



The latest news and updates from the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners



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# Tooting Your Horn: The Art of Self-Promotion

by *Kathy Baldrige, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP*  
2018-2021 President LANP

Self-promotion is an underutilized tool for success. “Tooting your horn” is generally considered boastful, prideful, and/or obnoxious. But isn’t it nice to be recognized for your value, hard work, and achievements? Unfortunately, in this fast-paced society, you are not likely to be recognized unless you have a supportive colleague who is willing to promote you. “Without promotion something terrible happens -- nothing” (P.T. Barnum). The ability to self-promote (or self-advocate) is a vital component of success. Maybe your goal is to be employed in your dream job as a new nurse practitioner, apply for the prestigious Fellow of American Association of Nurse Practitioners, advocate for more benefits within your organization, or lobby for removal of legislative barriers in your profession.

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So, how do you toot your horn to attract attention, create influence, and promote your strengths without appearing like a braggart? Horns are a form of communication -- some honk out of frustration, others may be calling attention to a hazard, maybe communicating a friendly greeting, and then there are those who signal a joyful revelry as their favorite team wins a game! The hearer usually knows exactly which type of message is being communicated.

Self-advocacy creates opportunity, advancement, and success and there are techniques to help you walk the fine line between humble bragging and being a braggart.

1. **Realize that self-promotion really isn't about you.** It's about the impact of your work. First, you need to recognize the value of your achievements and develop confidence in yourself. List your top three strengths and keep a record of commendations, triumphs, and professional undertakings (even if the outcome wasn't what you hoped).
2. **Own your accomplishments.** It is impossible to self-promote without talking about yourself. Get comfortable with the word "I." Create a comprehensive curriculum vitae to help you organize your thoughts.
3. **Share it!** It's very hard for people to know what you can do if you do not share what you have done. Remember these two words as you self-advocate – "truth" and "value." Tell your story with truth and articulate the value (impact) that your experience(s) had on you and/or others. Stay focused and make sure your truth (story) and its value align with your end goal.

Developing the ability to "toot your horn" in the right context, time, and place is an art. In the words of Benjamin Franklin "Hide not your talents, they for use were made. What's a sundial in the shade?"

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## Conference Registration Now Open!

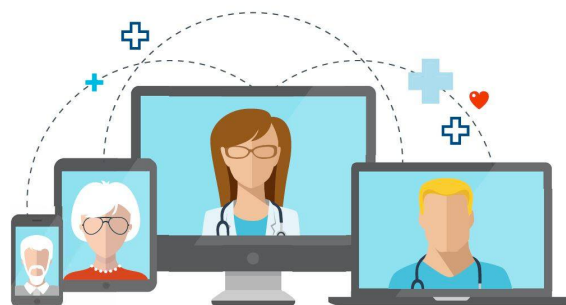


# Clinical Corner

## Brief Report

Melissa LeBrun, DNP, APRN, FNP-C,  
Assistant Professor, College of Nursing and Health,  
Loyola University, New Orleans

### Telemedicine in Primary Care during COVID-19 Pandemic: A Nurse Practitioner's Perspective



Technological advancements prior to the COVID-19 pandemic set up primary care providers for success. Prior to the global health crisis, telemedicine was not used in this nurse practitioner's practice setting because of the state and federal laws that govern its use (Damisch, 2018) and the collaborative practice agreement (CPA) that restricts nurse practitioner (NP) practice in Louisiana. However, with the order to stay at home, to maintain social distance (Edwards, 2020a), and the temporary removal of the CPA (Edwards, 2020b) this author was one of the healthcare providers who offered virtual visits to patients via telemedicine. Although telemedicine visits were provided, there were financial, time, provider, staff and patient related challenges.

#### Preparation for telemedicine

Changes were made to the electronic health record (EHR) and provider, staff, and patient preparation occurred prior to implementing telemedicine. The telemedicine components, including teleconference platform, were purchased and integrated into the EHR that already comprised scheduling-front-end processes, laboratory/radiology entry, nurse and provider charting. Virtual provider and staff preparation included training about billing and coding for telemedicine since updates and changes were made because of the pandemic, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliance, verification of patient identification, consent forms, and insurance through the EHR portal. Patients who wanted to receive a telemedicine visit had to have a valid email address and a personal cell phone, computer, or iPad to download the teleconferencing platform application. The email address allowed patients to receive an email confirmation regarding access to the EHR patient portal and the ability to receive a link to log into the telemedicine visit. The teleconferencing application allows access to a camera and microphone.

