

# NNPRFTC Annual Report 2017



## Dear Members, Colleagues, and Friends,

The past year marked a full decade since the formal launch of the postgraduate NP residency and fellowship training movement in the United States. With this milestone, I think we can say the movement is here to stay.

We have moved from a single pilot to testing, research, development, and expansion. As with any innovation, we are mindful of the shoulders we stand on. Many before us had thought hard on the value of offering new nurse practitioners an opportunity for an intensive, highly structured, and rigorous postgraduate clinical training program and had experimented with creating such models. We are indebted to them for their leadership. Today, across the country, there is a community of clinical, executive, administrative, and academic leaders who can be justly proud of their legacy in making huge strides toward making it possible for new NPs who seek postgraduate training to find an outstanding program to advance their confidence and mastery in highly challenging areas. We are a long way from "there" yet in terms of capacity, but we are undeterred in our passion and commitment. Nurse Practitioners, with their brilliant education, focused commitment, and desire to provide the highest quality care to all people, in all settings, deserve no less.

That's where the National Nurse Practitioner Residency and Fellowship Training Consortium, a.k.a. "The Consortium," comes in. We have evolved from our first circle of four organizations linked by Skype and a common interest in postgraduate training to today's gatherings of hundreds through our national webinars, learning collaboratives, and conferences hosted by different groups. We must continue to lead on several levels.

First, we must continue to inspire, organize, and drive this movement for postgraduate training. The next generation of nurse practitioners is counting on us. We can be very proud of the fact that this is a rare moment in history when organizations have taken the stance that they could not wait for "somebody" else to come along and ease the process with funding. That alone is a gesture of enormous respect to nurse practitioners, their value, and what they stand for. Part of our focus in the coming year will be to continue to advance the work of this movement by sharing knowledge, resources, and outreach directly to today's students, tomorrow's expert healthcare providers.

Second, the Consortium has taken full advantage of the knowledge and expertise of all parties involved to develop an accreditation program that is rigorous, flexible, and collaborative. You hear us use these words over and over because they are at the heart of our accreditation mission. We are fiercely committed to ensuring quality in NP postgraduate training. We are proud of the work of both our accreditation committee in constantly reviewing and assessing our standards, and in the work of our membership committee in driving outreach and engagement.

Finally, we are doing this all as we follow our "north star" of believing healthcare is indeed a right, not a privilege. We cannot assure this right unless we also take all steps within our power to ensure that there is a next generation of NP healthcare providers—and leaders—moving up to take on the vital roles of primary care providers, and specialty NPs, in settings both rural and urban, community-based and in-patient. This requires us to be ever mindful that we are focused on not only providing care, but transforming care through innovation, research, and training.

The Consortium is proud to be a leader in this area, and for the trust that our members, accredited programs, and communities have in us.



Margaret Flinter, PhD, APRN, c-FNP, FAAN, FAANP  
Chair, Board of Directors, National Nurse Practitioner Residency and Fellowship Training Consortium



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## Board of Directors 2017

### Amy Barton, PhD, RN, FAAN

*Professor, Daniel & Janet Mordecai Rural Health Nursing; Endowed Chair, Associate Dean for Clinical and Community Affairs; University of Colorado College of Nursing; Aurora, Colorado*

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*Treasurer*

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*Vice Chair Person*

*Chair, Membership Committee*

### Margaret Flinter, PhD, APRN, c-FNP, FAAN, FAANP

*Senior Vice President and Clinical Director; Community Health Center, Inc.; Middletown, Connecticut*

*Chair Person*

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*ARNP Residency Director; International Community Health Services; Seattle, Washington*  
*Chair, Accreditation Committee*

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*Executive Director; Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU); McLean, Virginia*

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### Julie Stuckey, DNP, c-ANP

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*Secretary*

### Todd Wallenius, MD

*Medical Director; Western North Carolina Community Health Services; Asheville, North Carolina*

### Candice S. Rettie, PhD

*Executive Director; NNPRFTC; Washington, D.C.*  
*Ex Officio Member*

## Executive Director Report

This has been an exciting year. We have continued to boost our national footprint as innovators in programmatic accreditation. Our postgraduate NP training program accreditation processes are rock-solid and evidence-based. While being guided by best practices in accreditation, we also “walk the talk” of meaningful collegiality, innovation, and rigor as we meet and anticipate the future needs of our community, whether preceptors, trainees, employers or patients. The Accreditation Committee has been going full speed ahead. In 2017, the Consortium accredited 2 more NP postgraduate training programs while laying the ground work to scale up accreditation activities in 2018. As of this writing, 6 programs are in the pipeline with several more in active preparation. To meet this increased activity, we are rolling out our new 16-hour, web-based site visitor training program that leverages the knowledge and expertise of current and future site visitors in clinical, academic, and leadership practice. Our innovative training program will be anchored in recorded simulations of site visit meetings, combined with independent work and in-depth synchronous and asynchronous discussions of best practices.

