



# NP NEWS

Empowering Florida Nurse Practitioners as Leaders in Healthcare

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## President's Message

**Dr. Arlene Wright, President**

Happy Spring! This has definitely been a much different start to 2020 and the year of the Nurse than anyone would have imagined! We started off the year with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr Loretta Ford Golf Tournament that was a huge success, followed by our annual luncheon with Jan Towers and then our Trips to Tally that culminated in the passage and signing of HB 607. Before we had a chance to digest or disseminate ...COVID-19 the pandemic emerged. To say these areprecedented times has become an understatement. COVID-19 has affected everyone and everything from sea to shining sea. The new jargon we have become all too familiar is now terms such as social distancing, self-isolation and safer at home.

We applaud our colleagues on the front lines and appreciate all the first responders, healthcare workers as well as those working in our grocery stores, restaurants, those delivering our mail and other much needed packages /supplies as well as those entities that have provided some distraction in a time when it was much needed. We have seen technology go into overdrive as we not only conduct our business and organizational meetings but as a means to teach our children/students and to provide access to care for our patients via tele health. We have given new meaning to the next best thing to being there!

FNPN has been checking frequently for any news or developments, recommendations and protocols via the DOH, BON and AANP to help guide our members through these very challenging times.

We want to give recognition to all our colleagues who have helped promote COVID education and promote NP practice to the public including our first VP of Legislation ,Dr Doreen Cassarino and Region 1 Director, Dr Kathleen Wilson.

## As seen in the capital this session

Floridians Unite for Health Care created NP Posters all around the Halls



FNPN had a full and exciting calendar planned for 2020 which we are now in the process of brainstorming to determine what will be the best way to proceed with our Boot Camp Live, Annual Membership meeting, conference etc. Updates to follow! Stay Tuned!

On behalf of the board of directors, again we want to Thank all of our colleagues, health care workers and first responders for proving that the real-life hero's walk amongst us each and every day!

This too shall pass, and we will reunite stronger ... together! Happy Nurse Week! *ARLENE*



Please visit and explore our website [www.FNPN.org](http://www.FNPN.org). We have posted all Florida Board of Nursing, Department of Health Announcements, Emergency Orders by the Governor and Surgeon General regarding COVID impact on our state and country. If you have news to share please send to: [FLoridaNPNetowrk@gmail.com](mailto:FLoridaNPNetowrk@gmail.com)

## CELEBRATING NURSE WEEK

## Legislative Update

*Dr. Doreen Cassarino, Vice President Legislation*



The 2020 legislative session was historic with many firsts in the state of Florida! HB607 which started as the Nurse Practitioner bill then was amended to the Senate and House Direct Care Worker bill, it took a wild ride to finally pass in both house and senate committees to become law.

Starting with the first day of the session when nurse practitioners were recognized by Speaker Jose Oliva in his session opening remarks as he outlined his legislative priorities.

Nurse practitioners were given a standing

ovation by all the members of the House! Five nurse practitioners were recognized as NP of the Day providing primary care in the Capitol Legislative Clinic for the legislators, staff and visitors to the Capitol.

In order of being NP of the Day: Doreen Cassarino, Vicky Stone Gale, Donna Bixler, Brittany Decastro, and Wendy Paracka.



Thank you for all who donated both their time and/or resources to this effort. It paid off! On March 11, 2020 Governor DeSantis signed HB 607 Direct Care Workers into law and will go into effect on 7/1/2020.

HB 607 will allow primary care APRNs the opportunity to register for autonomous practice, which will remove the requirement to provide patient care within the framework of an established protocol with a supervising physician or dentist. APRNs may engage in autonomous practice only in primary care including family medicine, general pediatrics and general internal medicine, as defined by board rule and



includes certified nurse midwives, but no CRNAs, clinical nurse specialists or specialty NPs.

Registration eligibility requirements are established in the legislation and include:

1. No discipline within 5 years of applying for the registration.
2. Completion of 3,000 clinical practice hours as an APRN under the supervision of physician within the 5 years immediately preceding the registration request.
3. Within the past 5 years immediately preceding the registration request, completion of graduate-level semester hours, or the equivalent, in differential diagnosis and pharmacology (3 hours in each subject

The registration application will be available after July 1, 2020 on the Florida Board of Nursing website.

