

Perspectives

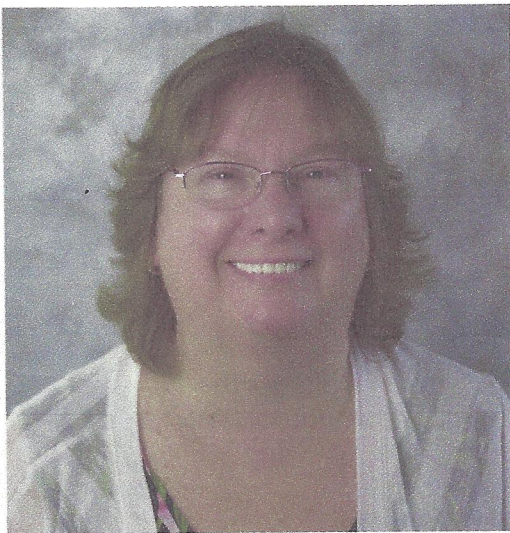
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A Newsletter for Faith Community Nurses

Coordinators

Working to Support FCNs around the World

BY GUEST EDITOR SHARON T. HINTON



It is a pleasure to be a guest editor for this issue of *Perspectives*, giving special focus to faith community nurse (FCN) coordinators. The FCN coordinator, also called FCN manager, supervisor, director, or servant leader, refers to the person responsible for the coordination, guidance, and sustainability of a network of faith community nurses in practice supported by an organization, denomination, or congregation. FCN coordinators are an incredible group of men and women in the US and around the world who passionately lead others supported by faith and fervor. I am grateful to the many coordinators who welcomed and guided me as I move from novice to expert in this specialty. As faith-filled leaders, coordinators provided reassurance that I was not alone, guided me in setting up a practice, and offered education, knowledge, and experience as well as a vision to be part of something bigger.

I have been an FCN coordinator for more than 20 years—first for a small nonprofit and then a denomination-based network. My current role expanded to be the Westberg Institute consultant for the development and education of coordinators. In this role, I am blessed to interact with coordinators face-to-face and through technology. The Westberg Institute Knowledge Sharing Platform has a special coordinators group with 214 members and continues to grow. These devoted nurses help move the specialty practice forward by leading, supporting, and sharing with FCNs in their various networks.

Several years ago I created an acrostic-style poem for a coordinator course that highlights the ministry of FCN coordination. Enjoy! Thank you, coordinators, for all you do!

Connecting with
Others
On a
Regular basis and
Directing
Individual faith community nurses, who
Need
Assistance and attention
To
Open doorways for whole-person health,
Requires a servant's heart to,
Serve in this noble calling

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