

Catholic Health Faith Community Nurse Program

Program Vision

To assist each faith community in addressing the spiritual, physical, mental, and social health needs of their membership.

Program Mission

The Faith Community Nurse Program will focus on the intentional care of the spirit, as well as the promotion of wholistic health and prevention or minimization of illness within the context of a faith community.

For more information, contact:

Yvonne Askew, MSN. Ed., RN-BC
Faith Community Nurse
FCN Program Coordinator
(716) 923-9672
yaskew@chsbuffalo.org

Catholic Health Administrative
& Regional Training Center
144 Genesee Street, 6th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14203

chsbuffalo.org/community-nurse



22276 - REV 8/5/21

Faith Community Nursing

A wellness program to
assist all faith communities.

Sponsored by:



What is a Faith Community Nurse (FCN)?

Faith Community Nurses are Registered Professional Nurses trained in health maintenance, disease minimization and prevention, and spirituality within their faith tradition. FCNs combine their ministry with the art and science of nursing; bringing the link between faith and health to fruition.

A Faith Community Nurse

...will **NOT** perform direct or hands-on care to their faith community members

...will act as a health educator, a health counselor, a health advocate, a referral agent, and a coordinator/facilitator within their faith community.

FCN is recognized as a specialty practice by the American Nurses Association requiring knowledge and experience in both professional nursing and spiritual care.

Why participate in a Faith Community Nurse program?

Churches are and have always been places of healing. Faith Community Nursing reaffirms the churches' role in ministering to the whole person: mind, body, and spirit.

Even though this ministry is grounded in the Judeo-Christian tradition "to preach the kingdom of God and to heal" (Luke 9:2), we believe and know that many faith traditions have a link in their beliefs to the health and care of the believer. That is the position where FCN will assist; ensuring that the whole individual, group, and community are supported.

What are the goals of this type of ministry?

The goal of this type of health ministry is to:

- Enhance and increase the quality of life, through improved whole person health and spiritual well-being within the faith community and the community for with it resides
- Support the health and healing already present within the culture of the faith community
- Promote whole person wellness and prevention
- Endorse individual(s) quest to be in command of their own healthcare

Why does Catholic Health offer the FCN program?

Catholic healthcare is guided by four normative principles of social responsibility:

1. to promote human dignity
2. to care for the poor
3. to contribute to the common good
4. to be responsible stewards of available resources

chsbuffalo.org/ethical-religious-directives

Catholic Health is committed to embracing the whole nature of the individual: body and mind, social and spiritual – where they are – enhancing their existence.

Faith Community Nursing

Collaborate with Catholic Health

Catholic Health is committed to providing assistance to all faith communities initiating their own faith-based ministry of health. The FCN Coordinator assistance includes:

- Assessment of your congregational health needs
- Assistance in developing an individualized faith ministry of health
- Assistance in integrating your faith's mission and traditions into a unique program
- Assistance in locating training for the identified RN
- Ongoing guidance and support
- Resources for health education/screening

Please, contact us about this offering from Catholic Health.

Contact Person's Name: _____

Faith Community/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Faith Tradition/Organization Purpose: _____

Approximate membership size within Faith Community/Organization: _____

Please check those which apply:

- Would like more information about Faith Community Nursing
- Just getting started with a health ministry, need assistance
- Committee formed and/or nurse available, but program not started
- Health program running, but would like assistance from Catholic Health FCN program

Return completed form to:

Yvonne Askew, MSN. Ed., RN-BC
Faith Community Nurse
FCN Program Coordinator
Catholic Health Administrative
& Regional Training Center
144 Genesee Street, 6th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14203

