



ELNEC Award Winners 2018



Penelope Buschman, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN, practiced for 25 years in a large urban children’s hospital combining a focus in child/adolescent/family psychiatric nursing with pediatric palliative care before moving to academia at Columbia University School of Nursing as an Assistant Professor. For ten years, Penelope, along with colleagues has developed and taught both a pediatric and lifespan palliative care specialty to nurse practitioner students. In addition, she and colleagues developed a DNP Nursing Fellowship in Palliative Care, supported by external funding. This Fellowship is in its seventh year and is focused on the preparation of nurse leaders in practice and policy. In 2018, recognizing the need for all nurses to have a foundation in palliative care, Penelope and her faculty colleagues advocated for the inclusion of the pre-licensure ELNEC modules in a required care coordination course for all Masters Direct Entry students, reaching over 200. This expansion of the palliative care initiative has changed the School of Nursing curricula and will impact future practice. prb3@cumc.columbia.edu



Maura Elli, RN, BSN, CHPN, CPN, is the Performance Improvement and Education Coordinator for Staten Island University Hospital’s University Hospice, Northwell Health. She has been a nurse for 21 years and has clinical experience in hospice, pediatric oncology and palliative care. Maura is currently enrolled in Stony Brook University’s Master of Science in Nursing Leadership Program, with an expected May, 2019 graduation date. She began teaching ELNEC in 2016, including the geriatric and critical care curricula. She is the lead educator for a NYS DSRIP long term care project. She and her team have completed 1,036 ELNEC classes and awarded 9,022 continuing education credits for ELNEC programs between 2016 and 2018. Her team recently held a train-the-trainer course for ten skilled nursing facilities in Staten Island, NY with the goal of helping all ten facilities have self-sustaining palliative care programs. Mellis2@northwell.edu



Jackie Hart, MSN, CHPN, CHA, has worked in hospice and palliative care for 28 years. She earned a Masters' degree in Leadership and Management and this has assisted her in various roles in hospice, including triage nurse, Manager of Access, Director of Clinical Education and Director of West Coast Operations. Jackie is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and presents ELNEC trainings for Haven staff and also in her community to raise awareness of palliative care.

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Kelley Larson is a Senior Curriculum Developer at Western Governors University (WGU) and has a passion for helping students learn how to collaborate with patients and their families to support palliative care needs and care that is compassionate, respectful, patient centered, and family supported. In April 2018, the ELNEC-Undergraduate online core modules were included in two nursing programs at WGU with more than 11,675 students receiving ELNEC-Core education.

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Hanife MacGamwell, RN, BSN, MSc, MTCM, PHN, has lived in various parts of the world, including Thailand and India. She forms groups that attend ELNEC courses and motivates nurses to provide better palliative care. However, Hanife recognizes that it takes time to “turn minds,” even those who are highly educated. She has travelled extensively, teaching nurses about compassionate palliative care: Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Delhi, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Mizoram, Manipur, Assam and Tamil Nadu. Currently, Hanife is in the process of working with the Indian Government National Service Scheme through nursing colleges in order to reach out to nurses in remote community hospitals. She has taught ELNEC in two nursing colleges (127 students), as well as in two major hospitals in India (860 participants in a 3-day ELNEC-Core training course). hanife545@gmail.com



Paula McAvoy, RN, MPA, OCN, CHPN, is currently the Senior Director of University Hospice and Staten Island University Hospital's in-patient palliative care program, part of the Northwell Health system. Paula has over 40 years of nursing experience and has worked in acute, long term, home, hospice, and oncology settings. Paula has taught ELNEC since 2001 including the core, critical care, and geriatric curricula. She was part of a team instrumental in implementing Staten Island University Hospitals annual ELNEC and has been the lead organizer for a NYS DSRIP long term care project. Paula's training team for DSRIP has completed 1,036 classes and awarded 9,022 continuing education credits between 2016 through 2018. pmcavoy@northwell.edu



Lisabeth Paradise, MS, FNP-C, ACHPN, is proud to be an ELNEC facilitator since 2001. ELNEC has become a core component of nursing education offered at University of Colorado Health in Northern Colorado since 2016. "This curriculum is one of the most sought out and well attended educational opportunities we offer," stated Lisabeth. Approximately 270 nurses, social workers and chaplains have completed ELNEC training since 2016. Many participants share that this education has enhanced their ability to care for the sickest and most vulnerable patients. Lisabeth.paradise@uchealth.org



Eunita Robertson, MSN, RN-BC, CHPN, MBA, CHA, serves as Education Coordinator for Alacare Home Health & Hospice in Birmingham, Alabama where she provides education and training on End of Life care. Since becoming an ELNEC trainer in 2007, Eunita has provided ELNEC Core training to over 300 nurses and other health care professionals in various settings. Eunita is well known for her unwavering dedication and efforts to enhance care for individuals and families at end of life through education and in 2018, she was successful in incorporating ELNEC Core training into Alacare's Clinical Ladder Program. In addition to being an ELNEC trainer, Eunita holds several specialty certifications including Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse, Certified Hospice Administrator, and Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) Approved Educator. Eunita is a member of the Alabama State Nurses Association, Alabama Hospice and Palliative Care



Organization, and where she serves as HPNA's Southeast District Leader, chair of the national RN Professional Development Advisory Council, and is current President of HPNA's Central Alabama chapter. eunita.robertson@alacare.com



Kelley Scott, BSN, RN, CHPN, is the founder and Executive Director of Clarehouse, a social model hospice home in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She is a leader in this emerging model of care and serves nationally as President of the Board of the Omega Home Network. She was ELNEC trained in 2002 and has taught courses in a variety of settings to multiple disciplines over 17 years. Currently in a community with 40+ medical hospice programs, Kelley works to elevate collegiality in a highly competitive hospice environment, while promoting expert knowledge and care through quarterly classes reaching home hospice, hospital, long-term care, and volunteer providers. kscott@clarehouse.org



Britni Smith, hosted three ELNEC classes and taught 42 community members best practices in end-of-life and palliative care in 2018 alone through Clarehouse in Tulsa, OK. With her team, she has offered 536 hours of professional development through the ELNEC curriculum. "By furthering the knowledge of healthcare providers, they have a direct impact on improving care within our community by incorporating the ELNEC curriculum into their practice," stated Britni. Britni has seen that sharing what participants have learned, their patients and peers are impacted for years to come. Over the last four years, Clarehouse has developed a robust clinical education program. Through clinical rotations and lectures, and works with 15 local colleges and universities and 12 disciplines to help further the knowledge of palliative care. bsmith@clarehouse.org