

# NURSING

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER

Transforming patient care through professional practice

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A newsletter  
from the office  
of the Executive  
Chief Nursing  
Officer

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## NEW SEASON OF APRN GRAND ROUNDS

About 200 people gathered in Light Hall on Jan. 15 for the kickoff of the 2019 series of Advanced Practice Grand Rounds, a monthly educational series organized by the VUMC Office of Advanced Practice.

There are nearly 1,200 advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician assistants (PAs) practicing at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, said April Kapu, DNP, RN, ACNP-BC, FAANP, FCCM Associate Nursing Officer for VUMC Advanced Practice and Director of the Office of Advanced Practice.

"This is a special day where we get to kick off our Grand Rounds presentations for the year," Kapu said. "Lots of hard work has gone into this year's educational lineup. Every month we're able to get together as a group of professionals to listen to expert presentations given by our colleagues and engage in interprofessional scholarly conversation. It's nice to step away from practice for this hour to gain knowledge and network with others."

In addition to PA colleagues, APRN roles encompass Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives and Clinical Nurse Specialists. All practitioners are educated

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Advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants play a very important role in health care, and we have nearly 1,200 of them at Vanderbilt. I was pleased to join some of these remarkable individuals at the APRN Grand Rounds kickoff. I encourage you to attend one of the upcoming monthly events in this great series. More details are inside.

In this issue, we recognize the nine recipients of the March of Dimes Nurse of the Year awards from Vanderbilt University Medical Center and the Vanderbilt School of Nursing.

This is a strong showing and represents excellence in many specialties.

I also encourage you to download the VandySafe app on your smartphone. I take the safety of our nurses very seriously, and this is an important tool for everyone.

Lastly, details of our Certified Nurses Day group photo are inside. Please prepare to join us.

Enjoy this issue,

in nationally accredited programs and are clinically trained and board certified in their area of practice.

This session featured a keynote address from Garry Brydges, DNP, MBA, CRNA, ACNP-BC, FAAN, Chief Nurse Anesthetist

at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and President of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). Brydges' presentation was titled "The Value of APRN Practice Innovation: Confronting New Reimbursement Changes through Quality and Outcomes."

Brydges discussed major changes to how Medicare reimburses medical facilities that took effect in 2019. "We used to be paid by fee for service," he told the crowd. "The more volume we did, the more money would be generated. No longer will it be the quantity of services that you will be reimbursed for. It will be the quality of services."



Garry Brydges, DNP, MBA, CRNA, ACNP-BC, spoke at last month's Advanced Practice Grand Rounds kickoff.

Brydges stressed the importance for advanced practice professionals to understand their value to the health system. The key, he said, is to define quality



Richard Miller, MD, received the Advanced Practice Ambassador Award. Here he is with Elizabeth Card, APRN, left, and Briana Witherspoon, DNP, ACNP.

benchmarks and tie them to outcomes for patients and dollar savings for the health system.

During the kickoff session, the 2019 Advanced Practice

Ambassador Award was presented to Richard Miller, MD, Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Division of Trauma and Surgical Critical Care. The award honors non-advanced practice nurses

for their contributions to the profession.

"We could not perform our mission without the incredible support of our nurse practitioners," Miller said as he accepted his award. "I value each and every one of them like I value every faculty member, every resident and every fellow that helps support our very large division."

The next Advanced Practice Grand Rounds presentation titled "Promoting Professionalism and the CPPA Program" will be Feb. 19 from noon to 1 p.m. in 202 Light Hall. For more information about the Office of Advanced Practice please visit [ww2.mc.vanderbilt.edu/nursingoap/](http://ww2.mc.vanderbilt.edu/nursingoap/).

## VUMC, VUSN HONORED AT MARCH OF DIMES AWARDS

Nine nurses from Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) and Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) recently received top honors at the March of Dimes Tennessee Chapter Nurse of the Year Awards.

The event, in its ninth year, recognizes nurses in Middle Tennessee who embody leadership, compassion and excellence in patient care across nursing specialties.

Here are the Vanderbilt recipients, by category:

- **Advanced Practice** — Aaron Scott, MSN, FNP-BC, Nurse Practitioner, VUMC
- **Behavioral Health** — Rose Vick, PhD, MSN, PHMNP-BC, Instructor in Nursing, VUSN
- **Emergency** — Chelsea Carter, RN, BSN, CCRN, AEMT, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, VUMC
- **Nursing Administration** — Pam Jones, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Senior Associate Dean for Clinical & Community Partnerships, VUSN
- **Nursing Education** — Terrah Foster Akard, PhD, RN, CPNP, FAAN, Associate Professor, VUSN
- **Pediatric** — Bonnie Parker, RN, NICU, Case Manager, Children's Hospital, VUMC
- **Quality and Risk Management** — Susie Leming-Lee, DNP, MSN, RN, CPHQ, Assistant Professor, VUSN
- **Research** — Bethany Andrews Rhoten, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor, VUSN
- **Women's Health** — Leilani Jane Mason, MSN, CNM, FACNM, Assistant Professor, Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, VUMC



“Vanderbilt nurses continue to define excellence in their specialties,” said Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC Executive Chief Nursing Officer of VUMC. “I offer my warmest congratulations to all the award recipients on another great showing at the March of Dimes Nurse of the Year awards.”