#### Telemedicine visit

During a telemedicine visit, the patient and NP establish video and audio connection; the visit is conducted and the NP charts in the telemedicine template. Due to face-to-face restrictions, a physical examination can't be completed, therefore, most visits are related to acute issues, medication refills, and referrals. A disclaimer is included in the EHR that the patient was informed that a physical exam cannot be performed during this visit and that they acknowledge this.

#### Conclusion

Technological advances, such as telemedicine allow this NP and other healthcare providers to provide virtual primary care services to meet patients' needs during a time of crisis. However, as we digitalize and streamline processes via electronic and virtual means, let us not forget our human longing to embrace others, gather, and create relationships in person.

#### References

Damisch, M. M. (2018). Telemedicine technology advancing faster than law. *Dermatology Times*, 39(5), 88.

LA Exec. Order No. 33, JBE, (2020). Additional measures for COVID-19 stay at home.

Retrieved from <https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/Proclamations/2020/JBE-33-2020.pdf>

LA Exec. Order No. 38, JBE, (2020). Additional measures for COVID-19 funeral services and interments, emergency temporary suspension of certain licensure, scope of practice, certification requirements for healthcare providers.

Retrieved from <https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/Proclamations/2020/38-JBE-2020.pdf>

# Clinical Corner

## Member Editorial

**Leanne H. Fowler, DNP, MBA, APRN, AG/ACNP-BC, CNE**  
**Program Director, Nurse Practitioner Programs,**  
**Program Coordinator, Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concentration,**  
**Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing**

### **Nurse Practitioners and Health Inequities - Can we talk about this more?**

The significant disparities in health and social justice among the black community has been repeatedly brought to light over the past year and is no longer easy to ignore. There are more and more organizations recognizing the disparities as outright racism. The Merriam-Webster (2020) dictionary defines racism as “a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race” (para. 1). Whether you agree or disagree with this position, we must acknowledge that there are groups of human beings repeatedly experiencing inadequate healthcare and unjust life experiences remarkably more than others.

As Nurse Practitioners, often the group of medical providers who cares for the most vulnerable Louisianans, we must be sensitive to and knowledgeable of the systems (state and institutional policies and practices) that are designed in a way that perpetuate disparities (intentionally or unintentionally). These issues are not only social issues. Nurse Practitioners are intimately familiar with how social factors negatively affect our patients' health.

The current sociopolitical climate concerning the issues of systemic racism, particularly against Black communities, is tense. Nevertheless, the current climate is a prime opportunity to learn more about ourselves, to learn more about our patients (especially their individual social determinants of health), and to advocate for equitable healthcare for all people. Health equity is defined by Dawes(2016) as “giving patients the care they need when they need it” and “providing care that does not vary in quality based on personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location, and socioeconomic status” (Institute of Medicine [IOM], 2011, p.485).

**What can Louisiana Nurse Practitioners do about this?** First, we can all individually become more accountable to the communities we serve who are in danger of experiencing inequitable care. We have all witnessed disparity in the healthcare delivered to underrepresented communities (e.g. Black, Native American, English-second language, LGBTQI+, etc.) at some point in our careers. Accountability should start with recognizing our own implicit biases, followed by learning more about the challenges faced by our patients. Our accountability can also include increased engagement in local and state level advocacy for improving social determinants of health for all communities. Last but not least, we can be accountable to acknowledging the injustices experienced by underrepresented communities. Continuing to ignore the effect systemic racism has upon health will limit our overall ability to improve the health of all communities in Louisiana.

I would like to discuss this topic more and hear from you – Louisiana Nurse Practitioners. Let's continue to talk about these issues in an effort to collectively remove the stain of racism upon the fabric of Louisiana communities. #NPsLead

**Leanne Fowler can be reached at [LeanneHFowler@gmail.com](mailto:LeanneHFowler@gmail.com)**

### **References**

Institute of Medicine. (2011). The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health. The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/12956>.