Financial responsibility requirements are established in the new law for APRN autonomous practice. Professional liability insurance not less than \$100,000 per claim, with a minimum annual aggregate of not less than \$300,000. OR letter of credit. The requirements do not apply to:

- Exclusively employed as an officer, employee or agent of the Federal Government or of the state or its agencies or its subdivisions.
- Practices only in conjunction with his or her teaching duties at an accredited school or its main teaching hospitals.

Practice requirements are also in the legislation and will be interpreted by the Board during its June 2020 meeting as part of the implementation of the bill.

A Council on APRN Autonomous Practice is created within the Department of Health and will recommend standards of practice to the Board. The council make up is **2 MDs, 2 DOs, 4 APRN, and the State Surgeon General or designee as chair of the council.**

**Additional continuing education (CE)** requirements are put in place for autonomous practice. Ten hours of CE, approved by the Board, must be completed at each renewal in addition to completing the 30 hours of CE already in place, even if the APRN is exempt from existing CE requirements due to his or her national certification.

Adverse incidents reporting will be required by autonomous APRNs must also now report adverse incidents as physicians do as outlined in the legislation and additional disciplinary actions are added to the Nurse Practice Act.

The autonomous APRN will also be able to

-Admit, manage in the facility and discharge the patient from facilities, unless prohibited by federal law or rule or not permitted to do so under the facility rules.

-Sign all forms and documents (global signature authority) except physician certification under s. 381.986 (medical marijuana).

**There is also a provision for loan repayment program for APRN who engage in autonomous practice in primary care HPSA area.**

There is no change in current practice unless you choose to register for autonomous practice and meet the edibility requirements.

The original HB 607 was amended multiple times throughout the legislative process. The final outcome may not change NP practice in the state of Florida to full practice authority for all NPs it definitely will improve patient access to NP delivered services.

## Federal

On March 27, 2020, President Trump signed the CARES Act into law! This legislation improves access to home health care for Medicare patients. Amongst other things it contains a provision that permanently authorizes NPs to certify and re-certify home health care services for Medicare patients-retiring this federal barrier to NP practice. On April 30th CMS issued a final rule retroactive to March 1, 2020 permanently implementing this provision in the CARES Act.

More information is available at: [Click Here](#)



## AANP Announces 2020 Nurse Practitioner State Awards

In 1991, AANP started the state awards for excellence for NPs. Later, the category for NP state advocates was added. The NP State Award for Excellence is given to an individual NP in each state who has demonstrated excellence in clinical practice. Current AANP member recipients receive a one-year extension on their membership, beginning at their current renewal date. Non-AANP members who are award recipients are given a one-year complimentary membership. All recipients receive a one-time waiver of their registration fee for the AANP National Conference, where they are honored at the Salute to the States event. The Advocate State Award for Excellence is given to an individual in each state who has made a significant contribution toward increasing awareness and recognition of NPs.

This year, the awards are presented to:

NP State Award for Excellence: Susan Hook, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, Executive Director at Samaritan Health and Wellness Center, in Region 5, Ft Myers, Florida was selected as the 2020 AANP Florida Nurse Practitioner State Award for Excellence. She created this clinic as a means to provide access to care to the under insured and uninsured. The success of her vision is built on the fundamentals of true NP practice



and optimizing care coordination. Dr Hook is an inspiration to all those she touches. Congratulations Susan!

The Advocate State Award for Excellence: Ruby Monica Sanford, MSN, APRN, ACNP-C. "Monica" was selected as the 2020 AANP Florida Nurse Practitioner Advocate State Award for Excellence from Region 1 in Pensacola, Florida. She is employed as an Acute Care NP by West Florida Cardiology. Her long-time advocacy focuses on care for children and adults with congenital heart disease and was recently appointed to serve on the Florida Chapter, American College of Cardiology (FCACC) Advocacy committee to serve for two years, through April 2022. Congratulations Monica!

Because we are not able to gather together to celebrate these two outstanding NP leaders at the June AANP National Conference, we have prepared for both a special articles to share details about their amazing work in Florida. FNP is very proud to showcase their continuing contributions.

