



# NNPRFTC Annual Report 2019



Shown above, 2019 Conference. See article on page 4.

## Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As 2019 draws to a close, we look back on a year of remarkable growth in the work of the Consortium and in its "raison d'être"—to advance the national movement for postgraduate training for new nurse practitioners and physician assistants and to assure the public and these new healthcare providers that such programs have the rigor and quality to deliver on their goals.



Margaret Flinter

And what a year it has been for that! The number of programs continues to grow, both in primary care and specialty care, and in both the community setting and the in-patient setting. We continue to see expansion in both NP-only programs, and in joint NP/PA programs in all settings.

Certainly a major event of 2019 was the release by HRSA, the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration, of its first funding opportunity for postgraduate NP residency programs. With its release of funds, the agency called for academic partnerships for such programs, as well as a focus on key issues of national concern in healthcare including maternal mortality and obesity. Moreover, it stressed the need for NP residency programs spanning the full range of primary care: family, pediatric, adult/gerontology, psychiatric/MH, and women's health.

The Consortium has been called upon by many organizations across the country to help in planning, launching, or expanding their programs, and it is our great honor to be able to work with so many fine individuals and groups that are so deeply committed to this work.

As you see in this annual report, our young organization of four years has had its first major leadership transition with the retirement of our founding Executive Director, Candice Rettie, and the assumption of the reins by Kerry Bamrick. We give our deepest appreciation to Candice for her enormous

contributions, and welcome Kerry, who is no stranger to those of you who have been with us on this journey.

One thing is certain: the need for NPs and PAs who are expertly prepared and ready for complex practice has never been greater. In the coming year, we have big goals, and we look forward to working with you to achieve them.

**Margaret Flinter, APRN, PhD, FAAN, FAANP**  
Senior Vice President and Clinical Director  
Community Health Center, Inc.  
Founder Emeritus, CHCI's Weitzman Institute  
635 Main Street  
Middletown, CT 06457

*Save the date for  
our Third Annual  
Conference to be held  
in Washington, D.C.  
on July 26-27, 2020!*



**New Membership Program and Platform coming in 2020!** See page 4 for details.



## Board of Directors 2019

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Newport Beach, CA

*Ex Officio Member*

## Executive Director Report

Thirteen years ago, the first postgraduate nurse practitioner residency program started in Middletown, Connecticut, with a mission of preparing new NPs to be outstanding primary care providers at FQHCs. From that single program, close to 100 others across the nation have developed, while the Consortium, created in 2015, has emerged as the organization focused on ensuring their rigor and quality, helping them develop, and advocating for them at the national level.

It's been quite a run, and it continues! In June, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, validated the Consortium's goals and actions in reflecting them as it awarded 36 grants to organizations in 24 states for NP residency training programs.

I became Executive Director of the Consortium in September with a lengthy and deep background in postgraduate NP training, having joined this movement in its very early years. I am proud to continue contributing to this truly national movement.

Next year, we will be building on our success. In November, we completed our petition to the U.S. Department of Education to become federally recognized as an accrediting organization, with a February hearing scheduled in Washington, D.C., before the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI). This is a major milestone for the Consortium, which has been working toward recognition since it was incorporated in July 2015. I will also focus on building a more robust membership platform, to increase the number of members and their involvement in our community. Look for a return to our quarterly membership meetings!

Finally, our third annual conference, in Washington, D.C., on July 26-27, will bring together innovators, current leaders, and a cadre of tomorrow's leaders (today's NP residents and students) to learn from each other. It will also feature external stakeholders and experts in healthcare systems and policy.

Our healthcare system is changing quickly and profoundly, and I can promise that the Consortium will continue at the forefront of these changes. I welcome your comments, your ideas, and your participation in the Consortium, the NP movement at large, and in our nation's healthcare future. See you in the New Year!

**Kerry Bamrick, MBA**, Executive Director, NNPRFTC



**Kerry Bamrick**

## Building Our Identity

### 2019 Accomplishments/Updates

- **USDE:** Petition for federal recognition submitted in November.
- **Accreditation:** Three programs received initial accreditation, three applied for renewal, and one under active review for initial accreditation.
- **Second Annual Conference (Indianapolis)** was a major success!
- **New Membership Program and Platform** to roll out in 2020.
- **Website highlights:**
  - Web page visits nearly doubled over 2018, to more than 40,000.
  - April 3 page views hit 3,000, fueled by news of the annual conference.
  - Visitors from every state in the U.S., and from Canada, France, Argentina, India, Philippines, Australia, U.K., and Germany.
  - Increased social media presence on **Twitter @nppostgradtraining**.