Dawes, D. E. (2016). Why Health Equity Matters in an Era of Health Care Transformation. <https://www.aamc.org/news-insights/insights/why-health-equity-matters-era-health-care-transformation#:~:text=Health%20equity%20means%20giving%20patients,location%2C%20and%20socioeconomic%20status.%E2%80%9D>.

Merriam-Webster. (2020). Racism. <https://www.merriamwebster.com/dictionary/racism>.

## Clinical Corner

If you would like to include an article in Clinical Corner for future issues of the Quarterly Newsletter, please email your submission as a word document to Denise Linton at [dli1609796@aol.com](mailto:dli1609796@aol.com)

**Articles may include original research reports, reviews, tutorials, brief reports, essays, case studies, editorials, and clinical or policy rounds.**

We are interested in articles that improve health care, patient outcomes, professional development, and health policy decisions. Submissions should be written using APA format and comprise 750 words or less.

## Capitol News

The 2020 Louisiana Regular Session began on March 9 but recessed one week after due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The session reconvened May 4, 2020 and the 28-day session included everything from LSU license plates to tax suspensions to tort reform, but not a budget. Instead, they took the historic step to call a Special Session beginning on June 1 at 6:01 p.m., directly after the regular session adjourned. The special session will deal primarily with establishing a budget, as well as 41 other items.

At the filing deadline of the Regular Session, Representative (Rep.) Ivey filed a full practice authority bill, [HB 864](#). Your response was amazing! LANP generated over 500 emails in support. Based on many factors, including the absence of key committee members, Rep. Ivey decided not to run the bill this session. He and LANP have an advocacy plan in place for successful passage of a full practice authority bill. Please do not lose your zeal or determination; stay engaged with us and email [keli@oursiconsulting.com](mailto:keli@oursiconsulting.com) if you are interested in being a part of the advocacy plan.

There were three bills ([SB 405](#), [SB 199](#), and [SB 429](#)) that would have further restricted access to care. LANP worked with the authors to ensure they understood our concerns. These bills, due to grassroots efforts, did not progress through the legislative process. Other bills of interest included, [HB 242](#) (deferred by Senate Health and Welfare committee) and [HB 320](#) (did not advance). For a complete list of LANP tracked bills [click here](#).



# Advocacy In Action

**Antiqua Smart, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, PHNA-BC**

## **Full Practice Authority In Louisiana for Nurse Practitioners: Which Side of the Fence Do You Stand On?**

Some nurse practitioners are ambivalent about their stance regarding the implementation of Full Practice Authority (FPA) in Louisiana. After observing conversations in several Grassroots Advocacy webinars, the 3rd Annual LANP Health Policy Conference, and weekly LANP Zoom meetings, the majority of members seems to be pro-FPA. However, this question is usually posed, “What about the nurse practitioners who do not support FPA?”

There are many reasons that some of our colleagues may not support FPA. Some nurse practitioners believe the collaborative practice agreement (CPA) with a physician protects their license, reduces their practice liability, and keeps their malpractice premium rates lower. Unfortunately, none of these reasons are factual as nurse practitioners are independently licensed healthcare providers fully regulated by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, not the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

LANP’s Health Policy Committee and Board of Directors members have worked tirelessly over the last 5 months this year to host “Meet and Greet” events in each region to meet with members of the Louisiana State Legislature. We activated a strong grassroots movement to defeat a bill that would have restricted practice of NPs in La. We have created talking points, educational information packets, and a website – [www.accesstocarela.org](http://www.accesstocarela.org).

As a result of our grassroots efforts, Representative Barry Ivey introduced HB864 for FPA in La. Membership was very active and engaged at the introduction of this legislation with a strong effort. And, while this was phenomenal – In order to truly effect change – We need this energy, enthusiasm, and engagement to continue throughout the summer and leading up to either a Fall special session (not yet determined) or the 2021 legislative session. What can you do? Visit each and every Representative and Senator in your district. Open conversations. Follow up with emails and phone calls. Make a donation. Build a relationship with them and educate them on issues affecting access to care in Louisiana. Join the majority of Louisiana nurse practitioners on the advocacy side of the fence to improve access to care for our patients. Don’t forget to support the LANP PAC with donations or purchasing items from the LANP PAC Store at [www.lanppac.com](http://www.lanppac.com)!



