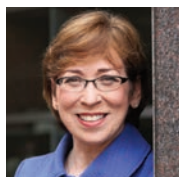


NURSING

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Transforming patient care through professional practice

March 2024



A newsletter
from the office
of the Executive
Chief Nursing
Officer

Marilyn Dubree,
MSN, RN,
NE-BC, FAAN

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VUMC RECEIVES \$500,000 SANE GRANT

Vanderbilt University Medical Center has received a federal grant of nearly \$500,000 to expand access to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) across Middle Tennessee, particularly to rural and underserved areas.

The grant, from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime, is awarded to increase the number and availability of SANEs and sexual assault forensic examiners (SAFEs), expand access to sexual assault forensic examinations to communities that have been historically underresourced, and improve the quality of post-sexual assault care using a hospital-based, community-based, campus-based or corrections-based approach.

While any nurse can assess a patient, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners are specifically trained to help victims of sexual assault, collect evidence and testify in court, said Katrina Brown, MSN, RN, CEN, SANE, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Team Lead. They must complete a 40-hour classroom course and 16 hours of clinical skills training, in addition to exams with a preceptor.

"It takes a lot of courage for a victim to come forward and seek treatment and disclose their assault in the first place," Brown said. "SANEs receive extensive training in trauma-informed care and meeting the patient where they are, knowing that they've gone through something extremely traumatic and helping them navigate this system."

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Happy Spring! In this issue, please read the above story about how our Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program received an important grant to extend services even further into our communities. I want to commend everyone who is making this possible.

Also in this issue, you will read about a recent Health Care Career Day at Pearl-Cohn High School in North Nashville, which was organized by our Nursing Diversity and

Inclusion team. I had the opportunity to attend, and it was so inspirational meeting the next generation of nurses and other health care professionals.

Thank you again for all you do.

Enjoy this issue,

In the last five years, VUMC has been instrumental in expanding SANE access throughout Middle Tennessee, Brown said. Before VUMC's SANE program was created in June 2018, Nashville General Hospital was the only Nashville location offering SANE services.

Now Vanderbilt is one of several local options where victims of sexual assault can be examined by a specially trained nurse. About 90% of patients are seen at the Vanderbilt University Hospital Emergency Department. Other locations include Vanderbilt University Student Health Center, Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital (VWCH) and Vanderbilt Tullahoma Harton Hospital (VTTH).

VUMC's 36 SANEs examine patients ages 16 and older, and a SANE is on call 24 hours a day. Patients under 16 have access to similar services through another agency, Our Kids Center.

"With this grant, our specially trained nurses will be able to provide this expert care to more people who need it," said Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Executive Chief Nursing Officer. "This is just another example of how Vanderbilt nurses offer personalized care that responds to the needs of the community."

Brown said the grant will help expand the number and quality of SANE services throughout Middle Tennessee, including Vanderbilt Bedford



The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner team receives extensive training in trauma-informed care.

Hospital. Vanderbilt's SANE program's three-year plan is to develop and implement a formal SANE training program to be used to train 90 SANE providers internal and external to Vanderbilt clinics and hospitals.

It also plans to expand access to VIVID Health, which serves the LGBTQ community, as well as further building the programs at VWCH and VTTH. Lastly, the plan aims to increase the linkages between the Vanderbilt program and external agencies and law enforcement supporting victims of sexual assault in Middle Tennessee.

"By expanding access to sexual assault nurse examiners, we will provide more timely care and support to victims," Brown said, "while also collaborating with our law enforcement and advocacy partners to help contribute to a safer Nashville and Middle

Tennessee region."

VUMC's SANE program has already grown significantly in just the last couple of years. In 2023, SANEs cared for 141 patients at VUMC and Student Health, up from 84 patients in 2022. In addition to performing exams, they help connect patients with resources, including those in intimate partner violence or human trafficking populations. They offer advice on preventing sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, and ensure patients have access to emergency contraception.

"My team of nurses is the most passionate, dedicated, high-performing team of nurses who truly want to change the world," Brown said. "It is a privilege and an honor to be able to offer these services to patients here as well as reaching into our rural communities."

