



Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) was founded in 1909 as the Training School for Nurses of Vanderbilt University Hospital. The first BSN degree was awarded in 1934. Current programs include a Master of Nursing Science program, a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing.

The mission of VUSN is to establish innovative scholarly advanced practice models that define and respond to healthcare trends in the care of vulnerable individuals and families, by continuing to establish inter-and multi-professional practice partnerships that are replicable in a variety of health settings.

The VUSN faculty (133 full time, 39 part time, and over 150 clinical faculty) are expert clinicians, educators, and researchers who contribute to the scholarly domains of research/scholarship, professional practice, teaching, and academic/community service. Of the over 1300 advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) in practice at Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC), over half are VUSN graduates from all MSN specialties and the DNP program.

VUSN has an established academic nursing partnership with VUMC, which originated in 1984. This relationship allows VUSN and VUMC's Nursing Services to provide opportunities for nursing faculty and students to interact in an interprofessional environment with nurses, physicians, and medical students in the areas of teaching, research and practice. In addition to VUMC, VUSN has established a number of academic clinical community partnerships (Table 1).

In concordance with the New Era report, these academic nursing partnerships demonstrate innovative and sustained relationships that meet the following New Era report recommendations: **Embrace a New Vision for Academic Nursing**

Through joint collaborative initiatives, collaborative research, and innovative practice roles including a national model for APRNs, VUSN has expanded the academic-clinical partnership. VUSN has been engaged in organized faculty practice for more than twenty years. One example of a robust VUSN faculty practice is the Vanderbilt Nurse-Midwifery Practice. The practice has two clinics for women's health and prenatal services for underserved and commercially-insured women. Faculty in these practices attend approximately 800 births each year (about one-third of all VUMC births). VUSN Nurse-Midwifery faculty also provide the professional services for a new, freestanding birthing center owned and operated by Baby + Co. This practice site oversees around 500 births per year. The faculty nurse-midwifery practice sites are critical for students in the VUSN nurse-midwifery academic program.

VUSN faculty members practice in a variety of locations within VUMC including the Vanderbilt Clinic, Vanderbilt at One Hundred Oaks and various Vanderbilt Medical Group locations in Nashville and the surrounding area (Figure 1). Practice sites include family health clinics,

employer-based clinics, pediatric and adult primary care, pediatric and adult acute care, neonatal intensive care, women's health, integrative health, occupational health, and specialty care clinics.

Clinical faculty and graduates also serve in clinical leadership roles. These include the Associate Nursing Officer, Advanced Practice, who oversees professional practice evaluation and advancement, education and development and credentialing and privileging of the over 1300 APRNs practicing at VUMC. Figure 2 outlines the historical overview of APRN practice co-facilitated by VUSN collaborations.