On the membership side of things, after dynamic and vigorous discussions, the Membership Committee has thoughtfully crafted a suite of member benefits and accompanying dues structure that are designed to meet the needs of individual and institutional members—providing various communications platforms, reams of information, and member-based research collaboration opportunities. And there is more. Check out the highlights below to learn about all that the dedicated, talented, inspired, and passionate volunteer leaders of the Consortium have accomplished.

## Highlights of 2017

### Accreditation Activity

We continued to build on the success of the Consortium’s accreditation program, designed to ensure quality and foster a culture of continuous improvement in postgraduate NP training programs.

Four NP postgraduate training programs have been accredited to date. Please see table below. Based on the programs already in the pipeline and formal inquiries we anticipate an intense year of activity in 2018.



Accredited Programs						
Sponsoring Organization	Location	Name of Program	# of Trainees/yr	Specialty	Accreditation	Setting
 International Community Health Services	Seattle, Washington	ARNP Family Nurse Practitioner Residency	3	Family	2017–2020	FQHC
 Community Health Center, Inc.	Middletown, Connecticut	Family Nurse Practitioner Residency	10	Family	2017–2020	FQHC
 NORTH MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER	Tupelo, Mississippi	Advanced Practice Clinician Fellowship	10	Family	2017–2020	Health System
 Western North Carolina Community Health Services	Asheville, North Carolina	Advanced Practice Safety Net Residency	3	Family with HIV and Transgender Care specialty tracks	2017–2020	FQHC

*“I confess I was surprised by how useful the Self-Study process was. We were sure we were all set. Then we realized some important issues we hadn’t even thought of! It helped the team really bond and come together. It was a lot of work, but so worth it!”*

— 2017 NNPRFTC Accreditation Program Participant

## Building Our Identity

We have continued to build out and refine the Consortium's identity. Jerry Kuyper, an internationally recognized consultant on brand identity and graphic design, generously contributed his time and expertise to conduct focus groups and then create our accreditation seal and agency logo, for which we've completed the yearlong registration process with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. We're upgrading our website so it can expedite our new membership program, which we'll be rolling out shortly.

## Site Visitor Training Program: "A Day in the Life of a Site Visitor"

We are establishing a robust, online, webinar-based training program for new site visitors. Anchored by recorded simulations of site visit meetings, it includes guest speakers and in-depth exploration of accreditation standards, as well as entailing independent work and participation in discussion boards. After completing the intensive training program, each participant will take part in a 1.5-day on-site visit. All site visitors are professional peer volunteers who have been nominated and vetted for relevant experience and are committed to the Consortium's rigorous yet collegial accreditation review process.

In 2018, we expect to increase the site visitor pool from 6 to 22. Professionals from nearly a dozen states, every region of the country, and every type of clinical training setting (major health systems, U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs Health Administration, FQHC, etc.) will be included, as will licensed and credentialed practitioners representing the focus of programs applying for accreditation.

*"This is an amazingly supportive, guided, and scholarly process. The Self-Study document itself offers not only the chance to be prepared for accreditation but an opportunity for program improvement at so many levels. There is immediate and rapid response to each step of the application process."*

—Janet A. York, PhD, PMHCS, BC, FAAN  
Director, PMHNP Residency Program, Mental Health Service Line  
Ralph H. Johnson VAMC, Charleston, SC

## National Presence

### U.S. Department of Education Application for Recognition

We continue to work with the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) to gain national recognition as an accreditation agency. The USDE recognizes "accreditors to indicate that they are reliable authorities on the quality of education or training provided by the programs and institutions they accredit." The USDE has given the Consortium a projected timeline of late 2018 or early 2019 for the consortium's application. We continue to use the USDE requirements as a template for the Consortium's accreditation policies and procedures.

### Membership in Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors

The Consortium was accepted into membership by the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA). ASPA membership is awarded to "specialized and professional accrediting organization[s] with a national scope that accredit higher education programs or institutions that prepare individuals for entry into practice in a specialized discipline or defined profession, or educate individuals in a concentrated area of study." It is the culmination of a rigorous review process that included the Consortium's endorsement of the [ASPA-Member Code of Good Practice](#).

## Consortium Board Member Presentations and Publications

Members of the Board of Directors were invited speakers at several National conferences in 2017. A partial list of presentations include: The Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU) Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.; Association of Post Graduate APRN Programs (APGAP) Program Development Workshop, Phoenix, Arizona; The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, Washington; National Academy of Medicine, Washington, D.C.; National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC)—CHI EXPO, San Diego, California; National Nurse Practitioner Symposium, Keystone, Colorado; and Sigma Theta Tau-International Research Congress, Dublin, Ireland.