HEALTH CARE CAREER DAY PROMOTES DIVERSITY

VUMC Nursing organized a Health Care Career Day at Pearl-Cohn High School in North Nashville on Feb. 29 to expose students to diverse and rewarding careers in health care in general and at VUMC in particular.

The goal is to create a pathway to recruit and retain diverse nurses, medical assistants, care partners and other important roles, said Mamie Williams, PhD, MPH, MSN, APRN, senior director of Nursing Diversity and Inclusion at VUMC.

The fair featured a multidisciplinary group of more than 20 Vanderbilt professionals, including representatives of nursing, social work, EMS, pharmacy, Medicine and surgical and radiology technologists.

"It has been a fulfilling experience to share our passion and love for our respective professions with the students at Pearl-Cohn," said Amber T. White, DNP, RN, quality/patient safety advisor for Performance Management & Improvement at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. "I am optimistic that the knowledge imparted will serve as a valuable guide for them as they navigate their career paths."

Each of the providers talked with the students about their roles, the educational requirements for them, and



Pearl-Cohn High School students Mia Moshay, 18; Katiea Brooks, 18; and Kyler Garcia, 16, speak with VUMC employees Lindsey Storm, CPhT-Adv, CPST, and Terry Bossen, PharmD, during the Health Care Career Day Fair at Pearl-Cohn High School in North Nashville.

their average salary, Williams said.

"These young people are so energetic, and it is a pleasure to meet them," she said. "We believe that nurses and other medical professionals have a role to get out there and champion our professions, advocating for young people to perceive them as great opportunities for careers."

Vanderbilt nurses created the fair specifically for students of Pearl-Cohn's Health Science Academy, which prepares students interested in pursuing medical careers. Williams and other VUMC professionals serve as mentors in the program who meet monthly and discuss diverse topics that are foundational to

an individual's success as a health care professional.

"The idea for the fair came from my work with the students in the mentoring program, where I noticed a gap in their knowledge and awareness of the health care field, Williams said.

It all starts by increasing the students' knowledge of what health care roles are available to them.

"This work is foundational to the success of our efforts to grow and diversify our team of Vanderbilt nurses," said Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, executive chief nursing officer. "I have no doubt that we will one day welcome these young people to Vanderbilt as nurses and other health care professionals."

SENEFELD KROMER ELECTED TO BOARD OF ANPD

Rachel Senefeld Kromer, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, NEA-BC, director of Clinical Education and Professional Development for Vanderbilt University Hospital, has been elected to the board of directors of the Association for Nursing Professional Development (ANPD).

The ANPD “advances the specialty practice of nursing professional development for the enhancement of health care outcomes,” according to the organization.

“Professional development as a specialty of nursing practice is defined by standards, based on research, and critical to quality patient and organizational outcomes. The goal of ANPD is to be acknowledged as the expert voice, advocate and leading resource for nursing professional development practice.”



Kromer

Implementation Committee since 2021 and served as that committee’s chair in 2022-2023. She is a mentor for the ANPD EBP (Evidence-Based Practice) Fellowship and has been a contributing author to ANPD books, podcasts, webinars and modules.

Kromer started at Vanderbilt as a care partner in 2007 and was in the first cohort of the Nurse Residency Program in 2008. She has held several nursing roles since, including clinical staff leader and nursing education specialist. She has a

Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Middle Tennessee State University and a Master of Science in Nursing degree from Vanderbilt University.

“It means a lot to me that my career is proof of the professional development options available to those starting out in VUMC Nursing,” Kromer said. “As a future director on the ANPD Board, I look forward to using my voice to represent the interests of Nursing Professional Development practitioners and associates and advocating for the unique specialty of Nursing Professional Development. It’s an honor and a privilege to be in a leadership position for the specialty at a national level.”

CERTIFIED NURSES SCRAPBOOK NOW AVAILABLE

For over 15 years, we have been celebrating our Certified Nurses with an annual Scrapbook in honor of Certified Nurses Day on March 19. The call for photo submissions was sent at the beginning of February. This scrapbook is not a reflection of all our certified nurses or their certifications held, but those who were able to share photos and/or information on behalf of themselves or their teams.

To visit this year’s scrapbook, go to

<https://vanderbiltnursing.app.vumc.org/newsletters/2024CertifiedNursesDay3.19v5/>

