

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

Marilyn Dubree,
MSN, RN,
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NURSING RESEARCH JOURNAL LAUNCHES

Nurse researchers have a powerful new outlet to share their work with the Vanderbilt community. It's called "The Empowered Nurse," a twice-yearly peer-reviewed journal for and about nursing research. The Office of Nursing Research released the first issue in May in celebration of Nurses Week.

"It's open to any nurses, all levels, to submit," said Elizabeth Card, MSN, RN, a nursing research consultant and nurse practitioner who is the chief executive editor of the publication. "We wanted to make sure we had representation from all nurses. We have work from nurses in The Vanderbilt Clinic, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt Behavior Health, Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital, clinical nurses, advance practice, administration, and the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN)."

The debut issue, which has 36 pages and includes multiple articles, abstracts and research presentation posters, was the brainchild of Card and Nancy Wells, DNSc, RN, who recently retired from 25 years as director of Nursing Research for VUMC and remains a

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Summer is in full swing at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Many of us are taking the opportunity to reconnect with our families and friends through vacations, backyard barbecues and days spent at the pool. I hope each of you is enjoying the season.

At the Medical Center, we continue to push full steam ahead toward our fourth Magnet designation. We continue to bolster Vanderbilt's reputation as a center for nursing research. In this issue, you will read about our launch of a new nursing research journal called The Empowered Nurse. I invite you to

read about the impressive work that our nurses are doing.

This issue also announces the first round of our DAISY Award, which will be given to nurses who exemplify compassion toward our patients and families. Details about the launch of The DAISY Award will be forthcoming.

Enjoy this issue,

research professor of Nursing at VUSN. It can be found electronically at www.vanderbilt-nursingebp.com. A VUNet ID and password is required.

Card trained staff nurses to be peer reviewers for the publication. She said her office had several goals for the journal, which was the culmination of two years of preparation. It connects nurses working on projects throughout the enterprise who may not know one another.

Card mentioned an example – a nurse working to decrease noise in the operating room at Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital was able to be connected to nurses at the Children’s Hospital working on a similar effort.

The journal supports nurses who disseminate research from Vanderbilt to

get feedback and helps nurses become better writers and students of research literature. Ultimately, it is intended to inspire nurses who

the literature, completing projects, writing something — the more they can inspire and teach other nurses how to implement projects on their units,” Card said.

Prospective authors can submit their work at www.vanderbilt-nursingebp.com. Card emphasized that publishing internally does not prevent authors from publishing externally.

Executive Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, said the journal represents Vanderbilt Nursing’s growing emphasis on research and evidence-based practice.

“It is a joy to read this new journal,” she said. “Vanderbilt nurses are contributing to research in many areas and this project will continue to elevate the very important work they are doing.”

may have never considered the opportunity to become researchers. Vanderbilt nurses can get mentorship and support throughout the research process from the Office of Nursing Research.

“The more nurses that you get doing this — reading



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WITH VUMC NURSE LEADERS

Mary Duvanich, MMHC, MSN, RN

Position: Associate Nursing Officer

Work area: Orthopaedic Patient Care Center



How long have you been a nurse leader at Vanderbilt? I have been at Vanderbilt since July 7, 1997. I just celebrated 20 years this past summer.

What is your favorite aspect of being a nurse leader? I get the most satisfaction out of impacting the profession of Nursing. I have been very fortunate at Vanderbilt to be a part of many initiatives geared at making nursing the best it can be from the early days of the VPNPP, to Shared Governance, to the development of the LPN clinical ladder and now to the Ambulatory Care Model. Very satisfying. I also get a lot of energy and satisfaction from working with my nursing colleagues across the continuum. They represent an impressive body of knowledge and experience. Really, the best of the best!

What is your No. 1 piece of advice for nurses? We spend so much time taking care of others that we must remember to take care of ourselves.

What do you do for fun when you're not at work? Spend time with Jack, Terry, Buddy and Biscuit (my son, husband, and two pups). I also like to cook, travel, explore Nashville and binge-watch.



David Wyatt, MPH, RN

Position: Associate Nursing Officer

Work area: Surgery Patient Care Center

How long have you been a nurse leader at Vanderbilt? I started at VUMC on Nov. 1, 2010.

What is your favorite aspect of being a nurse leader? Providing staff and faculty with the resources to care for patients. When I see how our teams provide such amazing care and know that my role is to support and ensure they have what they need – this is satisfying.

What is your No. 1 piece of advice for nurses? Don't forget to take care of yourself – it is easy to get overwhelmed with the situations we encounter and pour yourself into patient care and meanwhile forget you need to take care of yourself (physically, emotionally and spiritually) as well as care for your family.

What do you do for fun when you're not at work? I love to travel, go to movies, spend time with my wife and daughters, and work out.

AWARD TO HONOR NURSES FOR COMPASSIONATE CARE

Vanderbilt University Medical Center is partnering with The DAISY Foundation to launch a new award to honor extraordinary nurses who exemplify compassion toward patients and families.

The DAISY Award will be first awarded in October and will honor four recipients –

one from Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt Clinics and Vanderbilt Behavioral Health. The award is open to all licensed nurses and anyone can nominate a nurse – including coworkers, patients and their families.

"The DAISY recognition for nurses is a great addition in order to further recognize Vanderbilt nurses for their compassion and care they provide every day," said Joanie Jeannette, MSN, RN, who is coordinating the program for the adult hospital. "This award is also a way for families to thank their nurses for going above and beyond.

Often families don't get the chance to do that and now they will have that opportunity."

In offering the award, Vanderbilt joins more than



3,000 health care facilities and schools of nursing in all 50 states and 17 other countries. Vanderbilt nurse committees will decide the individual recipients.

Vanderbilt Behavioral Health will give its award twice a year, and the other entities will award quarterly. Recipients will be honored with a certificate, badge pin and a statue made in a developing country called "A Healer's Touch."

"We are excited to introduce this award to our inpatient and outpatient units and clinics," said Katie Brennan, MSN, CDE, RN, who is overseeing the program in the VUMC clinics. "We know VUMC nurses are caring and

compassionate, as well as skilled and intelligent. When patients and families want a way to express their gratitude for the nursing care they received, The DAISY Award is a great way to say thank you!"

The DAISY Foundation was formed in 1999 to honor the memory of J. Patrick Barnes, a 33-year-old man who died of

complications of the autoimmune disease Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP). Barnes' family was moved by the care they received from his nurses and wanted to recognize them as a way to preserve his memory. Therefore, DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System.

"Every day our Vanderbilt nurses show care and compassion to patients and their families in all stages of life," said Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Executive Chief Nursing Officer. "The DAISY Award is just one more way we can recognize them for the great work that they do."