

AACN's

# WASHINGTON WEEKLY

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February 21, 2018



## Remembering David LaFevers

It is with heavy hearts that AACN mourns the loss of William David LaFevers, DNP, APRN, FNP, FAANP, who passed away on February 15. Dr. LaFevers was a Clinical Assistant Professor and MSN Program Director at the School of Nursing and Health Studies at University of Missouri-Kansas City. He was an inspiring educator, mentor, clinician, and much more to the people who knew him well. Dr. LaFevers' dedication to the nursing profession and leadership was evident through his numerous professional accomplishments. He was selected for AACN's Faculty Policy Intensive Fellow Class of 2015 and was chosen to serve as a member of the AACN Faculty Policy Think Tank to provide critical insight into the state of policy education in undergraduate and graduate nursing programs. Dr. LaFevers emphasized the importance of advocacy in every opportunity at the local, regional, and national level. He was inducted as a Fellow of the American Association Nurse Practitioners (AANP) and served as the AANP Missouri State Representative from 2015 to 2018. Our thoughts are with his family, friends, and colleagues. He was a compassionate and caring friend who will be deeply missed.



## Honoring Black History Month: Spotlight on Nurses in Policy

AACN honors Mary Elizabeth Carnegie, RN, DPA, FAAN, whose deep commitment to nursing education established ground-breaking opportunities for African Americans in the profession. In 1943, Dr. Carnegie developed the first baccalaureate nursing program at Hampton University, which was the first four-year nursing program in the Commonwealth of Virginia. She was the first African American nurse elected to the Board of Directors of a state nursing association, serving for the Florida State Nurses Association. During her extensive career, Dr. Carnegie served as the Chairman of the National Advisory Committee of the American Nurses Association Minority Fellowship Program, the first African American President of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN), Dean of Florida A&M University School of Nursing, and acquired eight honorary doctorates from accredited institutions. In 1994, she received the AAN Living Legend award for her extraordinary contributions to the nursing profession. Dr. Carnegie's career path was not without challenges, as she had to navigate the racially segregated South. Her vision for equality compelled her to overcome these barriers and publish numerous works; notably, *The Path We Tread: Blacks in Nursing Worldwide, 1854-1994*. Dr. Carnegie passed away in 2008, but the impact of her legacy continues to span across the profession.



## Federal Officials Voice Support for Research on Gun Violence, AACN Joins with Partners

Following the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida last week, Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Alex Azar [told](#) the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health that gun violence research is a priority for the department. However, the [President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2019](#) proposed a cut of \$19.2 million, or 6.7%, from Fiscal Year 2017 levels for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, responsible for leading research on violence prevention. [Federal officials](#) are increasingly asking to reexamine public health policies. To this end, AACN joins with the broader healthcare community in sending a letter urging Congress to provide funding for federal research and public health surveillance on firearm-related injuries.