### Shining Stars

#### **FNP Recognizes a Great NP Leader & Entrepreneur Hillary Morgan, MSN, APRN**



Congratulations to Hillary Morgan, MSN, APRN, ANP-C, CEO and Owner of Brandon Premier Healthcare, PA upon the recent announcement that she was selected for an Honorary Diplomatic Doctorate for Humanitarian Works awarded by the University of Canada. Her award will be presented on May 22, 2020. Another amazing award bestowed to Hillary was an appointment as Ambassador to the "United Nations at Large" on February 15, 2020 for her international humanitarian work. Her successful NP entrepreneur & community spirit has been unstoppable since her MSN NP degree at the University of Tampa in 2000!

In 2003, Hillary L. Morgan started her own primary care clinic that reflected her life-long philosophy of caring for others. It's the same driving force for her international charity mission with her husband, Horace, as they started their Mind, Body & Soul Health Ministry in 2012 for their work in her home country of Jamaica. The mission of this 501-C-3 charity is "to promote mental, spiritual and physical wellbeing within the rural communities of Jamaica by providing a continuum of health care and educational service that promotes healthy lifestyles combine with Christian living, giving total Glory to God." The tireless Hillary, then in 2016, opened her third business, a medical home called The Cottage Manor, LLC. In Brandon.

If you meet Hillary, you will find her positive can-do attitude, brilliant smile and sense of joyfulness that is infectious! It's not surprising that many organizations have honored her for her community and international work. As a member of El Bethel Tabernacle for many years, her church has awarded her many honors for her dedication and community work. In 2018, Hillary was recognized by her NP peers as the AANP Florida State NP of the year. Westwood High School (her alum) in Jamaica, presented

Hillary with the 2017 annual Community outreach for her efforts in , healthcare, education and evangelism. Her award from Westwood held the quote “What lies behind you and what lies in front of you pales in comparison to what lies inside you” by Ralph Waldo Emerson. In 2016, Elim SDA Church named her Outstanding Leader for Community Outreach Emmanuel Temple Church honored her in also as a Missionary partner stating, “When God’s people needed help-You were there”. A bronze Community Leadership faith award is special from the 2016 Alm Benefit Gala where Hillary is also well known as a successful fundraiser and networker for her causes. Taking notice of this mission, Dr. Kiran Patel, a well-known philanthropist, businessman, and physician in Tampa several years ago teamed up with Hillary and her husband Horace, to provide free eye surgeries in Jamaica as this mission continues to grow. Dr. Patel’s foundation has also contributed over \$500,000 to upgrade and build a new dental clinic and pharmacy in Jamaica. Her ultimate wish is to rebuild Alexandria Hospital in St. Ann, Jamaica. Last summer, Jamaica’s Minister of Health, praised the work of Hillary and Horace and their Mind, Body and Soul Health Ministry while they were hosting a one-week health fair at the facility.

When not at her local offices delivering her excellent care, Hillary can be found flying frequently to Jamaica, shipping supplies, providing care at the clinics she built on site or running fund raising programs to keep the charity clinics going in Jamaica. Hillary, you are amazing, and we appreciate all you do!



#### **FSU NP Faculty Dr.Danforth Teaches International OSCE Telehealth**

The Covid-19 Pandemic, brought a screeching halt to face to face OSCE mandatory clinical evaluations as classrooms closed and students were struggling to find solutions to complete required course work. The solution was OSCE via telehealth, but training was urgently needed. A novel new learning experience was created by Debra A. Danforth R.N., DNP, APRN, FAAN, Associate Professor, Director College of Medicine, Charlotte E. Maguire, M.D. and TMH Clinical Learning Center last month that attracted a huge international audience. This unique webinar demonstrated how faculty could continue to assess the student using a

secure testing environment for clinical practice sessions, formative and summative evaluations.

Debra’s course received a record 1350 registrations with the EMS online company and 748 live views where others were able to access this presentation later. Faculty representing a variety of institutions and fields were online from around the globe, including Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Dominica, Egypt, England, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Granada, Guam, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Moldova, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and the USA. It was so popular that the education company, EMS, had to purchase more bandwidth to accompany this unexpected popularity. Telehealth indeed has come of age and added a new use for OSCE’s.

