



## ELNEC Award Winners, 2014

### Kelli Anspach, BSN, RN-BC and Laura Bruce, RN



After attending the ELNEC train-the-trainer course in October, 2013, Kelli Anspach and Laura Bruce, Nurse Educators for Main Line Health in PA, quickly went to work planning and implementing the ELNEC program across their 5-hospital system. They earned support from their Chief Nursing Officer (CNO), using existing evidence to show potential return on investment. Grant money was awarded through a community partnership and supplemented by a generous family donation. In 2014, Kelli and Laura held 7 ELNEC courses and had a total of 314 participants attend. They also created a simplified class for Patient Care Technicians/Nursing Assistants held twice with 46 participants. They are measuring RN self-efficacy outcomes via a validated tool and are currently working on nursing research to capture correlation between ELNEC attendance and HCAHPS scores. [anspachk@mlhs.org](mailto:anspachk@mlhs.org), [bruceL@mlhs.org](mailto:bruceL@mlhs.org)

### Harri Brackett, MS, RN, CNS, ACHPN and Barbara Wenger, MS, RN, AOCNS, CRNI



Harri Brackett is the lead advanced practice nurse for the University of Colorado Hospital (UCH). In addition to teaching ELNEC courses, she helped to start the interdisciplinary inpatient palliative care team in 2005. With the opening of another tower at UCH in July of 2013 the opportunity developed to include four inpatient palliative care floating beds on the new 11<sup>th</sup> floor unit. In September, 2012, Harri partnered with ELNEC trainer Barbara Wenger, the Oncology/ Bone Marrow Transplant Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), to begin offering quality palliative care training for

nurses that would staff the new unit. This included offering the ELNEC-Core courses to help improve the knowledge of palliative care concepts through education. Since that time the ELNEC-Core course has been offered to not only the nurses on that unit but the hospital system and community twice a year. Currently, almost 125 nurses, social workers, case managers, patient navigators, physical therapists, and chaplains have received ELNEC training. UCH received Advanced Palliative Care Certification from the Joint Commission in November, 2013, and the fact that ELNEC is taught consistently was seen as impressively reputable by the surveyor. [Hareklia.Brackett@uch.edu](mailto:Hareklia.Brackett@uch.edu), [Barbara.Wenger@uchealth.org](mailto:Barbara.Wenger@uchealth.org)

**Michele Carter, BSN, RN**



Michele is the Palliative Care Coordinator at Shelby Baptist Medical Center in Alabaster, AL. Under her direction, the Palliative Care Program at Shelby Baptist began in April 2014. She believes that it is important for not only the hospital staff but also the community to have access to quality palliative care education. Michele teaches an ELNEC-Core course and an ELNEC-Critical Care course monthly for the hospital staff. Beginning in 2015, she will teach ELNEC – Geriatric to long-term care facility staff. She writes a bi-monthly educational palliative care newsletter which is placed on all clinical units within the hospital. A bereavement program was started to follow families for twelve months after the death of their loved one. This program includes mailing grief literature to families, providing grief support groups, and coordinating bi-annual memorial services. Beginning in 2015, the Palliative Care Program will partner with the hospital's Women's Services to offer bereavement programs to families. In addition, area senior BSN-RN students complete a rotation through the Palliative Care Program. These students are offered an introduction into the role of a palliative care nurse. "I would like to share this honor with the staff of Shelby Baptist Medical Center and the staff of the community based services that have embraced palliative care and provided support to the program." [michele.carter@bhsala.com](mailto:michele.carter@bhsala.com)

**Jody Chrastek, DNP, CHPN**



Jody loves to teach nursing students about the importance and basics of palliative care. She does this by teaching an evening class at Globe University in Richfield, MN. Though the students are apprehensive at first, they leave with a new sense of the importance of palliative care and their opportunity to communicate well with the healthcare team and to advocate for patients and their families. Jody has led two ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care courses in her institution. She has helped train over 120 nurses, working to "light a fire" for palliative care. She continues this work and commitment as a volunteer in India, as in most of India, palliative nursing education is in its infancy. In 2015 as part of the Indian Palliative Care Association conference, she will lead ELNEC train the trainer workshops adapted to the Indian culture. In 2016, practical applications and outcomes of the training will be presented. "There is a real thirst for knowledge and education in palliative care in India," states Jody. [jchrast1@Fairview.org](mailto:jchrast1@Fairview.org)