***Moving Access to Care Forward!***

**5 Action Steps You Can Take NOW!**

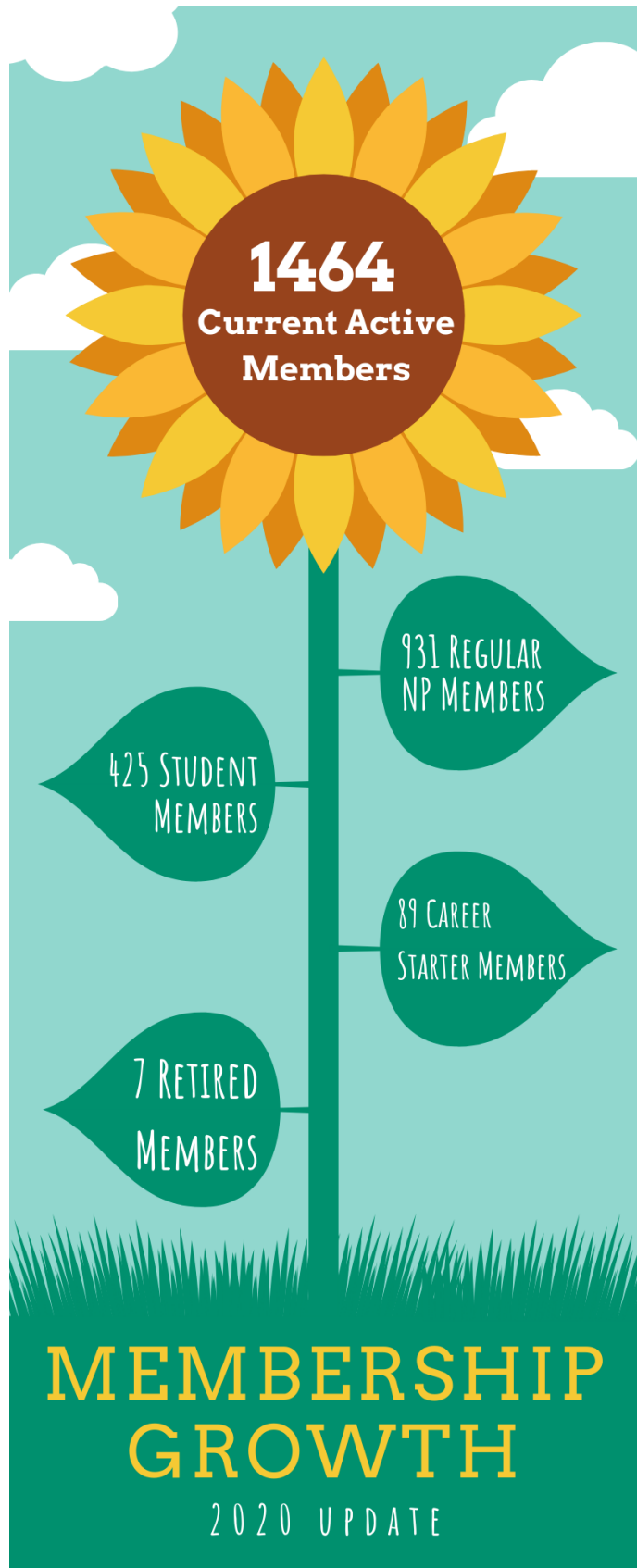
- Schedule a meeting with a legislator or invite them to visit your clinic.
- Donate directly to the legislator or to LANP PAC.
- Offer to serve as a consultant on health issues or other areas where you have expertise.
- Send a "thank you" letter to your elected representative when they vote in support of a non-healthcare issue that's important to you.
- Send them news articles on healthcare and direct them to [www.accesstocarela.org](http://www.accesstocarela.org).