For those unfamiliar with the acronym, OSCE, means Objective Structured Clinical Examination. The OSCE is designed to assess one’s ability to competently apply their professional discipline skills and knowledge. Performance levels are expected before one enters the profession and simulations like this work.

Debra suggested this format in a creative new way so to show others how to use OSCE online. Generally, her OSCE’s are done face to face for evaluation purposes and she travels through-out Florida to perform these special OSCE exams or all



levels of Nursing, PA,s, Pharmacy, Medicine and residents, social workers, or wherever clinical evaluation are needed. Debra has a unique program where she has perfected her training to be adapted to a variety of disciplines.

Attendees were impressed with the OSCE telemedicine format and quality of videos shared and commented that It took away the "fear factor" of getting started with a telemedicine encounter and felt it a "creative way to continue with course expectations during a stressful time."

Clearly this COVID-19 pandemic has changed many things, including our teaching procedures. Telehealth is working well in delivering classroom material and observing skills lab. OSCE's via telehealth can now be done around the world thanks to Debra Danforth!

## Coronavirus Stories

### Life with Coronavirus:

Had a patient come in a few weeks ago with her anxiety off the wall. The issue? She was down to the end of her last roll of toilet paper and couldn't find any more and was asking for meds for her anxiety. I said to her, "Let's think this through. I can give you Xanax, Klonopin, Ativan, whatever for anxiety but the cause of the anxiety is still there: no toilet paper. Seems to me that it would be easier and healthier for me just to give you some toilet paper and the anxiety will go away. TP has many less side effects than benzos, so here's a 6 pack of TP. You can pay me back when it's back in the stores." She was ecstatic, the anxiety disappeared, and that, my friends, is called meeting the patient where she is at. **Submitted by Valorie Kolbert, APRN**

### FL's Northwest FL VIP Network: Pensacola

President Jackie Thomas, DNP

Vice President Monica Sanford, ACNP

Screening and testing for CoVid 19!

Admitting patients in the ER!

Many NPs have been volunteering in screening,  
food banks, telehealth, free clinics.  
Thanks for doing what you do!



## Nurse Practitioners Lead Free Clinic during COVID-19 Crisis



Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) Clinic is a free clinic in Stuart, Florida, serving uninsured, low-income adults. VIM Clinic provides both primary and specialty care to its patients through a dedicated clinical staff led by Victoria Dodds,



DNP, APRN, and Alan Eddison, DNP, APRN, who are supported by an amazing group of volunteer nurse practitioners and other medical professionals. Many of Dr. Dodds' and Dr. Eddison's patients suffer from chronic illness that makes them especially vulnerable to severe symptoms from the COVID-19 virus. The Doctors instituted new protocols in early March to protect patients and staff, educated patients on how to keep themselves and their families safe, and spearheaded the implementation of telehealth services. Telehealth technology allows the patients to get the continuous care they need, including medication management, while

Alan Eddison, DNP, APRN, meets with patients via a new telehealth program for VIM Clinic.

keeping social distancing a priority. To minimize everyone's exposure, the Clinic furloughed their volunteers and split the medical staff into two teams.

While Dr. Eddison and his team are in the Clinic seeing patients with urgent needs, Dr. Dodds works from home virtually caring for patients, as well as participating in important conferences with local, state, and federal resources to stay current with Coronavirus crisis information. Every two weeks, they switch. They have been the lifeline for their patients who have contracted the virus providing guidance to families caring for the patients at home.

As primary care providers, Dr. Dodds and Dr. Eddison have established important relationships with their patients who have come to rely on them and need them more now than ever. Their commitment to ensuring VIM patients have continued healthcare access is an inspiring example of the significance of nurse practitioners in the medical community.



Victoria Dodds, DNP, APRN, shown on right, meets with a VIM Clinic patient utilizing the new PPE protocols

## Military News from Denise Costa

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Denise Costa, US Army, presented JROTC cadet Ethan Nguyen-Do with her unit's Military Women Across the Nation (MWAN). This scholarship was made possible by funding from Matrix Medical Network where Denise works as a FNP. Ethan is an honors senior graduating from North Port H.S., and was involved with Color guard & Drill during his 4 years in NJROTC.

