

# Faith Community Nursing

BayCare  
April 2024

# Newsletter

## Congratulations Foundations of FCN Curriculum spring graduates

The following 13 graduates completed the **Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Curriculum** (36.5 CE) course in March. Pictured left to right, with partnered FCN program location; team member names in blue:

- **St. Joseph's FCN program** (sitting): **Maria Bell-Coleman**, MDiv, RN, and Chaplain, St. Joseph's Hospital South, **Karla Bermudez**, BSN, RN, FCN coordinator and **Ronda Buffington**, RN, OCN, FCN, SJH FCN team; **Julie Ringenberg**, MPH, RN.
- **Morton Plant Mease FCN program** (sitting, third from right): **Anne Blum**, RN, Care Transition coordinator, BayCare HomeCare; **Deirdre Enzor**, BS, RN, **Tammy Lightner**, RN.
- **St. Anthony's FCN program** (standing): **Joyce Bouchard**, RN; **Ann Gustafson**, BSN, RN, FCN coordinator; **Vanell (Nell) Williams**, BSN, RN, **Laraine Nielsen**, RN; **Mary Hobbie Crosa**, BSN, RN.
- **Polk FCN program**: **Beatrice Sylvester-Wooden** (pictured right), RN, case manager, BayCare HomeCare.



## Upcoming Course Offerings

**Summer, virtual on MS Teams, 6-9pm**

May 28, 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 11, 18, 23, and in-person at the Franciscan Center, Tampa, July 25, 8:30am-4pm.

**Fall, retreat-style, Franciscan Center**

November 4-7

Contact: **Laura Stilwell**, BSN, RN  
FCN coordinator, (727) 825-1703  
[Laura.stilwell@baycare.org](mailto:Laura.stilwell@baycare.org)

## April 16, National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD)

Advance Care Planning is the process of deciding, documenting, and sharing the kind of health care you'd want at end-of-life, or in the event you should become unable to make your own decisions due to life-limiting illness or injury. It focuses on understanding and discussing options regarding life-sustaining treatments, such as CPR, ventilators, dialysis, and tube feedings. This ensures everyone is aware of and respects your health care decisions, providing reassurance to you and your loved ones.

- *Did you know?* BayCare offers a free, user-friendly web-based platform in partnership with **Koda Health** to ensure your health care choices reflect your values, even when you're unable to communicate them yourself. For more information, go to [App.KodaHealthCare.com/BayCare](https://App.KodaHealthCare.com/BayCare)

## National Volunteer Month

*The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.*

~DeAnn Hollis

- 287 Faith Community Nurses
- 62 Congregational Health Promoters
- 20,147 hours served since June 1, 2023

Thank you volunteers for your commitment, faith, and the impact you make in your community every day!



Faith Community Nursing is the 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.



### Faith Community Nursing in Action



**Melissa Troutman** (left), FCN coordinator, participated in a Community Wellness Market event on Busch Blvd. in Tampa, March 16. She had conversations with many attendees about the importance of advance directives and shared information about Koda. She also provided nutrition information for children and adults, along with recipe cards for a loaded veggie salad and a roasted vegetable naan flatbread. The pizza cutter giveaways to go along with the flatbread recipe were a big hit!

**Ashley Rodriguez** (right), FCN Coordinator, South Florida Baptist Hospital proudly displays her bulletin board at the Burney Elementary School food pantry in Plant City. The theme for March was, "A Healthy Future." FCN

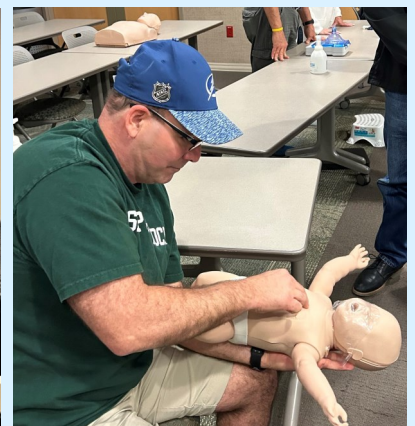
has recently partnered with the school to offer BP screenings, community resources, help at their food pantry and community fair coming up in April. Ashley will be working towards ensuring that the students & families of Burney Elementary have access to all the resources they need to thrive.



