



NP NEWS

Empowering Florida Nurse Practitioners as Leaders in Healthcare

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President's Message

Deb Tedesco, President Oviedo, Florida

As the year comes to an end, FNPN would like to thank everyone for their hard work through continued difficult times. Thank you for your commitment to patients, families, and fellow nurse practitioners.

As the new year approaches, FNPN is looking forward to 2022, our 20th anniversary. For twenty years, FNPN has been supporting nurse practitioners to affect change in our profession for the ultimate goal of improving care and health in the state of Florida.

Over the next year, we look forward to several events. This year on **January 19 and 20, FNPN will be a contributing member of FNA's Advocacy Days.** (see FNPN website for details) Join us as we empower nurses to have a voice on issues that affect our profession and the patients we serve. We will learn about legislative issues and current bills that may impact nurses and our patients and then meet with legislators to talk about the issues and advocate for nurses, nurse practitioners, and our patients. Please join us in Tallahassee! Then **August 25-27, FNPN will hold our 20th Anniversary Conference at the Orlando Marriott World Center.** Please save the date and attend our pre-conference and conference for educational sessions, poster presentations, and networking!

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Deb Tedesco DNP, APRN, ANP-BC, AP-PMN, CBCN, CWS, CWCN-AP, CPHQ

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT - JEAN AERTKER, DNP, APRN

Have you heard? FNPN is busy preparing for our 20th Anniversary Conference! Join us at Orlando World Marriott August 26-28. Our history is rich and we have hard fought over the years to become recognized as the first, the largest, most active and premier NP organization in Florida! We hope you all will join us to celebrate our past and present leadership who were successful in removing practice barriers for NPs and making our role well known. Join us at Orlando World Marriott August 26-28, 2022. Member registration for Conference begins in April. We welcome sponsors and vendors to register beginning in January 2022 to join in our conference celebrations. The call for abstracts for podium & Rapid Fire will be forthcoming, so prepare your presentations and apply to be a speaker!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Vicky Stone-Gale, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP
FNPN First VP for Legislation

As we prepare for the 2022 legislative session that opens on January 11th, we need you to begin to contact your legislators and develop relationships that can help us be successful in getting our bills passed during the session. We are also pleased to announce that FNPN will also be partnering with Florida Nurses Association and will be present at Advocacy Days in Tallahassee on January 19th and 20th. It is important that we collaborate to have our voices heard collectively. We ask you to consider attending these Advocacy Days to meet with the legislators or their legislative aids. Remember they have the ear of our legislative representatives so a meeting with them can be just as productive. You can register to attend on the FNA website at <https://www.floridanurse.org/page/advocacydays>. Please do so as soon as possible.

FNPN's goals for legislation this year include:

1. Supervision of Medical Assistants in all settings
2. Global signature
3. Prescribing psychiatric mental health medications to individuals under 18 years of age

TALKING POINTS

*Over 40,000 APRNs practicing in Florida are part of the healthcare solution

*Rural counties have limited access to healthcare for the underserved and only 2% of physicians practice in these areas

*All APRNs should be reimbursed by insurance companies for their services

*Removing supervisory mandates for all APRNs will improve access to care for all individuals in the state

*98% of patients report satisfaction with APRN care

*APRNs reduce the cost of patient visits by 33%

*All APRNs need to have the ability to prescribe psychiatric medications to all age groups

*Global signature is important for streamlining patient care

REGION DIRECTORS

The region directors have been working hard to identify and support rising NP leaders among our five statewide regions. We schedule regular NP leader region meetings so

contact us if you wish to join in. NP leaders associated with local NP groups & councils, university partners, and APP directors are invited. It's an opportunity to talk about our future direction & support FNP to build new NP leaders. We celebrated NP Week in November and received the Gov Proclamation attesting to the need for more NPs! This is a great talking point tool too!

Region 1 Director: Kathleen Wilson

Region 2 Director: Susan Smith

Region 3 Director: Charitta Ernewein

Region 4 Director: Jennifer Kuretski

Region 5 Director: Arlene Wright



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

NURSE PRACTITIONER WEEK IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Florida is committed to modernizing the way healthcare is delivered by ensuring Floridians have full access to healthcare, particularly in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, Florida's nurses play an indispensable role in the safety, quality care, and well-being of our residents and visitors in need; and

WHEREAS, nurse practitioners (NPs) serve as trusted health care providers for patients in our state in hospitals, long-term care facilities, schools, community health care agencies, and in the corporate workplace; and

WHEREAS, patients depend on the more than 13,000 licensed NPs in Florida to provide high-quality primary, acute, and specialty health care services while emphasizing health promotion, disease prevention, health education, and counseling, which guides patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices every day; and

WHEREAS, here in Florida, we appreciate the selfless dedication of our nurses as they strive to keep our communities safe and healthy; and

WHEREAS, Nurse Practitioners Week is an opportunity to recognize the significant role that nurse practitioners play in our healthcare system and the impact they make on the well-being of our families and communities.