Margaret Flinter, PhD, APRN, c-FNP, FAAN, FAANP and Ann Marie Hart, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP co-authored a publication titled, "Thematic elements of the postgraduate NP residency year and transition to the primary care provider role in a Federally Qualified Health Center."



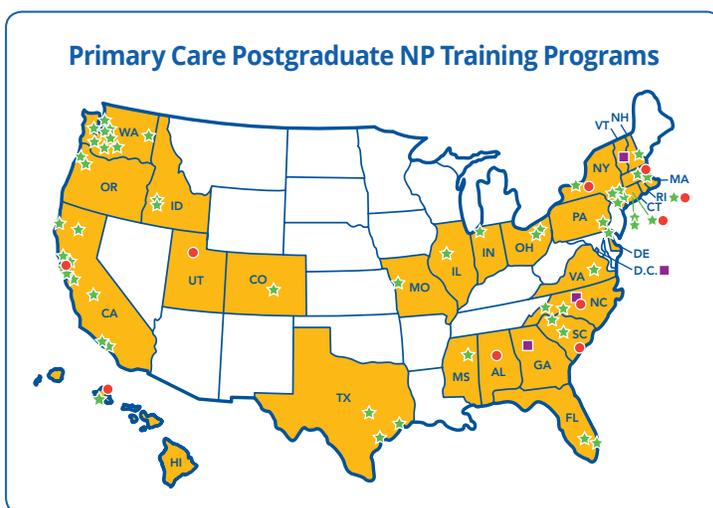
**Margaret Flinter**, Chair, NNPRFTC Board of Directors, with **Dr. Loretta Ford**, EdD, RN, PNP, FAAN, FAANP at the NP Symposium in Keystone, CO 2017.

## National Cooperative Agreement on Clinical Workforce Development

The Consortium participated in CHCI and its Weitzman Institute's National Cooperative Agreement (NCA) on Clinical Workforce Development. The Consortium presented during postgraduate

residency training webinars and learning collaborative sessions. The Consortium provided intense coaching on accreditation to learning collaborative participants interested in implementing postgraduate residency and fellowship programs in the future.

The Executive Director also contributed to the NCA-Clinical Workforce Development publication titled, "Training the Next Generation: Residency and Fellowship Programs for Nurse Practitioners in Community Health Centers", to be published in December 2017.



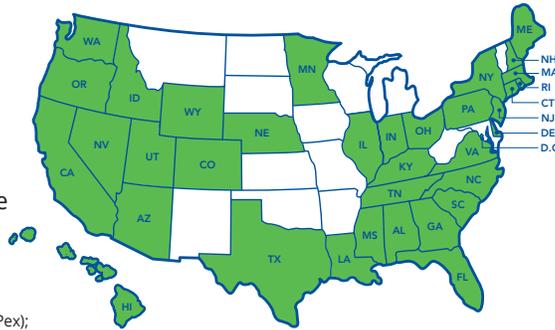
- ★ Family Nurse Practitioner (NP) Postgraduate Program
- Psychiatry Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Postgraduate Program
- Adult/Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (AGNP) Postgraduate Program



## Continued Forward Movement in 2018

### Membership

With our membership approaching 200 individuals and institutions from across the U.S., we will be hosting a membership webinar to describe our website and full suite of benefits for 2018, including information on opportunities to participate and collaborate in research projects.



**ALABAMA:** Birmingham VA Medical Center–VANAP

**ARIZONA:** TMC One Medical

**CALIFORNIA:** Advanced Practice Provider Executives, Inc. (APPex); Avenal Community Health Center; Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education Veterans Health Administration–San Francisco VA Medical Center; Glide Health Services; Golden Valley Health Services; Healthright 360 (Lyon Martin Health Service); Lifelong Medical Care; Open Door Community Health Clinic; Petaluma Health Center, Inc.; San Francisco VA Medical Center–VANAP; Santa Rosa Community Health Centers; The Children’s Clinic

**COLORADO:** Montbello Health Center; Peak Vista Community Health Centers; University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, School of Nursing

**CONNECTICUT:** Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education Veterans Health Administration–VA Connecticut Healthcare System; Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education Veterans Health Administration–West Haven VA Medical Center; Community Health Center, Inc.; Optum Health; West Haven VA Medical Center–VANAP

**FLORIDA:** Merck; West Kendall Baptist Hospital

**GEORGIA:** Emory University Hospital

**HAWAII:** University of Hawaii–Manoa; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

**IDAHO:** Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education Veterans Health Administration; raiseidaho.org

**ILLINOIS:** Esperanza Health Centers; OFC HealthCare; VA Centers of Excellence in Primary Care Education, Office of Academic Affiliations, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center