On March 1, FCN was one of 40 exhibitors at the 42nd Annual Senior Day in at MacFarlane Park, hosted by the City of Tampa's Parks and Recreation Department, an event that promotes healthy living. Close to 75 people, many from local senior centers, stopped by the FCN table to check out health information on advance care planning, including the new Koda platform, FindHelp Florida pamphlets, and information about our Hillsborough Community Food Clinic. Pictured left to right, Retha Singleton from Lee Davis Senior Center visiting the FCN table, and FCN coordinators, **Ronda Buffington** and **Karla Bermudez**.

### St. Timothy Catholic Church volunteers trained in lifesaving CPR skills

FCN coordinators, **Melissa Troutman**, **Ashley Rodriguez**, and **Sharon Cesare**, provided a Family & Friends CPR Course at St. Joseph's Hospital North on March 2. The 23 members from St. Timothy Catholic Church in Lutz that participated were from a variety of backgrounds such as health ministry, safety team, ushers, and greeters. They came with focused engagement and great questions. Many shared they were grateful for this learning opportunity to be prepared in the event of an emergency.



## Faith Community Nursing has a heart for teaching in the community



The Polk FCN team often receive requests to teach the **American Heart Association Heartsaver® Course** in the community. Recently, they taught the course to staff at Positively U, Inc., a non-for-profit in Winter Haven that provides support for persons living with HIV. This opportunity was also a great way to honor February’s American Heart Month.

On March 9, the Polk FCN team taught another Heartsaver course to the 6-member safety team at **Legacy Christian Church** in Lakeland. Pictured left: **Ron Schwind** practicing infant CPR skills, and **Mike Owen**, watching. Both are volunteer Congregational Health Promoters (CHPs) at the church.



Pictured far left: **Mary Lopez**, FCN volunteer, and **Lanet Owen**, FCN coordinator, attended **Bartow’s A Day of Service Series** at the Bartow Civic Center, Saturday, February 24.

Left: **Kevin Jones**, FCN volunteer, and **Hazel Felix**, FCN coordinator, teamed up at the Polk County employee event held in Haines City, Tuesday, February 27.

**Sandie McRory**, FCN volunteer at **First Presbyterian in Lakeland**, and the Older (50+) Adult Ministry Coordinator at the church, hosted the annual *Community Senior Adult Health and Resource Fair* on March 8. This resource fair is just one of many educational services that she offers at her church, which included a presentation by Mari Adams, clinical educator for Cornerstone Hospice. FCN was one of 50 exhibitors that offered education and resources. BayCare Community Health was on hand to provide health screenings for attendees.

Pictured right: **Lanet Owen** (left), FCN coordinator, with **Sandie McRory**.



## Sharing new Advance Care Planning (ACP) technology in the hospitals

During the last week of February, the Polk FCN team, FCN leadership and other BayCare leaders educated Team Members about the new ACP platform, **Koda**, an online program designed to make ACP easier. BayCare offers the program free of charge to BayCare team members, and their family members and friends who want to participate. Discussions also included the importance of designating a healthcare surrogate, and “Your Wishes Matter” documents in English and Spanish were provided. Thank you to the following teams for helping to provide this valuable information:

- Bartow Regional Medical Center: **Hazel Felix** (pictured), FCN coordinator, and **Sara McNamee**, FCN supervisor.
- Winter Haven Hospital: **Lanet Owen**, FCN coordinator, **JoLinda Schrag**, System Manager, FCN Transitional Care Program, and **Stacy Galik**, Director of Case Management, Care Coordination.
- Winter Haven Women’s Hospital, **Deborah Rivard**, System Director, FCN, and **Joe Ivie**, System Director, Spiritual and Palliative Care.



## Faith Community Nursing making a difference in underserved communities

### Clearwater

- Lack of access to health care can keep people from learning how to self-manage a chronic disease and how to appropriately use medical care to achieve optimal health. FCNs appreciate the importance of providing education in underserved communities and can put their faith into action: **Kameelah Diggs**, FCN coordinator, partnered with the Clearwater Public Library System to present a series of health education topics at the **North Greenwood Library**. Kameelah has already held two programs that were well attended: Nutrition for Diabetes and Advance Care Planning. The final presentation in this series, Stroke Prevention, will be presented on April 19. FCN hopes to facilitate DEEP (Diabetes Empowerment Education Program), a free six-week series at this location in the fall, to further the education for clients with diabetes and pre-diabetes.