### Nationwide Snapshot

- **1,000 (estimated) NP/PA graduates of Postgraduate residency and fellowship programs.**
- **HRSA's Advanced Nursing Education NPR (ANE-NPR) Program** provides \$80 million dollars over a 4 year period to prepare new NPs in primary care for practice in community-based settings through clinical and academic focused 12-month (NPR) programs.
- **CHCI and its Weitzman Institute's HRSA-funded project, The National Cooperative Agreement on Clinical Workforce Development** has coached 34 organizations in a 9-month learning collaborative to launch postgraduate training programs.

## Federal Recognition of the Consortium

NNPRFTC is the only accrediting agency for postgraduate NP training programs that is pursuing U.S. Department of Education (USDE) recognition. NNPRFTC's preparation for recognition began years ago. The experts who created our accreditation program had the foresight to design the program with USDE eligibility for recognition in mind. Shown on the right, is the NNPRFTC's Timeline for USDE Initial Federal Recognition.

The NNPRFTC's petition for federal recognition, documenting every detail of our accrediting activities and organizational structure was submitted to the USDE on November 22, 2019. This will be followed in February 2020 with a hearing before the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI), a federal advisory committee. After considering all the findings and recommendations from the USDE and NACIQI, the U.S. Secretary of Education will render a decision, likely by mid-2020. It has been a long and arduous process. However, it is worth it!

### Significance of USDE Recognition:



**USDE Mission:**  
To promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

- 1) Confers indisputable recognition of excellence, rigor, and quality in accreditation processes.
- 2) Provides assurance of quality to stakeholders—NP residents/fellows, organizational leadership, employers, and the public—that the NP residency/fellowship program meets strict standards.
- 3) In some instances, a likely funding prerequisite would be programmatic accreditation (or being accreditation eligible) by a USDE-recognized accrediting authority.

Timeline for USDE Initial Federal Recognition	
DATE	ACTIVITY
2013-2015	Create Accreditation Standards
December 2015-December 2016	Create and publish Accreditation Policies and Procedures
March 2016	First meeting with USDE; Began work towards documenting eligibility to apply for initial recognition
2017-2019	Revised and expanded Policies and Procedures
June 2018	Legal brief accepted by USDE establishing NNPRFTC eligibility to apply for recognition
July-September 2018	USDE review/feedback on draft
October 2018	Board Bylaws revised
October 2018	Submit First Draft of Petition for Initial Recognition
January-June 2019	USDE review/feedback on final requirements
March 2019	Commission adopted Rules for Governance
April 2019	Board Bylaws revised
April 2019	Board established independent, autonomous Accreditation Commission
June 2019	Commission adopted revised Policies and Procedures
June 28, 2019	Submit Petition for Initial Recognition
June-August 2019	Feedback from USDE on remaining issues needing resolution
November 22, 2019	Submit revised Petition for Initial Recognition
February 5, 2020	National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) Hearing
June 2020	U.S. Secretary of Education Official decision announced

## Accreditation Activity in 2019

We continue to solidify our national position as the accreditor of postgraduate NP residency and fellowship training programs through a process designed by NPs for NPs. This optional year-long training for fully credentialed and licensed NPs focuses on enhancing their confidence as providers while perfecting the diverse set of professional skills required to succeed in today's complex healthcare environment. We serve the public and our stakeholders by accrediting these programs and publishing the outcomes of those reviews. We pride ourselves on the consistent quality of our professional yet collegial approach to ensuring a rigorous, voluntary, peer-review accreditation process.

In 2019, three programs were granted initial accreditation: CHAS Health in Spokane, WA, Highland Family Medicine in Rochester, NY, and Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH. Three programs applied for renewal of accreditation: Community Health Center, Inc. in Middletown, CT, International Community Health Services in Seattle, WA, and North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo, MS. Seattle Children's Hospital is under active review for initial accreditation, and there are several other programs in the pipeline for accreditation in 2020.