# Membership Update

by **Brandi Brooks, MSN, FNP-BC**  
**Membership Chair**

Hey there! Brandi Brooks here, your current LANP membership chair. LANP values each one of Louisiana's Nurse practitioners. Over the last few months, during the COVID-19 pandemic, NPs have emphatically demonstrated our value and necessity to the medical community. The Full Practice Authority amendments, although temporary, have broken through barriers for NPs as well as patients. We have been able to provide quality healthcare to those who have not had access in the past. Now is the time to learn how you can propel and secure our ability to practice to the fullest extent of your licensure and education.

What does being an LANP member look like? It looks like a community of close knit medical family. It looks like a place you can learn the latest advances in the medical community. Membership offers you a newly updated, user friendly website that gives you exclusive access to preceptors, job opportunities, learning resources, health policy news, plus so much more! Members have exclusive access to monthly educational dinners which allow you to learn the latest trends in medicine as well as network with like-minded NPs. Members are also provided discounts for the annual LANP Conference. Members are granted free CEUs provided by the LANP foundation. Our members also receive exclusive discounts on select educational tools and resources from APEA. Being a member also grants you access to invaluable relationships that will last a lifetime. Wow! That's a lot! Thank you for being a dedicated member of LANP. Be sure and encourage your friends and colleagues to secure their membership today!



# Regional Roux - Salutes NP Veterans

## Alexandria Region

*Summer Craig, MSN, FNP-C & Dana Guirlando, FNP-C*

The Alexandria region of LANP would like to honor **Dr. Diana Corley, DNP, FNP-C**. Dr. Corley has 22 years of healthcare experience in a multitude of settings including primary and hospice care, bariatric management, academia and geriatrics. She earned her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Louisiana College (1999), Masters of Science in Nursing from Graceland University (2007) and her Doctor of Nursing Practice from Northwestern State University (2018). Additionally, she has the honor of serving our Nation's warfighters and military families as a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy Reserve. She recently spent 2 months on the frontlines fighting COVID-19 in New York City. Dr. Corley owns and operates Centerpoint Family Practice, a primary care clinic in Centerpoint, LA. We are so proud of her dedication and representation of the nurse practitioner profession at home and abroad. Thank you Dr. Corley for your service!



## Houma Region

*Caitlin Bacon, FNP-BC, IBCLC & Marcia Blereau, FNP*

**Joshua Luke, MSN, FNP** of Houma LA, grew up in a military home, spending his childhood traveling from one military base to the next. After high school, he enlisted into the United States Air Force. Both his mom and dad were employed in the medical field in the Army, inspiring Joshua to go into the medical field as a medic. Joshua trained at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, and arrived in 2003 at his first duty station, Landstuhl Germany. This was just weeks prior to the invasion of Iraq. Joshua's military career includes treating coalition soldiers wounded from both the Iraq and Afghanistan wars; working in a pediatric clinic at Wright Patterson AFB in Ohio and setting up a medical clinic in Al Mubarak Air Base, Kuwait. Once he completed his military contract, he returned home to Louisiana and enrolled at Nicholls State University (NSU). He graduated in 2010 with a BSN. Over the next 10 years, he worked in Med/Surg, ICU, hospice, geriatric care, psych, and emergency care. He also earned an associate degree from NSU in petroleum engineering, and most recently MSN, FNP in 5/2020. Joshua is waiting to take the AANP certification exam.

LANP wishes you the best of luck and thanks you for your service!

## Lafayette

*Carla Vidrine, MSN, FNP-C & Donna Wilson, FNP-C*

**Chuck Venable, AG-ACNP, FNP, CEN** is a veteran of the U.S. Army. Chuck graduated with a B.S. in Nursing in December of 2010 from University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL). He worked in emergency medicine and became a certified emergency nurse (CEN) in 2014. He obtained his M.S. in Nursing, in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at ULL in December of 2013. He was commissioned into the United States Army as a First Lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps serving as a nurse practitioner. He served three years on active duty status and was honorably discharged in 2017 into the U.S. Army Reserves at the rank of Captain, where he continues to serve today. He has served two tours in the Middle East in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



After active duty service, Chuck earned a post-master's certificate in adult-gerontologic acute care at Vanderbilt University where he is currently working on his Doctor of Nurse Practice (DNP) degree. He is employed by Schumacher Clinical Partners as a nocturnist NP. His scholarship includes integration of simulations into advanced practice nursing education, the utilization of point-of-care ultrasound for the critical care provider, and efficacy of interdisciplinary teams within the ICU. He plans to enter academia after earning his DNP degree. He enjoys the Sportsman's Paradise south Louisiana has to offer while spending time with family and friends.