MWAN is a organization open to all who served in the military. From 2yrs. to retirement.

The website is: [www.milwomen.org](http://www.milwomen.org). Member dues are \$25 National & \$12 Local.



## Injuries and Other Illness Continue during the Pandemic: Be Safe

By Susan Smith, PHD, APRN



The delivery of healthcare to all patient populations has changed forever. The concept of a simple upper respiratory infection has been stricken from our list of differentials. Cough, running nose, low grade fever- COVID! All traumatically – injured patients who are unable to answer the “symptom questions” is automatically tested and treated as a COVID 19 rule-out with the appropriate droplet and contact precautions. I think all of you on the frontlines can image how this can complicate care, not to mention the additional stress for the patient and their families. We care about how this added frightening and uncertain dimension affects the people who entrust their care to us, our team members, colleagues and our families supporting us on the home front.

First and foremost, I would like to applaud the cooperation with the “Stay at Home” directive - Lives have been saved! As an Acute Care NP specializing in the care of burn-injured adults, I continue to care for critically injured burn victims. Additionally, I have been privileged to provide care for a variety of household injuries resulting from this unprecedented increased time at home.

Here are just a few burn prevention tips to share:

1. So many of you are spending time in the gardens and lawns. The beauty you create will bring joy during these stressful times. **Please do not burn any of yard debris.** Cut, tie, bag or place debris (twigs, branches, leaves and grass) in the appropriate receptacle or curb side location.
2. Gathering with your family outside for a barbecue allows for time to share and come together for entertainment and support. Please only use your grills as directed. Avoid the use of any accelerant. Open lids very carefully to avoid flash burns. Make sure that propane is connected appropriately. Finally, never smoke when grilling.
3. Cooking indoors is also associated with the risk for burn injury. Please make sure you have a fire extinguisher available. It's important to keep children out of the kitchen when cooking. Place hot pans on back burners, turn handles away from easy grasps. Do not leave food unattended while cooking. If there is a fire on the stove, do not pick up the pan. Turn off the burners and cover the fire (protect your arm and hand with pot holder) with large lid or baking sheet. Always watch out for splash. Use fire extinguisher as appropriate.
4. Do not leave burning candles unattended and do not place them near material that can ignite.
5. Check your water heater, it should not be set above 120° F to avoid severe burn injuries.

Care in the age of COVID 19 has led to the emergence of telehealth, and many patients are embracing this alternative. Much more remains to be learned about maximizing this healthcare option and the APRN role. Injuries and illness continue during the pandemic. I am humbled by the amazing response of all healthcare workers throughout our state and am proud to have been able to play a small role in this untied effort. PLEASE STAY SAFE!

**Susan L. Smith PhD, FNP-C, ACNP-C, RNFA, WCC, FAANP**

FNPN Board Member and Region 2 Director: A Trauma Nurse Practitioner in Orlando with over 27 years of burn nursing experience.

## State University partners with Joint Task Force Aide to support the COVID-19 mission

### MIAMI BEACH, FL, UNITED STATES

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04.18.2020 by Sgt. Leia Tascarini, 107th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Florida National Guard doctors, nurses and medics joined Florida International University (FIU) at the Miami Beach Convention Center (MBCC) to conduct refresher training in preparation of potentially receiving patients at the MBCC alternate care facility.

The Guard partnered with the university to provide “just in time training” so that providers from different specialties could refresh their knowledge in several areas, including proper personal protective equipment wear, medical procedures and several other necessary tasks that are specific to the COVID-19 response.

“We came to an agreement based on needs so that everyone would be on the same page due to providers being from different backgrounds, like primary care providers and flight medics,” said Henry Henao, Director of the Simulation Teaching and Research Center at FIU. “Working with the Guard has been an honor and everyone has been really appreciative and understanding of what we are trying to accomplish here.”

FIU had several members of their staff and students volunteer from the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences to partner with the Florida Guard. FIU has partnered with the Guard during other missions as well such as Exercise Patriot Sands, a joint-service emergency and natural disaster response exercise.