Sponsoring Organization	Location	Name of Program	No of Trainees/Year	Specialty	Accreditation Status	Setting
CHAS Health	Spokane, WA	Nurse Practitioner Residency Program	3	Family	Accredited 01/10/19-01/09/2022	FQHC
HIGHLAND HOSPITAL	Rochester, NY	Nurse Practitioner Residency Program	2	Family	Accredited 04/11/19-04/10/2022	Health System
NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S	Columbus, OH	Nationwide Children's Postgraduate NP Psychiatric Fellowship	2	Psychiatric Mental Health/ Child/ Adolescent	Accredited 9/12/19-9/11/2022	Hospital
Community Health Center, Inc.	Middletown, CT	Nurse Practitioner Residency in Family Practice and Community Health	10	Family	Accredited 11/29/16-11/28/19; Application for Renewal Accepted 03/27/2019	FQHC
ICHS International Community Health Services	Seattle, WA	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) Residency Program	3	Family	Accredited 11/16/16-11/15/19; Application for Renewal Accepted 06/06/2019	FQHC
NORTH MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER	Tupelo, MS	Advanced Practice Clinician Fellowship	10	Family	Accredited 02/14/17-02/13/20; Application for Renewal Accepted 07/05/2019	Medical Center
Seattle Children's	Seattle, WA	Advanced Practice Provider Fellowship	17	Pediatrics	Initial Accreditation Application Accepted 08/28/18	Hospital

# New Membership Program and Platform

We are transitioning our membership management platform to Internet4Associations (I4A.com). I4A is a robust system with a comprehensive back end that allows for much greater customization of our presence. It provides the framework for organizing and managing our members, an events management platform, and a seamless integration with our current public website [www.nppostgradtraining.com](http://www.nppostgradtraining.com).

**We are also bringing back our quarterly membership meetings beginning in January 2020!**

I4A will bring our NNPRFTC members an enhanced value-added experience with features such as a member directory, additional paywalled content (such as a list of members' publications and accomplishments, job postings) and groups for networking. In addition, the member experience (signing up/renewing membership and ease of use of the platform) will be greatly improved. We expect the rollout to be completed in early 2020 and aim to increase both the number of members and their involvement in the NNPRFTC community.

## 2019 NNPRFTC National Conference

The Second Annual Conference: From Model to Movement: Policy, Practice and Partnerships was held in Indianapolis, IN, on July 16-17, 2019.

The 1.5-day event brought together a community of 150 innovators, leaders, and emerging leaders in leading and developing formal postgraduate residency and fellowship training programs as well as a cadre of tomorrow's leaders (today's NP and PA residents and students) to learn from each other, but also from external stakeholders and experts in healthcare systems and policy.

The conference was an opportunity to provide intense bursts of continuing education in evolving best practices in postgraduate training, strategies for the planning, implementation, and success of service delivery-based postgraduate training, anticipated relevant future policy developments, and healthcare trends related to the movement. Breakout sessions and workshops provided opportunities for specialized focus on critical elements of curriculum, evaluation, faculty development, interprofessional training, and accreditation.



Ninety-five percent of the respondents rated the conference "very good" or "excellent."

Feedback identified workshops, breakout sessions and networking as the conference highlights, with virtually every respondent saying they would attend in 2020.

