laboratories and at the policy table — is one of the greatest leverage points in health care today. Nurses’ voices raised in leadership, posing research questions, and transforming patient care can change our health care paradigm.

The American Nurses Foundation is dedicated to elevating nurses’ voices in every setting. If we are to truly improve the health of the nation, we must invest in the largest health care resource — nurses. Their ingenuity and perseverance, courage and creativity, have an extraordinary impact on every aspect of health care.

We hope you will choose to join in the Foundation’s work. With your involvement, we can bring nurses’ voices into every patient room and policy decision. Then, we will truly have the power to create a healthier world for all.

KATE JUDGE
Executive Director

JOYCE J. FITZPATRICK
Chair, Board of Trustees
“For me, one thing that is so remarkable about nurses is that they have the unique ability to be fully present at the most vulnerable moments of the human experience. This is an incredible skill, an incredible gift, and one that I have experienced personally. And everyone who has been involved in the American Nurse Project has been changed because of it.” — John Ducker, President and CEO, Fresenius Kabi USA
There was a red carpet and a sold-out crowd. But the celebrities attending the premiere of “The American Nurse,” a powerful documentary by Carolyn Jones, weren’t those you might expect.

The stars that evening were Tonia Faust, a nurse for maximum-security prison inmates. Jason Short, who drives through the Appalachians to deliver in-home care. Brian McMillion, whose specialty is treating soldiers returning from war. Naomi Cross delivers new babies, while Sister Stephen cares for end-of-life patients.

The film marked the culmination of The American Nurse Project, Jones’s cross-country journey to capture the personal stories of nurses through photos and video. With support from Fresenius Kabi USA, the stories became a book, whose success sparked the idea of the documentary.

“The American Nurse” premiered on May 7 during Nurses Week at the American Film Institute’s Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Silver Spring, Maryland. The night celebrated the expert and compassionate care that nurses provide and the critical difference they make in people’s lives.

“If we could engage nurses fully and more competently in doing this kind of work, we could have an impact on this significant and tragic societal problem.”

— Nancy Hanrahan, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN
New nurse-designed PTSD toolkit bridges the treatment gap

Technology and game theory are the newest tools for treating post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), thanks in part to an $85,000 grant that the American Nurses Foundation made to the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing.

An estimated half a million veterans and military service members suffer the debilitating agitation, flashbacks, and emotional withdrawal that characterize PTSD. “There are effective treatments, but they’re not reaching patients,” says Nancy Hanrahan, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN, the Penn Nursing professor leading the project.

With the Foundation’s support, made possible through a generous grant from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, Hanrahan and her team are developing a toolkit to help civilian nurses better assess and treat PTSD. It includes a website and e-learning module with three simulation scenarios — all accessible at no cost. “Nurses are in every health care program and can be a powerful and effective tool for bridging that gap and making the link to get treatment,” says Hanrahan. “If we could engage nurses fully and more competently in doing this kind of work, we could have an impact on this significant and tragic societal problem.”
Innovative Scholars

Shaping care practices through nursing research

To achieve Magnet designation — the ultimate credential for high-quality nursing — health care organizations undergo a rigorous review and application process. With support from the American Nurses Foundation, Ann Kutney-Lee, PhD, RN, is studying emerging Magnet hospitals to find out how this recognition influences outcomes. “These results will provide some of the first longitudinal evidence of the relationship between Magnet credentialing and the outcomes of nurses and the patients they care for,” she explains.

For nearly 60 years, ANF’s Nursing Research Grants Program has been helping nurses like Kutney-Lee conduct innovative studies that shape care practices and launch larger scientific health research. More than $185,000 in research grants was awarded in 2013 thanks to contributions from organizations and individuals. Twenty projects in total were funded, including one submitted by Emily Tuthill, BSN, RN, who studies health...
In 2013, more than $185,000 in research grants was awarded thanks to contributions from organizations and individuals.

behavior change among breastfeeding HIV-positive mothers in South Africa. “Through [this study],” says Tuthill, “we aim to provide a practical and innovative approach to increase exclusive breastfeeding — the cornerstone of public health measures on child survival and improved overall infant health.”

Recognized for its high caliber and rigorous scientific review, the program is only growing stronger. In 2014, with an increased award budget of more than $240,000, the number of applicants more than doubled to 171 nurses. Also new in 2014 is a special clinical research focus supported by the American Nurses Credentialing Center — which had funded Kutney-Lee’s 2013 grant — in Magnet and non-Magnet facilities.

For a full list of 2013 scholars, visit www.givetomusing.org
Improving the Patient Experience

Nurses kick off innovative projects at Children’s National with grant support

Sometimes the smallest patients can have the biggest impact.

Last fall, with support from the American Nurses Foundation, Children’s National Health System was able to fund ideas from five nursing teams related to research, quality improvement, and evidence-based practice.