Each refresher station lasted 30 minutes and concentrated on a specific topic like cardiopulmonary resuscitation and complete emergency situations with a lifelike simulation dummy which can be worked on medically as if it were a real patient.

“We all have various skill sets and our goal is to form teams to be completely prepared to accept patients,” said Florida Air Guard Lt. Col. Kevin Fitzgerald, 125th Fighter Wing flight surgeon. “FIU did an excellent job putting this refresher together, they are all volunteers and it’s amazing that they came to teach us what they know to help us keep their community safe.”

The Florida National Guard has more than 2,300 Guardsmen on duty in support of Florida’s COVID-19 response. Soldiers and Airmen are currently operating nine Community Based Testing Sites locations and have administered over 50,000 sample collections to date at those sites. In addition, the Guard is deploying Mobile Testing Teams to carry out COVID-19 testing at assisted living communities and is supporting the Florida Department of Health’s screening operations at seven Florida airports.



## COVID Learning Points: Tammy Sadighi, DNP, APRN

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As a front line/walk-in provider, I experienced COVID patients in the early weeks before a lot of information was known. We did not have testing abilities at the office, or personal protection equipment such as gowns or N95 masks. Quickly, Millennium Physician Group, provided us with all the equipment we needed, even the pink gowns that requested.

First, we began isolating patients with fever and cough, along with recent travel history, in a designated waiting room to provide safety to our other walk-in patients. The second week, I had my first COVID positive patient, and in the following weeks, I saw many patients with COVID symptoms who were frightened, emotional, and angry.



What did I learn?

- The ability to recognize what matters the most, which was educating patients and providing a safe environment to diagnose and treat patients.
- The ability to focus on community by taking care of my patients, with the same compassion and normal character, even though I had concerns of exposing my family.
- To recognize that listening to patients was extremely important and to let them express their fears.
- To understand that there are imperfections when dealing with a new viral disease. It was not perfect, but we did our best.
- Overall, I learned how the public recognizes and trusts health care providers to do their best. Which we do!!

### In Memoriam: Florida Hero's Who died due to the Covid-19 Pandemic

Last year when the World Health Assembly named 2020 as the [International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife](#), no one would predict a Covid-19 pandemic would spread globally and so fast placing this tremendous demand on nursing and all healthcare professionals. The convergence of these events is a poignant reminder of nurses' vital role in caring for our patients, comforting families and protecting the health of the community.

Sadly, many lives have been lost to the ravages of this invisible virus including our colleagues in Florida. We must continue the fight for them. Nurses at all levels are leading on front lines and behind the scenes are in the fight against COVID-19.

The experience, creativity and innovations brought out by nursing will help us in shaping health policy to address prevention of disease, be more involved with disaster planning, PPE use and emergency preparations, capacity needs and innovating care delivery to provide optimal care amidst far than optimal care giving conditions.

As America continues to fight this global pandemic, it's time all nursing step up and lead with greater confidence and significance to answer our call to duty. It's time to invest in a massive acceleration for nursing education, creating millions of new

nursing jobs, and preparing more APRN providers to work to their full education and training in the next decade. Plan now. Predictions are, another pandemic will come again. We can be prepared.

As we look at the impact of this crisis, let us take a moment to pause and remember the sacrifices made to the call to duty of our Florida colleagues, who lost their life while caring for others.



[Araceli Buendia Ilagan](#), 63, [APRN Acute Care ICU Nurse](#) over 33 years as NP there, Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, Florida



[Earl Bailey](#), 45, **Registered Nurse**, Broward County, worked at Florida Medical Center in Lauderdale Lakes and other facilities as RN PRN staffing, Florida



[Danielle Hedrick DiCenso](#), 33, **ICU nurse** Registered Nurse, Wellington, Florida Youngest HCW in Florida to die from covid, a mom with 4 yr old son.