LANP thanks you for your service!

## Lake Charles

*Deanna "Dee" Harless, DNP, ACNP-BC & Melissa Kramer, DNP, FNP-C*



### SGT Richard Rowland

SGT Rowland joined the National Guard in 1989 as a senior in high school. In the summer of 1990, he left for boot camp and AIT (Advanced Individual Training). He worked as a Bradley turret mechanic, working specifically on the weapons system, electrical and electronic systems associated with the turret of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

In January of 1991, he was called to active duty in support of Desert Storm. He spent 5 months of rigorous training in preparation before the war ended. After years of normal weekend and annual training in December 2005, he was activated in support of Operation Iraq Freedom. Sgt Rowland trained at Fort Hood and later Bagdad, Iraq. He spent 10 months in Iraq working on various types of vehicles for the Army. After returning stateside, Sgt Rowland made a career change to aviation mechanic in the Army National Guard and worked on Helicopters until his retirement in January 2010.

Richard and Rachel were married in June of 1995 and recently celebrated 25 years of marriage. Rachel is an Adult NP since 2008. They have two daughters.

Thank you, Sgt Richard Rowland and Rachel, for your service!

## New Orleans

*Jolie Montreuil, FNP-C & Melissa Nunn, DNP, APRN, CPNP*



**Jason Allen Green, DNP, FNP** is a graduate of Louisiana State University Health New Orleans (LSUH-NO), earning his BSN in 2013 and DNP, FNP in 2019. He is currently serving as a Captain in the United States Army. His role as a Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner affords him the great honor of serving the United States of America by providing care to active duty soldiers, veterans, and their family members at Fort Sam Houston, TX. While attending LSU-NO he excelled. He was inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, elected Class President and awarded Outstanding Family Nurse Practitioner among his peers. During his nursing career, he worked in the Emergency Department at West Jefferson Medical Center in Marrero, Louisiana. Captain Green has

found that putting the needs of others ahead of your own in an act of true selflessness is at the core of both nursing and Army values. He is proud to serve as a Primary Care Provider, providing exceptional care to the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice to defend our country. We are grateful for Captain Green's selfless service as he continues to care for the men and women who protect our freedom.

## Northshore

*Penny Thomas, DNP, FNP-C & Amy Seale, FNP-C*

### **Alison Thornhill, MSN, APRN, FNP-C**

Alison joined the Army Reserves in February of 1995, as E-3, pharmacy technician. She joined the military because she was failing in college and didn't know what she wanted to do or be. In 1999, while in the Army and stationed in Missouri, she graduated with a BS from Drury University. She planned to attend medical school, but instead decided to pursue nursing. She completed her BSN from Southeastern Louisiana University in 2005 while mobilized to Fort Polk, La. and was promoted to E-7, SFC, and became an officer in the United States Army Nurse Corps in 2006.



In 2012 she was promoted to O-3 CPT in the Nurse Corps and in 2013 completed her MSN, FNP with honors from Loyola University. Shortly after becoming a Nurse Practitioner, she was deployed to Hawaii for nine months. Then, as an Army reservist, traveled the U.S. performing medical evaluations on troops being deployed overseas. In 2018, she returned to Loyola University to complete her DNP and is expected to graduate in May 2021. Alison retired as a Major in the Army Reserves in March 2019.

Thank you, Alison, for your dedication and service!

## Monroe Region

Lucy Douglas, MSN, FNP-C & Anthony Perkins, MSN, FNP-BC

Lucy Douglas serves as the LANP Monroe Region Co-Representative. She is a FNP and owner of New Beginnings Wellness Center and Spa in Ruston. So, Lucy would like to take the opportunity to honor her late husband **Jerry Douglas** for his service in the US Air Force.

