RN Residency—VA Boston Healthcare System (VABHS)

Northeast Region VA Nursing Alliance (NERVANA)

Fall 2019

Introducing the 2019/2020 RN Residents

TTP Residents: Jessica Barrett, Joseph Boomer, Beatriz Cardenas, Rodlande Cenafils, Tatiana Centeio, Erica Doolan, Herline Dory-Edmond, Jason Driscoll, Melissa Elliott, Erica Ebner, Elyssa Erwin, Meriele Goaga, Amy Hart-Rodriguez, Amanda Lovell, Yaynet Mejia, Carrie Murphy, Isabella Rodriguez, Derek Terrell, Zuri Walker

Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency (PBNR) Program

Sponsored by the VA Office of Academic Affiliations

Introducing the RN graduates selected to be the 2019/2020 PBNR Program Residents:

- Danielle Bostick, UMass Dartmouth
- Joseph Bradstreet, UMass Lowell
- Daniel Coyne, UMass Boston
- Breanna Devine, Becker College
- Hannah Dingley, Fairfield University
- Karen Gonzalez, UMass Dartmouth
- Edvania Greeley, UMass Boston
- Shannon King, Boston College
- Thomas Langevin, Castleton University
- Emily Mason, Fairfield University
- Emily Matthews, Boston College
- Cindy Mei, Simmons University
- Abi Newell, Mass College of Pharmacy & Health Services
- Tara O'Hanlon, Westfield State University
- Bruna Robalo, UMass Dartmouth
- Ting Vuong, UMass Lowell

The VABHS developed and implemented RN Residency Program in 2012. Guidance and support is provided by the NERVANA partners to ensure a comprehensive program. There are three distinct tracts of the RN Residency program: the PBNR trainee, the employee Transition to Practice (TTP)BSN and the employee Transition to Practice (TTP)ADN.

The PBNR trainee cohort is a highly competitive 12 month training program for BSN RNs. This training program is funded by the Office of Academic Affiliations. Upon completion, graduates are encouraged to apply for VA positions.

The VA Boston RN Residency program includes comprehensive curriculum components (didactic, clinical , experiential learning & evidence based practice). Supervision in the clinical area is provided by a qualified preceptor. A mentor is also matched with the RN Resident. .

The RN Residency Program has two cohorts: the PBNR trainee and the RNTTP employee entry to practice. Both cohorts of the RN Residency programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Where Are They Now? *Celebrating the professional accomplishments of our Nurse Residency Program Graduates*

Meghan Baraw, RN, Regis College

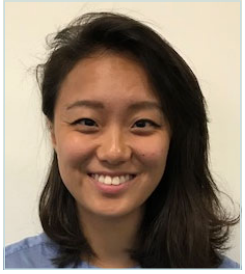
A1

Angela Goncalves, RN, Northeastern University

4-2-C

Julia Klein, RN, Boston College

Private Employment Manhattan, NY



Hyunsue Chung, RN, Boston College

A2

Madison Gray, RN, Westfield State

A2

Matthew Mann, RN, UMass Boston

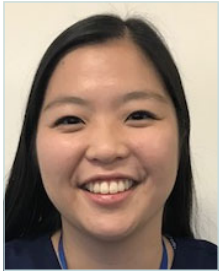
MICU

Sarah Collins, RN, UMass Amherst

AG

Kellie Hagerty, RN, UMass Amherst

AG



Rhea Schneider, RN, Regis College

AG

Casey Crawford, RN, Curry College

A2

Teresa Johnson, RN, University of Vermont

3N

Marianne Sevilla-Sacasa, RN, Boston College

3N

Alison Goforth, RN, Boston College

Private Employment - Denver, CO

Bridget Keefe, RN, Norwich University

SICU

Lauren Tetreault, RN, UMass Boston

2N

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education Accreditation

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) notified the VA Boston HCS Associate Director of Nursing /Patient Care Services, Ms. Cecilia McVey, on May 2017 that both the Federally Funded Traineeship Nurse Residency Program and the Employee Based Nurse Residency Program have been accredited for five years by the CCNE. Thank you & congratulations to the many dedicated contributors and participants! Next onsite accreditation survey visit will be Fall October 2021.

CCNE ACCREDITED

6th Annual Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Symposium with Project & Poster Presentation

The sixth annual Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Symposium was held at VA Boston Healthcare System at the West Roxbury campus on Thursday, July 25, 2019. The event kicked off with introductions by Judith Wendt, MSN, RN & Cecilia McVey, MHA, BSN, FAAN, Associate Director, Nursing/ Patient Care Services.

The keynote speaker was Patricia Underwood, PhD, APRN of the VA Boston Healthcare System. Her presentation was titled *Improving Diabetes Through Clinical Research and Nurse Interventions.* (top picture on the right)

Following Dr. Underwood's presentation, nurses in the 2018-2019 VA Boston Healthcare System RN Residency Program presented their completed EBP projects. With the help of RN residency program staff, preceptors, nurse managers and mentors, projects were developed and implemented from questions arising in clinical practice. Project posters were also developed and displayed.