**Tracy B. Dickerson, BSN, RN, MACM, CHPN**



Tracy serves as the Hospice and Palliative Nurse Specialist for Loch Raven /Baltimore at the Veterans Administration of Maryland (VAMHCS) where she provides clinical consultation, education/staff development; policy development, program planning and implementation in all areas related to end of life/Hospice/Palliative Care throughout the VAMHCS. Tracy has facilitated collaboration with VAMHCS and Mercy Medical/Stella Maris Hospice to teach ELNEC-for Veterans to healthcare professionals in the Greater Baltimore area. To date, nearly 100 healthcare professionals have been educated, and additional dates are planned for future training. Tracy has also worked with nursing leadership at the VAMHCS to require all nursing staff and administration in key areas to receive ELNEC-for Veterans training. In addition to all of her responsibility at the VAMHCS, Tracy is also working on a Doctorate in Ministry (DMin) at Northern Seminary. [tracy.dickerson@va.gov](mailto:tracy.dickerson@va.gov)

**Daniel B. Garcia, MSN, RN**



Daniel is a nurse practitioner who works with Palliative and Family Medicine Specialists in the Philippines. He is an ardent nursing educator, resource person and active nurse advocate of Palliative and Hospice Nursing in the Philippines. Presently, he is elected as Secretary of the Sub-Committee on Hospice Care of the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP), a committee working on “Palliative and Hospice Care Module for Primary Health Care Providers”. He has been appointed as nursing consultant of “Geriatric Palliative and Hospice Care Module for Geriatric Nursing Certification Program” of Department of Health (DOH). The first ELNEC Core training course initiated, attended by 50 nurses, doctors, midwives, dentists and social workers, was held at the National Center for Geriatric Health (NCGH), in partnership with the Philippine Cancer Society. The second ELNEC course was in partnership with the Southern Philippines Medical Center (SPMC) in Davao City which was attended by 100 participants, including nurses, doctors, nurse managers and social workers. Daniel also organizes community outreach programs, providing care to those who survived Typhoon Yolanda, as well as attending to those living in poor areas, older adults, and abandoned older women.

[danielgarciajrnmsn@yahoo.com.ph](mailto:danielgarciajrnmsn@yahoo.com.ph)

**Suzanne Gwynn, RN**



Suzanne Gwynn, a registered nurse in Seattle, has worked intensely with children and young adults and their families in oncology and hospice care for over 30 years. Watching families live with the unimaginable, day after day, Suzanne was compelled to dream of a palliative care home, a safe place for them to land. She calls this place Ladybug House. As a nonprofit, the goal of Ladybug House is to build and operate a freestanding, community-based palliative care home in Seattle, WA. Those who will work at Ladybug House will offer palliative care to children and young adults with life-limiting illnesses and respite for their families.

Suzanne has recruited a team of dedicated volunteers and attracted hundreds of followers to the mission of Ladybug House and the goal of allowing each child to “Celebrate Every Day.” In June, 2014, Suzanne was invited to the White House by President Barrack Obama to celebrate the first “Makers Faire,” acknowledging people who are on the cutting edge of science, technology, and business. The evening was dedicated to ‘Do-it-Yourself’ inventors, job creators, and designers.

[suzanne@ladybughouse.org](mailto:suzanne@ladybughouse.org)

**Jeri Howard, RN**



Jeri began working in hospice and palliative care in 2009. She started out as a case manager for hospice patients in nursing homes. In 2013 she became an Education Coordinator for Henry Ford Hospice, in Detroit, MI. At that time she attended her first ELNEC-Core conference. Since then she has incorporated ELNEC into the orientation program at Henry Ford Hospice. She has led and overseen an education team that has since trained over 300 people in hospice and palliative care. Over 200 participants were non-hospice employees and over 20 are now ELNEC trainers. Jeri wants to continue to educate her community about the great service that hospice and palliative care can provide for patients that are terminally

ill and their families. [jhoward2@hfhs.org](mailto:jhoward2@hfhs.org)