[Devin Dale Francis](#), 44, Radiology Technician, Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, Florida

[Alex Hsu](#), 67, MD, Internal Medicine, Northwest Medical Center, Margate, Florida

[Luis Caldera-Nieves](#), 63, MD - Ob/Gyn, Miami, UM health clinic

[Isaac Abadi](#), MD, 84, Founder, Professor of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology, Escuela de Medicina Luis Razetti, Hospital Universitario de Caracas, Miami, Florida

[William "Bill" Murdock](#), 63, MRI Technologist, Miami, Florida

[Jorge Mateo](#), age unknown, Respiratory Therapist, Coral Gables Hospital, Miami, Florida

Sadly, memorial services were cancelled due to the pandemic. As a reminder, in nursing, we have the [Nightingale Tribute](#), that we can use and share during the celebration of life of our colleagues. Click on the link above to read about this ceremony for our nursing colleagues who have passed. Please contact us if you know of any NP who lost the fight to COVID illness so we may add to our memorial page.

## **Around the State**



Be sure to click here for the FNP calendar of upcoming events

**Current NP groups:** Resources that are available to you from FNP:

1. Are you in need of meeting ideas or sponsors?
2. Growing your groups board or recruiting people to fill your board positions.
3. Ideas for community outreach to enhance APRN's viability
4. Creating speaker panel available for media outlets to contact for experts opinions.
5. Group promotional merchandise resources
6. Political involvement how FNP can help your group get involved.
7. Leadership resources.

## **Job Announcements!**

There have been many new [job postings](#) around the state on our web site at [www.fnpn.org](http://www.fnpn.org) for those of you that may have an interest. On our new website, the most recent postings are on the front page. A new feature will allow postings to be visible for 90 days. Please feel free to pass this along to your colleagues who may be interested in it as well, or who may have an interest in finding out more about our network. For those of you that have found jobs on our website, please be sure to let us know!

Do you know an employer who might find the FNPJ Job posting a worthwhile site? If so, please be sure to tell them about the website and the fact that on average 20 or more jobs are posted each month. The traffic to our website is incredible and we have more and more folks seeking employment through this site than ever before. Let them know you saw it on the FNPJ Website!

### **FNPJ Conference Update**

We have had a few inquiries asking if we will be able to gather for our annual conference this summer. The FNPJ Conference Committee is currently exploring options for our Annual Conference slated for August 20-22, 2020 at the Orlando World Center Marriott. At this time, we are following all national and local guidelines in place with the Covid-19 Pandemic which currently leaves us in a holding pattern for continued planning of the conference. We are keeping in contact with our speakers and many vendors who cautiously await with us.

Currently our host hotel is *closed* for guest business and thus we are in delayed communication of our current options. FNPJ will continue to keep you abreast of developments as they occur and update you once a final decision is made. We thank you for all you are doing during these unprecedented times and look forward to our next opportunity to be together and celebrate you.

Please stay safe and thank you all for your dedicated work in stopping this pandemic. We

### **News You Can Use**

Did you ever visit the **Florence Nightingale Museum** in London? Dr. Kim Curry wrote the Museum needs an immediate cash infusion to stay afloat and thought all might want share and maybe send "Flo" a little something yourself for her birthday. It seems it's another casualty of COVID and the lack of tourism. We hope they will find sufficient donors to save it on her bicentenary, what a terrible time to be having this problem. The exchange rate now is \$1.00 US = .80 pounds sterling, so if you give \$10 it is the same as 8 pounds. There are so many nurses that if each of us gave that amount, the museum would have no more worries. GOAL: £65,000 - [GO FUND ME PAGE HERE!](#)



Florence Nightingale Museum London – Visit the Florence Nightingale Museum in London and discover the world's most important collection of material relating to the founder of modern nursing, a celebrated English social reformer and statistician

### **CE Broker**

Did you know that FNPJ members can get a discount to CE Broker? Keep your 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 FNP & FHA have partnered to provide for members at a great low rate!

[Click here to find out more](#)

**Register for the "Safe and Effective Prescribing of Controlled Substances" course. Mandatory course for license renewal.**

Need Help? Contact careLearning at 866-617-3904 or [support@carelearning.com](mailto:support@carelearning.com).

The Florida Network has taken the next step to keep our members informed. Keep abreast of changes in your practice around the state and around the nation. You can join us today on Facebook under Florida Nurse Practitioner and Twitter under FloridaNP. We hope to hear from you.