### Workshop Schedule from Day 1

SCHEDULE	WORKSHOPS		
	TRACK 1 (Fletcher Place)	TRACK 2 (Alexander Ballroom)	TRACK 3 (Renaissance Place)
Conference attendees may select an option from either Track 1, 2, or 3 for each session time slot listed below.	<b>Academic Partnerships in Postgraduate Training</b> Moderator: <i>Quyen Huynh, DNP, APRN</i>	<b>Planning, Launching, and Sustaining a New Program</b> Moderator: <i>Margaret Flinter, PhD, APRN, FAAN</i>	<b>Deep Dive into Standards Program Design—Anchoring Programs in Accreditation Standards</b> Moderator: <i>Julie Stuckey, DNP, APRN</i>
<b>SESSION 1</b> 1:30-2:15 p.m.	<b>Training as Education</b> <i>Tom Bush, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP</i>	<b>Program Structure, Design, and Content</b> <i>Charise Corsino, MA; Margaret Flinter, PhD, APRN, FAAN; and Kristin Smith, DNP, FNP-C, AAHIWS</i>	<b>Curriculum</b> <i>Candice Rettie, PhD; Nancy Noyes, RN, MS, PPCNP-BC, PMHCNIS-BC; and Rebecca Cagle, PhD, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, NEA-BC</i>
<b>SESSION 2</b> 2:30-3:15 p.m.	<b>Building Partnerships: Roles and Contributions</b> <i>Radha Denmark, MSN, FNP-C</i>	<b>Program Roles and Resources: Leadership, Preceptors, Mentors, and Staff</b> <i>Charise Corsino, MA; Margaret Flinter, PhD, APRN, FAAN; and Kristin Smith, DNP, FNP-C, AAHIWS</i>	<b>Evaluation</b> <i>Candice Rettie, PhD; Nancy Noyes, RN, MS, PPCNP-BC, PMHCNIS-BC; and Rebecca Cagle, PhD, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, NEA-BC</i>
<b>SESSION 3</b> 3:30-4:15 p.m.	<b>Lessons Learned from Successful Partnerships</b> <i>Danielle Potter, MSN, APRN, FNP-C and Renee Burrows, CPNP, PNP</i>	<b>From Orientation to Graduation—The 12 Month Program Timeline</b> <i>Charise Corsino, MA; Margaret Flinter, PhD, APRN, FAAN; and Kristin Smith, DNP, FNP-C, AAHIWS</i>	<b>Administration and Operations</b> <i>Candice Rettie, PhD; Nancy Noyes, RN, MS, PPCNP-BC, PMHCNIS-BC; and Rebecca Cagle, PhD, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, NEA-BC</i>

### Feedback for 2019 Conference Attendees:

*"I loved the interactive nature. I learned very helpful information about existing published data and anecdotal information from panelists and fellow attendees. Great experience overall!"*

*"Even better than the last. I look forward to next year! Was great to catch up with others of similar minds!"*

*"Discussions were valuable and engaging. Very well put together. Will be back next year!"*

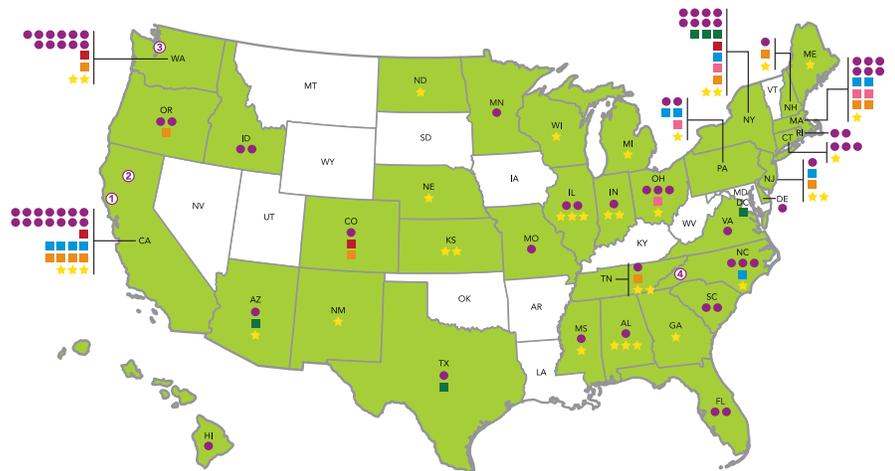
## Postgraduate NP Training Programs Across the U.S.

- Currently active Nurse Practitioner Postgraduate Training Programs
- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) NCA Learning Collaborative sites for 2018-2019
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) NCA Learning Collaborative sites for 2018-2019
- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) NCA Learning Collaborative sites for 2017-2018
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) NCA Learning Collaborative sites for 2017-2018
- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) NCA Learning Collaborative sites for 2016-2017

FQHC Joint NP/PA Training Programs:

- ① **Petaluma Health Center, Inc.**
- ② **Shasta Community Health Center**
- ③ **The Everett Clinic**
- ④ **Western North Carolina Community Health Services**

★ ANE-NPR Grant Awardee sites



Data current as of 07/25/19