



# Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation

*Improving Health Status and Quality of Care through Nurse Practitioner Innovations*

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation (NPHF) Announces Official Launch

[www.nphealthcarefoundation.org](http://www.nphealthcarefoundation.org) 1-425-861-0911

Bellevue, WA, March 1, 2006 – Phyllis Arn Zimmer, MN, FNP, FAAN, NPHF President, and Jean Johnson, PhD, RN, FAAN, Chair of the board of trustees, today announced the launch of a new foundation that is focused on improving health status and quality of patient care through nurse practitioner innovations in education, research, health policy, service, and philanthropy.

The Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation is incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit philanthropic organization independent of any particular segment of the nurse practitioner community. "This independence allows us to more clearly focus on enhancing quality of patient care, both in the United States and internationally, while continuing to lead and strive for Nurse Practitioner innovation across the entire discipline," said Dr. Johnson. To achieve its mission and vision, the NPHF will 1) work to foster interdisciplinary collaboration, 2) provide training in national and international priority areas of health, 3) education 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 goals of the Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation are to:

- Promote access to high quality health care
- Eliminate health care disparities
- Enhance nurse practitioner leadership in healthcare
- Promote research opportunities to improve health outcomes
- Facilitate policy analysis to improve health outcomes and care delivery/systems

To help launch the new foundation, numerous corporate and individual supporters have contributed in-kind and financial support of the foundation's programs, projects, and educational initiatives focused on quality patient care. The organizations and companies include: Abbott Laboratories, Animas Corporation, ARNPs United of Washington State, AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, CM&F Group, FnP Associates LLP, Hamilton Exhibits, Karen Spencer Design, Inc., Novo Nordisk, NP Communications LLC, Pfizer, NP Prescribing Reference, Procter & Gamble, Purdue Pharma LP, Roche, sanofi-pasteur, The Quigley Corporation, Unisource, and Verispan. "We're grateful for the ongoing support we have received. Going forward, we will partner with other health foundations, government, employers, professional associations, and industry leaders to create educational programs, research initiatives, health policy initiatives, and innovations in service delivery that make a difference – for the NP profession, and more important, for the patients we serve. Nurses and Nurse Practitioners have a long history of health care innovation and advocating for public health. The Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation will continue that proud tradition," said Mrs. Zimmer.

It is estimated there are approximately 141,209 (U.S. DHHS, December 2005) Nurse Practitioners in the United States devoted to providing and improving patient care. A nurse practitioner (NP) is a nurse with a graduate degree in advanced practice nursing. NPs practice in a variety of settings including private offices, managed care facilities, community clinics, correctional facilities, retail environments, school-based clinics, and hospitals. NPs provide a broad range of direct patient care services, such as routine history and physical exams; ordering laboratory tests, procedures and prescriptions; diagnosing, treating, and managing acute and chronic diseases; and coordinating referrals in collaboration with the patient and other health professionals. Nurse practitioner specialties include family practice, adult health, women's health, pediatrics, geriatrics, neonatology, psych/mental health, and acute care. NPs also provide education and wellness counseling about matters such as smoking cessation, nutrition, and immunizations, to assist patients in achieving healthy lifestyles.

### Contact information

Additional information about the NPHF may be obtained on the website: [www.nphealthcarefoundation.org](http://www.nphealthcarefoundation.org) or by contacting us at: 2647-134<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98005-1813 • Phone 1-425-861-0911