Jerry enlisted in the Air Force while in college. He graduated from Louisiana Tech in 1978 with a BS in Professional Aviation. He served as a weapons mechanic at Moody AFB in Georgia and later concluded his service career in the Air Force Reserve at Barksdale Air Force Base. Jerry was proud of having continued his father and grandfather's legacy in service to his country. Jerry piloted for Royale Airlines, Louisiana Tech administrators, and Hunt Forest Products. He retired from a faculty role in the Dept of Professional Aviation at La. Tech. Jerry was a gifted and talented pilot, faculty, and mentor, but family was most important. He and Lucy were married for almost 32 years. He supported and encouraged her through 5 degrees and owning her own practice. Every morning he would kiss her goodbye and say "go help people." He was a loving father to Emery (Josh) and Will. And grandfather to Rory



Love

LANP thanks you for your service!

## Shreveport Region

James "Jimbo" Brooks, MSN, FNP-BC & DeAnna Kamphuis, MSN, ACNP-BC



### James Harper, DNP, FNP

At age 17, James enlisted in the Louisiana National Guard to help with college tuition. He enrolled in pre-med with the intent to become a physical therapist. Soon after enrolling, James was activated for Desert Shield/Storm. James left with a feeling that he would not likely return. But, due to the full might of the US military, the war was short-lived. Upon return, James' career path shifted to follow in the footsteps of his mother, a nurse. He obtained his Associates Degree in Nursing, Bachelors in Nursing, Masters in Nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner, and ultimately his Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Northwestern State University.

James' career as a nurse practitioner includes more than 20 years in Neurosurgery and currently working Overton Brooks VA Medical Center on East Stoner, 100 yards from his original National Guard Armory. Having come "full-circle" James is proud to be using his education and experience to better serve his military associates.

James and his bride Kimberly are celebrating 30 years of marriage! James is a proud father of two sons-a paramedic and medical student, two wonderful daughters-in-law, and a precious granddaughter. He is especially thankful to his mother- the nurse that guided him.

LANP thanks you for your service!

# NPStudent\_411

**Dana Guirlando, DNP, APRN, FNP-C**  
**LANP Alexandria Regional Co-Representative**



## **Etiquette & Tips for Finding a Clinical Preceptor**

The search for a preceptor can be daunting for the burgeoning NP student. So, here are a few tips from seasoned NP preceptors to help you in developing an efficient “ask.” First, **Be Strategic**. Make a plan of which clinical sites you’d like to solicit (yep, you are soliciting!) Clinical sites can be found through a myriad of platforms including: the LANP preceptor directory (student members only), LANP regional Facebook pages, attending LANP regional meetings, university/college preceptor directory, or word of mouth from nurse practitioner students, friends, and colleagues. Visiting the sites is key. “Cold” calling is rarely successful in obtaining a preceptor.

Second, **Dress for Success**. You may not meet the preceptor on your initial visit, but first impressions matter. Your initial encounter will likely be with the “gatekeeper.” Let’s talk about the gatekeeper. This person has likely been with the provider for a while and is fiercely protective. They have the auspicious job of making sure that the day runs smoothly for the provider. So, don’t be discouraged if the gatekeeper doesn’t let you see them. So, maintain your professionalism and be exceptionally nice and understanding because this person ultimately decides if your information gets to the provider and/or reminds the provider to return your call. And, regardless of what anyone says, do not bring your children, friend, or other family members with you to the clinical site.

Third, **Be Prepared!** Have a short resume or curriculum vitae (CV) with a cover letter prepared to leave at the clinical site. The cover letter should include: the name of the college in which you are enrolled, required number of clinical hours, the number of days per week you plan to spend with the preceptor, start and finish dates, and your professional goals. Your resume or CV should include various contact methods, only your nursing career, and community service, awards, and interests are acceptable. You can make a connection with the preceptor before you ever meet them.

Lastly, **Be Patient**. If you have not received a call in one week, call the clinic to touch base and let them know that you are still in need of a preceptor. If you do not hear anything after that, it’s time to move on. Your search for a preceptor should begin well before your need of clinical hours. The market for preceptors is competitive. You may have to delay your semester, and thus graduation, if you wait until two weeks before your clinical rotation is due to start to begin your search!

May the odds be ever in your favor.