VUSN Dean Linda Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN, the Valere Potter Menefee Professor in Nursing, complimented the winners on their accomplishments.

“These nurse educators and leaders are outstanding in teaching, practice, research and leadership,” Norman said. “I’m delighted that the March of Dimes recognized them and their contributions to our community.”

The event was chaired by Kathie Krause, MSN, RN, NNP-BC, NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Officer of Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.

Award recipients were determined by a selection committee comprised of nursing professionals who screened the nominations in a structured review process. The winners were chosen from nurse nominees who represent the March of Dimes' vision for a healthier, stronger generation of babies and families.

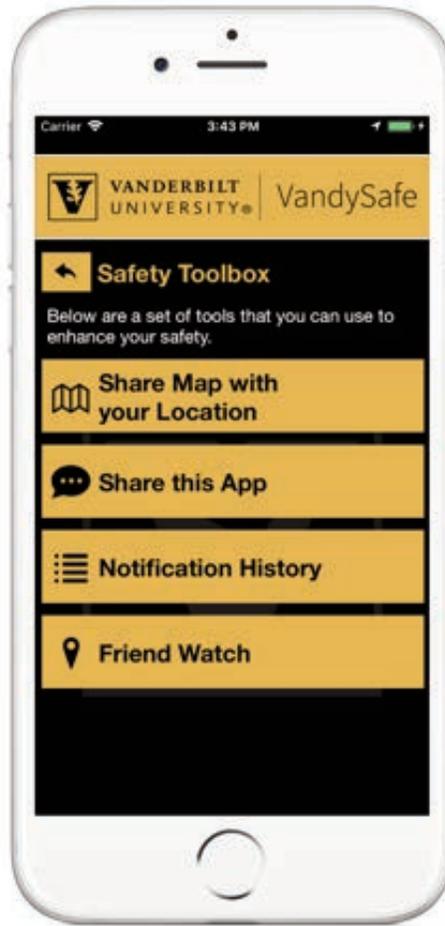
# NURSES ENCOURAGED TO DOWNLOAD VANDYSAFE APP

Vanderbilt nurses are encouraged to download VandySafe, an upgraded safety app from the Vanderbilt University Police Department. The app is an upgrade of the previous generation app SafeVU.

The safety app launched by Vanderbilt University Public Safety has many of the same features as the previous SafeVU app such as emergency calling, reporting, services and guides. It also includes new features and improved aesthetics, making it more user friendly.

Users of VandySafe can:

- Contact VUPD via phone call or real-time chat
- Submit an iReport



- Trigger a mobile BlueLight and share your location instantly with VUPD
- Virtual Walkhome - VUPD Dispatch can monitor

your walk home, to your car or office

- Share your location with a friend
- Find support resources, such as Facilities and Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- Access emergency guides

Steps to take:

1. Users of the previous SafeVU app prior to June 30 will need to delete the app and download VandySafe from the Apple or Google Play store.
2. New users can download VandySafe from the Apple or Google Play store.

If you have any questions, please email Jessamyn Davis with the Office of Emergency Preparedness at [jessamyn.davis@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jessamyn.davis@vanderbilt.edu).

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE CERTIFIED NURSES DAY GROUP PHOTO

Certified Vanderbilt nurses are invited to appear in the annual Certified Nurses Day Group Photo on Thursday, March 7, in Light Hall 202. The photo will be taken precisely at 7:45 a.m. Please arrive between 7:30 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. to allow for positioning.

If you are unavailable to attend the group photo, you may submit photos of Certified Nurses from your unit/area (group photos preferred) with names and credentials to [nursealerts@vmc.org](mailto:nursealerts@vmc.org) no later than Friday, March 8.

For publication purposes, please include the follow-

ing for everybody pictured:

- Correct spelling of first and last name with credentials
- Job Title
- Work Area

Certification is the formal recognition of specialized knowledge, skills and experience demonstrated by the achievement of standards identified by a nursing specialty to promote optimal health outcomes. After meeting defined eligibility criteria, a certification candidate achieves a nationally-recognized credential through successful completion of a rigorous examination.