### Pasco County

- FCN coordinator, **Melinda Bynum**, has been spending time at **Shady Hills Mission Chapel** for health education and wellness screenings. The mission holds a weekly food pantry as well as a monthly community meal on the last Friday of the month. The Friday meal brings many unsheltered and underserved members of the community together. Melinda felt the call to



begin providing feet washing to the visitors during the monthly meal. The ritual of feet washing, typically associated with religious and cultural traditions, is a symbol of hospitality, humility, service, cleansing, and selfless love. Melinda reached out to **Sharon Cesare**, FCN coordinator with the St. Joseph's Hospital FCN team, to learn about her established feet washing

ministry and provide this important service at our community sites. This service also provides the opportunity for assessment, referral, and education. Melinda is excited to share this spiritual encounter with the wonderful community at Shady Hills.

- FCNs have been providing education and wellness screenings to the residents in **St. Vincent de Paul CARES Permanent Supportive Housing** sites at **Ozanam Villages I, II, and III** as well as **Rosalie Rendu Residences**. Led by **Melinda Bynum**, FCN volunteers provide education on topics such as advance directives, stroke, blood pressure and nutrition, and stress reduction techniques. They work in harmony with the social workers assigned to each location to provide education as well as supportive screenings and referrals needed. FCN is building relationships and growing trust within this wonderful community.

**Pictured: (Left) A Sweet Memories Purple Sky Flower was planted at Ozanam Villages recently and dedicated to honor a resident who passed away. Melinda Bynum and Donna Kremer, FCN coordinators, were onsite, and provided grief resources and support; (Right) FCN coordinator, Melinda Bynum, doing outreach at Ozanam Villages.**



### Impact Story: Feeding Pinellas Empowerment Center (FPEC)

Over the past 18 months, FCN coordinators **Laura Stilwell** and **Gwenn Gordon** and volunteer FCN, **Judi Prime-Sayles**, have worked on developing a relationship with a couple (pictured) that regularly attends the meals at FPEC. Initially, they were reluctant to converse, citing many of their barriers to accessing care: lack of funds, transportation, time and hope for improvement. With time and continued relationship-building, they began to open up and ask for health information based on their symptoms. They eventually got their insurance updated and established relationships with primary and even specialty care.



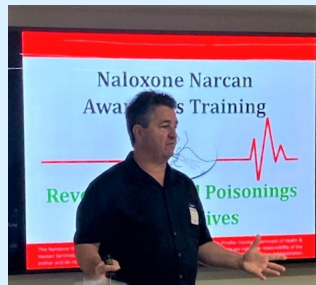
Over the last 6 months they have wholly embraced self-care: they continue to work with the on-site health care navigator to access additional resources. They now initiate conversations about their health care and test results with Laura and Gwenn, freely discuss their health journeys and ask questions. The last time Laura greeted them, they reported that while at a park with a friend, they both noticed this friend exhibiting stroke symptoms - which they remembered from education provided at Feeding Pinellas! They counseled their friend to call 911; she refused at the time because she didn't have anyone to watch her dog, but ended up going later. They were eager to share that, faced with a similar situation again, they would recognize the symptoms sooner, call 911 for the friend, and offer to watch her dog. This story shows the impact of Faith Community Nursing in action!

### FCNs learn life-saving Narcan use in the community setting

March's **Come & See!** featured an in-depth training on opioids, fentanyl/fentanyl poisoning, and emergency use of naloxone (Narcan®) as an opioid reversal agent. FCN and CHP volunteers, along with representatives from several community partners, were appreciative of Lt. Dan Zsido's informative presentation: alarming data, poignant stories from families impacted by fentanyl poisoning, and his comprehensive training on naloxone usage.

April's **Come & See!** introduces Janice Starling, founder and president of **All Kidney Patient Support Group**.