**INDIANA:** HealthLinc

**KENTUCKY:** Frontier Nursing University

**LOUISIANA:** Daughters of Charity Services of New Orleans; Morehouse Community Medical Center

**MAINE:** Penobscot Community Health Care

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Boston VA Healthcare System–VANAP; Brigham and Women’s Hospital–Global Health and Academic Partnerships; Commonwealth Care; Family Health Center of Worcester; Iora Health; McLean Hospital; MGH Institute of Health Professions–School of Nursing; Reliant Medical Group

**MINNESOTA:** Fairview Health Services; Park Nicolett

**MISSISSIPPI:** North Mississippi Medical Center Clinic

**NEBRASKA:** University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Nursing

**NEVADA:** Southern Nevada VA Health System

**NEW HAMPSHIRE:** Lamprey Health Care

**NEW JERSEY:** New Jersey Action Coalition & New Jersey Nursing Initiative Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey; Rutgers Community Health Center; Rutgers University College of Nursing; Seton Hall University College of Nursing; Visiting Nurse Association of Somerset Hills/New Jersey Action Coalition

**NEW YORK:** Bassett Healthcare Network; Community Health Care Network; Essen Medical Associates PC; Highland Family Medicine; Lehman College; Lutheran Medical Group; Montefiore School Health Program–Montefiore Medical Group; Morris Heights Health Center–South Nassau Communities Hospital

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Center for Advanced Practice Carolinas HealthCare System; Foundation for Nursing Excellence; Moncure Community Health Center–Piedmont Health Services; Murphy Medical Murphy Medical Center; Sylvan Community Health Center; Western North Carolina Community Health Services

**OHIO:** Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education Veterans Health Administration–Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center; Health Partners of Western Ohio; Metro Health Medical Center; Ohio Association of Community Health Centers; University of Cincinnati College of Nursing

**OREGON:** Central City Concern; One Community Health; Peacehealth

**PENNSYLVANIA:** National Nursing Centers Consortium; Public Health Management Corporation; Puentes de Salud

**RHODE ISLAND:** Thundermist Health

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Center for Family Medicine, Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System; Lexington Medical Center; Charleston VA Medical Center–VANAP

**TEXAS:** CommUnity Care Health Centers; Community Care University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing; CommUnity Care; Our Lady of the Lake University; Texas A&M Health Science Center, College of Nursing

**TENNESSEE:** Johnson City Community Health Center

**UTAH:** Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education Veterans Health Administration; Salt Lake City VA Medical Center–VANAP

**VIRGINIA:** Bon Secours Medical Group

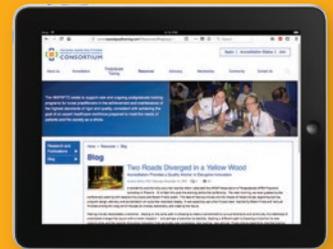
**WASHINGTON:** Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education Veterans Health Administration–Puget Sound Health Care System; CHAS; Columbia Basin Health Association; Community Health Care; Country Doctor Community Clinic; Group Health Cooperative; Health Resources and Services Administration–Office of Regional Operations; International Community Health Services (ICHHS); MultiCare Lakewood Family Practice; Northwest Regional Primary Care Association; Sea Mar Community Health Centers; The Everett Clinic; University of Washington School of Nursing; Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic

**WASHINGTON D.C.:** Washington D.C. VA Medical Center–VANAP

**WYOMING:** Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing, University of Wyoming

### Accreditation Salon

In response to member requests, the Consortium is launching a monthly, open-access, web-based gathering where accreditation issues that have been identified by participants will be discussed. The expected launch date is December 2017.



### News and Postings

Blog postings, 44 and counting, continue to build a reservoir of information about the accreditation process, accreditation standards, and issues important to NP postgraduate training programs. The periodic [News Updates](#) offer time sensitive information on newly accredited programs, issues of national importance and updates on Consortium offerings.

*“As always, I really enjoyed reading your November blog. I’m not sure if I’ve mentioned this to you before, but I am actually printing off your blogs, putting them in a notebook, and holding on to them for keeps! It so nourishes my soul to read good reflections about helping new NPs transition into practice!”*

—Ann Marie Hart, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP; Professor and DNP Program Director, Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing, University of Wyoming; Laramie, WY

*“Printing out blogs and distributing as part of regular faculty meetings to serve as foundation for discussions of issues facing programs.”*

—Faith Harrington, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC; Co-Director NP Residency, VA CT HCS; West Haven, CT

### Consortium Conference 2018

Planning is underway for the First Annual Consortium Conference, scheduled for June 25, 2018, in Denver. The program will focus on the state of NP postgraduate training in the United States, its adoption by the primary care practitioner community, and delivering on quality, rigor and effectiveness in accreditation and training programs.