



**NURSE PRACTITIONER
HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION**

Announcement of Launch

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Igniting a Passion for Service: The Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation

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In 2004, a group of “pioneer” nurse practitioners (NPs) met to discuss what was “next” in their professional lives. Each of us had been engaged in practice, education, research, and organizational development in various ways throughout our careers. How could we leverage that experience to propel the NP profession forward? What was needed to improve health care quality and access? What would be our legacy? What would be the best way to create a professional legacy that would make a difference in patient care? The answer was the Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation (NPHF), dedicated to “raising the bar” in health care, and bringing NPs to the forefront of the larger healthcare arena. Our vision encompasses both a national and an international scope.

Mission, Vision, and Goals

The mission of the NPHF is to improve health status and quality of care through NP innovations in research, education, health policy, service, and philanthropy. The vision of the NPHF is to become the foundation *partner of choice* in health care. To achieve our mission and vision, we will (1) work to foster interdisciplinary collaboration, (2) provide training in national and international priority areas of health, (3) educate NPs to lead change in the healthcare system, (4) target health literacy by providing culturally appropriate health education to the public, (5) focus on developing best practices for affordable quality care, and (6) engage professional,

consumer, and corporate collaborative partners.

The NPHF, an IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization, will strive to make high-quality, effective care accessible in the United States and throughout the world. It is not affiliated with any national organization, which allows us to work across the entire profession, from local to national to international levels.

Goals of the NPHF are to:

- eliminate disparities in health care;
- promote access to high quality care;
- enhance NP leadership in health care;
- promote research opportunities to improve health outcomes; and
- facilitate policy analysis to improve health outcomes and care delivery/systems.

Board of Trustees

A volunteer “Founding Board” of NPs and corporate professionals has guided the development of the NPHF. NPs serving on the Board of Trustees are chair Jean E. Johnson; vice chair Charlene (Chuckie) M. Hanson; and trustee Doreen C. Harper. Phyllis Arn Zimmer serves as president of the foundation (pzimmer@nphealthcarefoundation.org). Each of these NPs brings extensive leadership experience and organizational development expertise.

Other members of the board represent various health disciplines and components of the healthcare system: Sal Giorgianni, PharmD; Joel Tau;

Marsha Stanton, MS, RN; treasurer Michael Kerley; and George R. Young, CEO of NP Communications, LLC. These individuals will enhance our relationships with a host of health-related entities, including the publishing industry, the pharmaceutical industry, philanthropic groups, and other disciplines.

Honorary Board

The Honorary Board is composed of key individuals who support our mission, and who share their wisdom and advice with us. A special member is Loretta C. Ford, RN, PNP, EdD, FAAN, founder of the NP movement. In discussing the NPHF, Dr. Ford commented, “A very wise foundation officer once wrote, ‘A foundation must do more than expand knowledge; it must ignite the energies of those directly responsible for developing solutions.’ This, to me, is what is embedded in this new foundation’s mission. The foundation’s programs will help to ignite, energize, and inspire the talents of tomorrow’s NP leaders as they develop solutions to national and world health problems.” We hope to live up to Dr. Ford’s challenge.

Also serving on the Honorary Board are RADM Kenneth P. Moritsugu, MD, MPH, Deputy Surgeon General of the United States and dedicated advocate for public health; Ann Albright, PhD, RD, Vice President of Healthcare and Education of the American Diabetes Association and Chief of the Diabetes Program for the California Department of Health Services;

Nicole Johnson Baker, Miss America 1999 and international patient advocate, author, and television host; Larry Ellingson, RPh, CEO of Protelix Corporation; and Barbara Safriet, BA, JD, LLM, former associate dean in law at Yale Law School and author of numerous publications addressing the healthcare workforce and health professionals' licensure and regulation.

Administrative Support

The NPHF welcomes Michael R. Swearingen (mike@nphealthcarefoundation.org) as its executive director. Since September 2005, he has been instrumental in developing the NPHF's business plan and grant initiatives. Mike brings to the foundation more than 20 years of business experience in the healthcare industry. His background includes marketing, merchandising, professional relations, and philanthropy. He has served on the board of three professional foundations, as well as on numerous healthcare advisory committees.

Fiona Shannon, MHS, ARNP, FNP, administrative director (fiona@nphealthcarefoundation.org) of NPHF, has been part of the planning team since the foundation's inception. Fiona is a practicing NP and partner in an NP-owned business, FnP Associates, LLP. She has extensive administrative experience in providing support services to the NP profession, planning meetings, and creating continuing education programs for healthcare professionals.

Supporters

A venture of this magnitude cannot succeed without a team—people, funds, and programs united to facilitate success. The NPHF has received in-kind and financial support from organizations, corporations, and groups, as noted on our website: nphealthcarefoundation.org.

Announcement of Programs

Policy Fellowship in the Office of the US Surgeon General—For the



Jean E. Johnson

Phyllis Arn Zimmer

first time, the NP profession will have a Policy Fellow in the Office of the US Surgeon General. This 1-year fellowship, which may be extended for a second year, will go to a senior-level individual. After a period of orientation to federal programs, personnel, and agencies, the fellow will take on projects and responsibilities that are aligned with key federal health initiatives. The fellowship will focus on diabetes, although the duties of the fellow are at the discretion of the surgeon general's office. This is an outstanding opportunity for an NP to display leadership at the national level. The Policy Fellowship includes support for housing, travel, and an honorarium to replace salary. Based on an evaluation of submitted applications, a review panel will select semifinalists for in-person interviews with members of the NPHF Board of Trustees. For detailed information about the NPHF Policy Fellowship and an application, log on to <http://www.nphealthcarefoundation.org/nphffellowship.pdf>.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2006

The NPHF thanks AstraZeneca and Novo Nordisk for their generous support of this program.

The Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation/Procter & Gamble Scholarship Program—Through an endowment gift from Procter & Gamble, we are pleased to provide two scholarships in 2006 to facilitate NP education. The first scholarship will be awarded to an NP whose clinical or research interests are in gastroenterology. The second schol-

arship focuses on leadership. Scholarships will be awarded in December 2006. To access information and an application, log on to: http://www.nphealthcarefoundation.org/nphf_scholarship_app.pdf.

Application Deadline: June 1, 2006

The NPHF thanks Procter & Gamble for its generous support of NP education.

Why a Foundation? Why Now?

With all the NP professional organizations that exist, "Why a foundation, and why now?" Professional NP organizations provide services for their members and act to promote the NP profession. This foundation focuses on philanthropy—giving back to the public and providing service. It's time for NPs to take their place in the larger healthcare community—bringing our model of caring, our ability to collaborate across disciplines, and our unique expertise to bear on the health problems facing our world. The NPHF is being launched to make a difference: for the patients we serve, for the public good, and for the NP profession.

Learn more about the NPHF by visiting our website: nphealthcarefoundation.org. Join a new and creative venture by sharing your talent and ideas. Contribute by supporting initiatives that will create a better future for people around the world. As Jonas Salk said, "The greatest reward for doing is the opportunity to do more." The NPHF pledges to do...and do more.