RSVP [here](#) or call (727) 825-1709. We look forward to seeing you!



### Out in the community...

Elevated Church Health Ministry held a handwashing demonstration for their Sunday School class. Joyce Bouchard, FCN, is shown 'spreading germs' on Laura Stilwell, FCN coordinator. Gretchen Vaughn, FCN, is narrating and explaining how the spread of germs can lead to infection.



Ann Gustafson (left), FCN coordinator, with Donna Geeratisoontorn, CHP, introduced colon cancer awareness to 140 people at Greater Mt. Zion AME, with 40 remaining after the service to learn more about Ann's personal cancer journey.



**Clinic Happenings: La Esperanza and San Jose Mission** by Stephanie Morrison, APRN, clinic supervisor

Earlier this month the clinic team came together to prepare for a renovation of the **San Jose Mission (SJM)** clinic space with thanks to a grant funded by generous donors through our partner, **Catholic Charities**. We have been utilizing the new space for a few weeks, reorganizing, and creating a new patient flow and have received great feedback from the patients. We are happy to offer this newly renovated space to serve the community and look forward to providing new services soon, further expanding our outreach.

**Pictured: (left) the newly renovated check-in and waiting area; (right) one of the new patient rooms has a beautiful painted mural, was preserved during the renovations, representing the migrant communities that are served at SJM.**



**Education Calendar:** Classes are virtual and submitted for Nursing CE, but may not be approved at the time of publication. Registration and Meeting links are sent via email. Register for classes to ensure you receive handouts prior to the class date.

Date	Time (EST)	Class Title/Topic	Presented by
4/8 Mon	6-8:30pm (evening)	<b>Human Trafficking &amp; Prevention</b> (2 CE) (meets renewal requirement; repeat class from July 2023)	<b>Kaitlyn Poppa, MS</b> , Anti-Trafficking Program Specialist <b>Caleb Bell, BA, BS</b> , Anti-Trafficking Program Specialist NO MORE Foundation
4/11 Thurs	6:30-9pm (evening)	<b>Recognizing Impairment in the Workplace</b> (2 CE) (meets renewal requirement)	<b>Sara McNamee, MSN, RN</b> Supervisor, BayCare Faith Community Nursing (Polk County)
5/7 Tues	10:30am-12pm	<b>Stroke Awareness</b> (1 CE)	<b>Amanda Belt, BSN, RN, SCRNP</b> Stroke/STEMI Manager, ER, S. Joseph's Hospital

**Upcoming Events**

**4/20, FCN Retreat**, 9am-3pm, Arthur Boring Civic Center, Plant City; (free). RSVP by April 8. (813) 357-0868.

**6/14, Ethics Conference**, *Autonomy in Health Care Decision-Making*, 7:30am-3:45pm, St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Tampa.

Registration info and presentation topics coming soon; (cost \$49). **Want to attend for free? Turn in your STATS each month and complete your Recommitment paperwork to be entered into a drawing for a chance to attend for free.**

**Community Resource | FindHelpFlorida.com** is an online platform that will allow you to connect those in need to local social service organizations. Simply enter your zip code.

<p><b>BayCare FCN program covers:</b> Hillsborough, Polk, Hernando, Citrus, Pasco, Pinellas and Manatee/Sarasota counties</p>	<p><b>St. Joseph's Hospitals (SJH), BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel (BHWC); South Florida Baptist Hospital (SFBH)</b> <b>Linda Wilkerson</b>, Supervisor, 813-757-8006/ linda.wilkerson@baycare.org; FCN office fax: 813-357-0815</p>
	<p><b>San Jose Mission (Dover) and La Esperanza (Wimauma) Clinics</b> <b>Stephanie Morrison</b>, Supervisor, 813-419-1929/ stephanie.morrison@baycare.org</p>
	<p><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</p>
	<p><b>Morton Plant Mease Hospitals (MPM);</b> FCN office fax: 727-333-6173</p>
	<p><b>St. Anthony's Hospital (SAH);</b> FCN Office fax: 727-825-1009</p>
	<p><b>Patti Wolfinbarger</b>, Supervisor, 727-820-7880/ patricia.wolfinbarger@baycare.org</p>