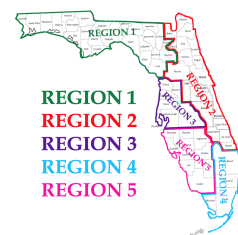
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing November 7-13, 2021, as *Nurse Practitioner Week in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 7th day of November, in the year two thousand twenty-one.

Governor

Word from all the Regions once again shows Covid's rise in positive rates dampened some holiday events planned, but not the spirit of the Holidays.



Region 1 has a new NP group resurrecting the old Emerald Coast NPs and has a new name on ENP network "**Panhandle Elite NPs**". Port St Joe NP is their Leader, Monica Barfield owner of New Horizon Clinic and several other colleagues got it going! More details on County groups in January/February Winter Edition.

KUDOS & NP STARS

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Co-Founder of NPs - Dr. Loretta Ford Turns 101 Years

The few of the NP Force team, as Dr. Ford calls us, came together on Sunday, January 26th to help her celebrate early her 101st birthday which is actually, December 28th. Thanks to all who came and shared their afternoon by hanging up her birthday banner at her carport, presenting fun & unique “101” birthday gifts, and serving Hawaiian Princess cake (her favorite) and champagne to toast her amazing Life-long work that has greatly benefited us all! We would not be working in our role had it not been for this amazing woman.



A graphic print of one of her famous quotes presented by Dr. Deb Tedesco with Lee holding Ed Neuzil's birthday theme gift from 1961 Disney's 101 Dalmatians!



(Left) The 101st banner is up thanks to Chris Monrad and Dr. John Johansson with wife Marica holding the ladder. Occupational safety practiced here with facemasks worn as Kim Curry, Stacia Hayes and Wendy Paracka prepare the birthday table. (Above) Marcia Johansson, Dr. Ford, Deb Tedesco, Jean Aertker. Thank you all members who joined in!

A very special birthday event was a surprise “Zoom Chat” that FNPn organized for Dr. Ford with former Surgeon General RADM Susan Orsega, APRN, USPHSC and taped last week. You will be able to hear this conversation soon and snippets possibly during 2022 AANP National Conference & FNPn Conference once we have it fully edited and ready for publication! FNPn is making history by preserving these important conversations of our pioneers and leaders by capturing these special moments. Thanks Dr. Jay Garrido for helping to arrange this connection for these two special NPs to chat!



And finally a Birthday KudoBoard with messages from FNPn Members, her many friends, former students, and admirers saying Happy 101st!

Check it out Dr. Ford's Birthday Messages from You!

<https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/svTpSqbk>

“News You Can Use”

CE Broker Updates

Did you know that FNPn members can get a discount to CE Broker? Currently they offer \$1.00 off and you must call to get monthly code as it changes apparently! But its a small incentive to keep your NP CE hours up to date and ready for renewal. Remember APRNs are exempt from many of the mandatory CE requirements for nursing, but do have some that required for renewal such as the C-Sub Prescribing Course FNPn & FHA have partnered to provide for members at a great low rate!

[Click here to find out more](#)

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS & CE PROGRAMS FOR YOU: Register for the "Safe and Effective Prescribing of Controlled Substances" course. This is a mandatory course for license renewal. FNPn **MEMBERS** ONLY for only \$5! If you need help

to access the course, contact Care Learning at 866-617-3904 or support@carelearning.com. This is a self paced CE court for 3 hrs and 3 Pharm Hours and recently updated.

You can also pick up the **2 hr Mandatory Human Trafficking Course** on FNPN for a deep discount exclusively for our members. Our own Charrita Ernewine created this great program for our members. Remember April 2022 is the next licensure renewal period. Get ready now!

We also say thanks & best wishes to Mary Cisco as past Treasurer who has been on the board since 2019 as she leaves to be able to focus on family, school & work priorities. Best wishes on your studies for the DNP program at UF!

JOIN FNPN & BE UP TO DATE

The Key Word in Our Name is NETWORK!

Florida NP's - All You Need is Here at FNPN!

We are more than a mere Association!

We are your Statewide NP Professional Family!

See You Next Year!!