



Health
Ministries
Network

2020-2021

ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE HMN BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear HMN Community & Supporters,

What a season 2020-21 has been!

Amidst the tragedies of pandemic and accompanying spiritual unrest, Health Ministries Network has responded, bolstering our much-strained healthcare community by fulfilling our mission, which our board updated in 2021:

linking Faith Community Nurses & Health Ministers, congregations and local resources, to nurture community health equity with spiritual well-being.

In this time, we have been:

- Connecting people throughout pandemic, to include long-term care facility window visits, phone banks and Zooming
- Helping with Food Bank services and providing home deliveries to those in need
- Providing best practices information and support to faith communities during pandemic
- Volunteering at COVID testing and vaccination clinics
- Initiating our Ask a Nurse Program in East Whatcom County

- Partnering with the YMCA and Mt. Baker Foundation in bringing blood pressure self-monitoring to Whatcom County
- Supporting Aging Well Whatcom, a community initiative that aims to make Whatcom County a place with the culture, physical infrastructure, social supports, and services for all of us to age well
- Continuing our mission to train and support FCNs and HMs to serve their congregations and community by promoting preventive health care, social justice and spiritual well-being
- Partnering with our faith communities and health systems to deliver whole person health and wellness, linking mind, body and spirit.

To sustain our efforts, I invite each of you to consider supporting Health Ministries Network on a quarterly or monthly basis. Individual giving will be critical as we continue to be a viable resource in addressing the needs of our recovering communities.

In gratitude,
Joni Hensley, BSN, RN
HMN Board Chair

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” Mahatma Gandhi

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS

A special thank you to our fiscal sponsor and major sponsor, Chuckanut Health Foundation (CHF).



We are grateful also to CHF Jean Billings Tischler Fund of Chuckanut Health Foundation for providing support to our FCN/HM community for continuing education.

Thank you to PeaceHealth, a major sponsor in 2020 and a continuing supporter and partner.



Thank you to Aging Well Whatcom, who provided a grant for us to launch the Ask a Nurse Program at the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center, serving Mt. Baker School District #507



And again in 2020, **Woods Coffee** has kept our nurses and health ministers encouraged by providing gift cards that we gift to those who serve!

We also offer our thanks to the **North Sound Accountable Communities of Health (NSACH)** for iPads for our FCNs and HMs to use across communities to connect people with needed resources. We are currently using these iPads at our Ask a Nurse program.

Thank you to **Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA)** for the grant of 100 6-ride bus passes, all of which have been given to clients in Faith Communities and at our Ask a Nurse Program.

Thank you to faith communities and faith community organizations for your support, and to **Faith Community Nursing Health Ministries Northwest** and **Hope Lutheran Church** for their generous support.

Finally, we love our generous, individual donors for 2020, who helped make it possible to ensure our Foundations course ran remotely and that we continued to operate safely and successfully: **Dick and Karlene Cathell, Robert and Carol Ham, Joni Hensley, R Michael and Lois Massanari, Katherine Massey, Charles Nelson, Carol and Neal Nicolay, LeAna Osterman, and Norman Taylor.**



WHAT HEALTH MINISTRIES NETWORK PROVIDES

In 2020, Faith Community Nurses and Health Ministers who are affiliated with Health Ministries Network reported:

- Service to 26 faith communities
- 1,562 hours of volunteer service, a value of \$67K (based on \$41.43, US Bureau of Labor and Statistics hourly rate for RNs)
- 58 individual referrals to outside support services
- 80 individual visits/calls related to palliative care
- 51 individual visits/calls related to transitional care (from hospital to home)
- 551 individuals served in Advance Care planning through individual/group classes
- 801 individuals served in support groups

So far in 2021, HMN has:

- Trained 6 new FCNs/HMs and partnered with Oregon and Tacoma contingents to support regional Foundations training
- Connected over 150 older adults with the COVID-19 vaccination
- Implemented the Ask a Nurse Grant
- Supported Aging Well Whatcom through participation, connection and advocacy
- Partnered with Mt. Baker Foundation and the Whatcom YMCA to pilot blood pressure self-monitoring in Whatcom County

Testimonials

Hope Lutheran Church in Lynden, WA. Pam Colyar, FCN and HMN Board Member, shares that health ministry is alive and well and creative! Shining brightest during this time is the work of Judy Johnson, FCN who invigorated their letter-writing mission and maintained connection through letters and cards throughout the pandemic.



First Presbyterian Church, Bellingham, WA.

The years 2020-21 have been challenging for us all, and although we would not have chosen this, we have seen God care for us in many ways. Last fall our church offered a 9-week Zoom class using the Sanctuary Mental Health curriculum. Nearly 50 people consistently attended the classes, and all felt it very worthwhile during these stressful times. We also offered two Advance Directive classes on Zoom, and families living in different cities attended together.