The EBP projects included:

Uncovering Nurses' Knowledge of Delirium & Identification in Clinical Practice - Teresa Johnson BSN, RN & Esther Chung BSN, RN

Purposeful Hourly Rounding : An Effective Tool To Improve Patient Satisfaction - Sarah French BSN, RN, Sandra Miranda BSN, RN, & Marisa Vieira BSN, RN

Counting Sleep - Madison Gray BSN, RN, Casey Crawford BSN, RN, & Brittany Heinricher BSN, RN

The Mindful Nurse - Angela Goncalves BSN, RN & Nicole Condon BSN, RN

Inpatient Post Fall Management - Sterline Desjardins BSN, RN, Alcione Monteiro BSN, RN, & Jenny Baron ASN, RN

Hoyer You Doing? Barriers to Safe Patient Handling Lift System Use Among VABHS Nursing Staff on Acute Spinal Cord Injury Unit - Rhea Schneider BSN, RN & Alison Goforth BSN, RN

Do We (Oral) Care? - Matthew Mann BSN, RN, Julia Klein BSN, RN, & Marianne Sevilla-Sacasa BSN, RN

Harm Reduction: Naloxone Education Effectiveness at the VA - Kellie Hagerty BSN, RN & Sarah Collins BSN, RN (pictured middle)

Best Practice For Assessing Health Literacy - Lauren Tetreault BSN, RN, Bridget Keefe BSN, RN, & Meghan Baraw BSN, RN

Code Blue Preparation at VA Boston Healthcare System - Katherine Taylor BSN, RN, Kiara Corvelo, BSN, RN, & Jenny Pham BSN, RN

Identifying Best Practice for End of Shift Report - Kassidy Dias BSN, RN, Rosemarie McGowan ASN, RN, & Kelly Resendes ASN, RN

Lateral Violence in Nursing: Improving Unit Culture - Sara Lyman BSN, RN, Maytilda Park BSN, RN, & Anna Kogan ADN, RN

Moving Patient Handoff to The Bedside - Sydney Vieira BSN, RN, Nancy Veiga ASN, RN, & Dinora Fernandes ASN, RN (bottom photo below)

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Cecilia McVey, MHA, RN, FAAN
Associate Director for Nursing/Patient Care Services,
VA Boston Healthcare System (VABHS)

Forward newsletter comments & questions to Judy Wendt (Judith.Wendt@va.gov), Associate Chief of Nursing/Academic Affiliations

NERVANA:

In 2007, the Northeast Region VA Nursing Alliance (NERVANA) was created as an Practice-Academic partnership between the VA Boston HCS, Bedford VA and six schools of nursing. Goals for NERVANA include:

Maintain and refine the infrastructure for sustaining the mission, and supportive activities of NERVANA.

Increase the number VA Staff nurses to serve in the role of faculty to teach in nursing programs and NERVANA.

Create novel clinical rotations including intra-disciplinary and interdisciplinary Dedicated Education Units for BSN programs, APN rotations for MSN and DNP students.

Establish a culture EBP/research opportunities for students and staff interested in the care of veterans within the academic practice partnerships.

Educate students, faculty, and the community regarding the uniqueness of the health needs of the veteran population.

Expand programs at partnering schools to address healthcare issues related to the Veteran (i.e., Care of the American Veteran Colloquia series).

Translate knowledge to develop best practices for veterans in all healthcare settings.

NERVANA Nursing Partners Include:

- VA Boston Healthcare System (BHS)
- VA Edith Nourse Memorial Hospital - Bedford, MA
- Boston College
- Northeastern University
- Regis College
- Simmons College
- UMass Boston
- UMass Lowell

Congratulations to the 2018-2019 Post-Baccalaureate RN Residency Program and Transition to Practice RN Residency Program Graduates!

Applying for 2020-2021 VA Boston HCS Post-Baccalaureate RN Resident Positions

The Boston VA Healthcare System is pleased to announce that applications for the 2019-2020 Post-Baccalaureate RN Residency (PBNR) program are being requested and accepted beginning ***December 1, 2019.*** The VA Boston Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency program has been developed to improve the quality of patient care by providing additional training and support to new BSN graduates. This is a 12 month in length training program which incorporates a clinical, didactic, experiential learning and evidence based practice curriculum. This is a wonderful opportunity to make nursing history!

REQUIREMENTS:

· Must be U.S. Citizen.

- Graduated from a CCNE, CNEA, or ACEN accredited program with a BSN or Direct Entry MSN, between ***08/2019 and 06/2020.***
- Proficient in written and spoken English.
- Background & Security Investigation are required.
- Pass pre-trainee physical examination.
- Random Drug Testing is required.
- Obtain current, unrestricted RN license no later than August 1, 2020.

APPLYING:

If you meet the stated requirements above and are interested in this 12-month New Graduate BSN training program, please submit the following:

1. **RESUME:** no more than 2 pages.
2. **PERSONAL STATEMENT:** 400 words *"Why I Wish to be Selected for the VA Boston HCS RN Residency Program"*.
3. ***THREE*** **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATIONS:** ***TWO*** from school faculty (one must be a clinical faculty) and ***ONE*** from Nurse Manager/Assistant Nurse Manager of Unit of Senior Capstone Experience (or if you are employed as NA or PCA– your current immediate Nurse supervisor) place sealed envelope or e-mailed directly from School Faculty/Nurse Manager to Nurse Recruiter at: **BostonVAnurse@va.gov.**
4. **TRANSCRIPTS:** Official from school, sealed envelope.
5. **DD -214:** submit if applicant is a Veteran.

COMPLETE APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR EMAILED BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS (COB) April 1, 2020.

Submit to: NURSE RECRUITER, VA Boston HCS, 940 Belmont Street (118), Brockton, MA 02301

Fax: 774-826-1115 E-mail: BostonVAnurse@va.gov Program is expected to begin *August 17, 2020.*