## ELNEC-Geriatric/Japanese Translation Team



There are 58,820 Japanese aged 100 or older as of September 12th, 2014, and Japan precedes other countries in experiencing a “super-aging” society. Under such circumstances, a group of Gerontological Certified Nurse Specialists (GCNS) are committed to improve the quality of the end-of-life care in the elderly. How did they begin? They volunteered to start the “ELNEC-Japan Geriatric Project” under

the initiative of their chief director, Miyoko Kuwata. With the help of a grant from The Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation, the team members translated the original ELNEC-Geriatric curriculum and revised ELNEC-Japan Core curriculum by ensuring its consistency to fit with their unique cultural and medical backgrounds. They have started to disseminate their program since 2012, and to date have educated 454 nurses throughout Japan. This program has been in great demand for the nurses who care for older people at home, nursing homes and other medical institutions. [kmiyoko@sepia.ocn.ne.jp](mailto:kmiyoko@sepia.ocn.ne.jp)

**Pictured above:** The members of the team shown in the photo are (clockwise from top left): Note: Each one has credentials of RN, MSN, GCNS, unless otherwise stated. Yuko Shiozuka, Seiko Inano, Namiko Wada, Yuka Yamashita, Kazuko Tanaka, Yumiko Hanafusa, Ayako Saida, Kunie Tsuruya, Izumi Yamashita, Hiroki Fukahori, RN, PhD, Midori Nishiyama, Sachiko Yoshioka, Miyoko Kuwata, Kaori Takamichi, Sanae Takanashi. Others who were not pictured include: Minori Tokui, Sachiko Matsumoto, Junko Okamoto, Mariko Suzuki, Yumi Moriyama, Kumi Tanaka

## Singapore General Hospital



The integration of ELNEC into clinical practice at the Singapore General Hospital (SGH), an acute tertiary hospital, began in July 2013. With the vision of Chief Nurse, Dr. Tracy Carol Ayre, ELNEC was adopted to address the myriad of complexity of end-of-life care and to standardize basic palliative nursing across SGH. Six registered nurses (RNs) were nominated to attend the ELNEC-Core Curriculum and train-the-trainer workshop at Dover Park Hospice. After which, the team modified some contents to suit local context and

practices. Since the implementation of SGH ELNEC inservice training, 950 RNs have been educated and another 36 trained as trainers (3 palliative nurses from National Cancer Center Singapore). The evaluation of the ELNEC initiative was done using self-reporting assessment, showing an increase in awareness on end-of-life care among RNs. Training will be extended to Enrolled Nurses and Patient Care Assistants in the next phase as they are important team members in the delivery of quality care to patients and their families. For further information about this work, contact Diana See Teck Hong (SGH) [diana.see.t.h@sgh.com.sg](mailto:diana.see.t.h@sgh.com.sg)

**Pictured above:** Front row, left-right: Netty Ryanie Binte Kamaruzaman, Priscilla Chua Siew Huang, Stella Wang Hwee Yi, Chia Pei Yuh, Julian Lee Hui Min, Jon Binte Pee, Yang JuMei. Second row, seating, left-right: Elizabeth Leong Si'En, Michelle Ng Li Choo, Stella Goh Seow Lin, Lian Siew Bee, Zhu Xia, Xu Zhi Zhen, Kee Mong Ling. Standing, left-right: Tan Hui Li, Emily Kwan Wai

Yee, Rachel Marie Towle, Lillie Ho Yoke Kum, Foo Wee Ching, Jordan Hwang Chung Cheng, Samantha Lim Xinyi , He Hui, Diana See Teck Hong, Peggy Cheng Lay See, Alice Chua Foong Sin, Lim Wen Ting, Zhao XiaoLi, Woo Guan Yi, Teo Wanting, Tan Yih Shan, Cheah Yu Xiu, Lee Chen Na, Amy Lim Ee Lin. Absent from picture: Theng Li Ping, Amy Ong Su Ting, Chang Yee Yee, Ong Siew Yuk, Wong San See, Julianah Bee DO Abdul Latiff, Zhang Feng Qin, Norsyahidah Binte Hassan, Esther Loh Sheau Lan, Xu Yi.