The Child’s Voice Project is one of those projects. Headed by Mia Waldron, MS-Ed, RN, and her team from the Clinical Improvement and Nursing Research Council, the Child’s Voice Project hopes to improve the internal process for getting patient feedback by going directly to the source — the young patients themselves.
“Kids who are patients in hospitals have a voice, and we need to consider their perspective when looking at satisfaction.” — Mia Waldron, MS-Ed, RN

“Kids who are patients in hospitals have a voice, and we need to consider their perspective when looking at satisfaction,” says Waldron. “Often we only ask parents, who are certainly important, but we need to get the children’s input as well to gather a full picture of the patient experience.” The team piloted the program in four clinical areas and three age groups and had great participation from families. “This provides us, as caregivers, a more complete idea of the impact of nursing care on our patients in real time.” Waldron and her team are now looking to expand the program and engage patients across the entire Children’s National system.

Funding for the Scholarly Activity Funding Opportunity was made possible through a partnership with Fresenius Kabi USA and sales of the book, The American Nurse: Photographs and Interviews by Carolyn Jones.
Nurses not only work on the front lines of health care delivery, they also represent the largest group in the health care workforce. One out of every 100 people in the U.S. is a registered nurse. The American Nurses Foundation believes that nurses have much to contribute to conversations on policy and decision-making, and is ensuring that their voices will be heard.

The Leadership Initiative, made possible by ANF donors, is an ambitious campaign to increase the number of nurses on influential boards of directors, and marks the first time a dedicated effort has been made to place nurses in governance roles. ANF is implementing a series of programs, including funding leadership training programs and creating a short-term pipeline of leaders who can immediately join national boards. The Foundation has already received seed support, and will embark on a campaign in fall 2014 to raise funds to complete the project.

Learn more about the Leadership Initiative by visiting www.givetonursing.org
Major General Irene Trowell-Harris knows about leadership. During her 38-year military career with the Air National Guard (ANG) and U.S. Air Force, she rose through the ranks — from a first lieutenant to the first ANG nurse to command a medical clinic, and finally the first ANG African American woman to be selected general officer.

Trowell-Harris has also been a leader on the ground, advocating for policy that supports patient care and female veterans. It’s this work that inspired the Irene Trowell-Harris Endowed Leadership Fund.

“I want to do my part in educating nurses and making sure they have what they need to be great leaders and researchers,” she explains. In 2014, the Fund will provide matching grants to state nurse associations to send their members to the ANA Advocacy Institute.

Established in 2009, the Institute features a two-day program in Washington, D.C., and a yearlong mentoring program to help nurses become effective political leaders in their communities.

“Nurses are in a position to impact people at all levels in life,” says Trowell-Harris. “The opportunity is wide open.”
“Jacqueline Alleva is a skilled, caring, thoughtful individual who embodies all that is right about nursing. She also values lifelong learning and has embarked on her master’s degree as a nurse practitioner to extend her reach and clinical acumen.” — Harriet R. Feldman, PhD, RN, FAAN

Honor a Nurse

Recognizing the heroes of health care

The words of patients, families, and colleagues celebrate the profound impact nurses have on the delivery of health care. As clinicians, colleagues, mentors, teachers, and friends, nurses make a difference every single day, but their contributions are too often overlooked.

To give nurses the recognition they deserve, the American Nurses Foundation created the Honor a Nurse program to celebrate individual nurses. Recently, Wolters Kluwer Health — a leading provider of information and point-of-care solutions for health care — signed on as a partner with ANF, providing the resources and exposure to recognize nurses nationwide.

To submit your story and nominate a nurse, please visit www.anfonline.org/honoranurse.
When tornados swept through Oklahoma in May 2013, Vonnie Meritt, a nurse living west of Oklahoma City, saw her home, farm, and all her belongings destroyed. As caregivers, nurses often aren’t accustomed to being provided for, but when natural disasters strike they need help too.

The American Nurses Foundation established a disaster relief fund to support nurses in times of need. By partnering with local and state nursing organizations, such as the Oklahoma Nurses Association and Oklahoma Nurses Foundation, ANF is able to help nurses around the world rebuild their homes and lives.

“Opening that envelope [with the disaster relief] was very emotional,” says Meritt. “I was amazed that others, not even knowing me, would help. Words cannot express our gratitude and thankfulness.”
2013 FINANCIALS

Revenue

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<td>Grants</td>
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Expenses

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Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

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LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

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<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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ANP’s audit and 990 are available on our website: www.givetonursing.org
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To help the American Nurses Foundation reach its potential and make the best decisions regarding our philanthropy, we have a diverse board of trustees. We believe the future of health care requires a collaborative model, and our members represent the broad spectrum of stakeholders in health — including nurses, physicians, academicians, and corporate and philanthropic leaders.

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