# Member Spotlights

## AANP 2020 State Award Recipients

### **Michael Brown, MSN, FNP-C**

Michael Brown, MSN, FNP-C lives in Monroe, LA and works at St. Francis Medical Center as a Nurse Practitioner for their Occupational Medicine Dept. He has been an employee of St. Francis since 1991. He received his undergraduate degree BS Nursing at University of Louisiana of Monroe in 1997. He decided to go back to get his MSN/APRN at Grambling State University in 2010. Since receiving his FNP Certification he has been an active member of LANP and AANP. In 2015, he became the MONROE Region LANP Representative and served 2 terms. In 2019, he was appointed LANP Treasurer and is currently serving as Vice President of LANP.

He has volunteered for many organizations besides LANP and the LANP Foundation. He served as Medical Coordinator for Camp Quality for 22 years.



### **Katrina Lloyd, MSN, FNP**

Lloyd graduated from Grambling State University in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She received her Master of Science in Nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner in 2001 from Northwestern State University of Louisiana (NSULA) and is set to earn a second Masters' in Strategic Studies from the Army War College in July of this year. She has served as a Clinical Preceptor for NSULA since 2007 and Adjunct Faculty for the Nurse Practitioner program since 2012. In her spare time, she also works at an urgent care facility.

After serving as an enlisted Guardsman for 10 years and achieving the rank of sergeant, Lloyd was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1996. Throughout her career, she has held several key leadership positions, including chief clinical nurse and deputy commander of clinical and administrative services. Of officers who commissioned in 1996, only two percent have made it to the rank of colonel. She became the second African American woman to be promoted to the rank of colonel by the Louisiana National Guard, April 12, 2019.



Lloyd's awards and decorations include: Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Superior Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one campaign star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" Device and Silver Hourglass, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, and Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with Numeral 2.

LANP thanks you for your service!

# Member Spotlights

## AANP 2020 Fellows

### **Rhonda Hensley, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP**

Dr. Rhonda Hensley, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP was inducted into the Fellows of the AANP in June 2020. She has been a NP for 22 years in the Monroe area. She has been the Graduate Program Director for University of Louisiana Monroe where she developed two graduate nursing programs. She is the founder of BDR Advanced Education Associates which offered annual pharmacology review conferences to NPs. She also developed an online journal to provide a venue for faculty, practitioners, and students to disseminate their research and clinical knowledge to others in a scholarly manner. Dr. Hensley continued to practice on a part-time basis, volunteering in several international medical mission and humanitarian trips. She also has a passion for providing healthcare assistance to the homeless communities in her area.



Dr. Hensley has proven to be a leader in practice and education and is a demonstrated visionary, entrepreneur, and mentor, and has made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the NP profession. Dr. Hensley has been awarded the AANP Awards for NP Advocate and NP Excellence in Primary Care, as well as University and statewide awards for service and practice. She was sponsored by Sattaria Dilks, DNP, PMHNP-BC, FAANP and Kathy Baldrige, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP.

### **Denise Linton, DNS, FNP-BC, FAANP**



Denise Linton, DNS, FNP-BC, FAANP is a Tenured Associate Professor and Graduate Faculty at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She is recognized as a leader in distance education and an expert family nurse practitioner. She impacts nurse practitioner practice globally. Dr. Linton is a prolific writer and speaker and is known for her peer reviewed publications, presentations, and service in the area of cervical cancer prevention. She has received numerous awards and accolades related to education, clinical practice, scholarship, research, and service. She is the Founder and Chapter Leader of the Louisiana (Lafayette) Chapter of the National Cervical Cancer Coalition. She was sponsored by Colleen Leners, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN and Phyllis Adams Ed D, APRN, FNP-BC, NP-C, FAANP, FNAP.



# Remember the 90s?

In 2021, LANP will celebrate **30** years as an organization!

We are working to compile as much historical information about the organization, about the nurse practitioners who paved the way, the events that were hosted, and the many successes and advancements we've made over the last 30 years.

If you were directly involved with the history of LANP or have stories, names and/or pictures of those that were, we want to hear from you!

Email [rebecca@lanp.org](mailto:rebecca@lanp.org) with your stories, questions, ideas, pictures and names of pioneers.

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# And Finally...

