President’s message

Dear Membership,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer – I know I am, now that the sun has finally made an appearance in Ohio. The APGNN summer newsletter is always filled with important information about our upcoming conference. Please make sure to take the time to read through this completely as there is still time to submit nominations for awards and scholarships. The most up to date information will be on our website www.apgnn.org thanks to our media chair, Sharon Perry.

We have had several abstract submissions this year and I am looking forward to reviewing all of them this week. I love the opportunity to learn from my colleagues across the country and that is exactly the opportunity we all get at the annual meeting from these abstracts. If you submitted an abstract, you should know in the next few weeks if it has been accepted. This will give everyone plenty of time to make travel arrangements.

For those members that need financial assistance with travel to our annual meeting, APGNN offers travel scholarships to help offset the cost. You will find the scholarship application on our website as well. Under the tab “APGNN”, you will see a drop down menu that includes “scholarships and awards”. All the information can be found in this location. There is still time to apply for the Excellence in Education award so if you have developed a tool to help with patient education, please consider applying for this award. The winner of this award is invited to present at the meeting, receive complimentary conference registration, up to $500 for travel expenses and 2 nights stay at the conference hotel. In addition to this award, there are two additional awards open for nominations, the Excellence in Mentoring and Excellence in Nursing Practice award. There are so many nurses I know who are deserving of these awards and I am certain all of you know several as well. This is our opportunity to showcase our professionalism so please, consider nominating a worthy colleague!

This is Nannette Martin’s first year as program chair and she and the program committee have done an outstanding job of putting together an interesting agenda with excellent speakers. This is the only conference you will attend that contains pertinent pediatric GI nursing content from start to finish. You can find a more detailed agenda on the website as well.

We will start voting for new committee chairs soon. Please see Ryan Waduge’s section regarding our candidates. Even though there may only be 1 person running per opening, it is essentially that we get the needed amount of votes to consider this a valid election. If you think you may be interested in running for a chair position in the future, please consider joining the committee to learn all about the work the committee does.

Happy reading,

Amy Donegan APRN
APGNN President
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ELECT

Greetings from the hot desert!

It’s 108 degrees here in Las Vegas now. Other “hot topics” include our main event 2019 APGNN Annual Meeting and Conference! Being on the Board (which I highly recommend) really allows you to see the time and passionate effort put towards planning this great experience. It’s all hands on deck right now as we get closer to October. I also encourage everyone to look at the Post Graduate course that takes place the day before our meeting as this is a wonderful variety of topics, and the Learning Lunches allow for a small group settings with the expert speakers. And the part I love the most every year is seeing old friends and making new ones! Words cannot express how valuable this has been to me over the years.

As President Elect I also would like to share that I am very excited to follow in great footsteps. Our current president Amy Donegan has continued to lay the groundwork to keep our organization growing professionally and with membership. I appreciate all her support to help me be prepared for this role.

Teresa Carroll, APRN
President Elect

“Smell the sea and feel the sky. Let your soul and spirit fly” - Van Morrison

PROGRAM

Happy Summer from North Carolina! It’s hard to believe that our APGNN conference is less than 4 months away! I hope you have marked your calendars for October 18 and 19. We have a phenomenal group of experts lined up! Our keynote speaker is a dynamic psychologist, Claire Coyne. She will be teaching us how to build resilience in our transgender patients, a topic that several APGNN members have expressed an interest in learning more about. Carlo DiLorenzo will update us on the new Rome IV criteria and Rachel Rosen will speak to us about the new GERD guidelines. This is just a sampling of some of what this conference will offer. We will again have Saturday afternoon open for NASPGHAN concurrent sessions. The agenda is posted on the Annual Meeting registration site.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
Just go the NASPGHAN website to sign up. Conference and hotel information is available. Please email me if you have any questions!

Nannette Martin, CPNP
APGNN Program Chair
Pedzfeedz@gmail.com
This is the first year APGNN has been invited to attend this course held yearly. It is organized and led by members of NASPGHAN and CPNP. Primary attendees are fellows in Pediatric GI and CPNP members. I found this meeting to be very valuable for my practice as a NP in general GI practice primarily because I do not have access to a nutrition professional who is readily present at the clinics I go to and therefore I provide most of the nutrient counseling on my own. The course topics included Allergic GI diseases, IBD, short bowel syndrome, pediatric malnutrition, critically ill obese pediatric patients, FTT and feeding disorders, cystic fibrosis, and growth failure in liver disease. The sections were discussed in both a case based presentation intermingled with formalized lecture sections. It was broken down into small group setting which made for easy interaction between the audience and presenters. In the evening of the first night, there was Nutrition Jeopardy -- which was highly fun and informative and lunch the next day included lectures on the nutrition specialists toolbox – providing web based links of value and a didactic presentation on the microbiome in reference to pediatric nutrition.

Below are just a few interesting points I would like to share:

--Exclusive enteral nutrition is an option of IBD flares—EEN for 8wks instead of prednisone recycle has been used with calprotectin levels going back to normal after the therapy. A couple recent reports indicate that new diagnosis of CD go into a longer initial remission when EEN is used with anti-TNF for the first few weeks

--Highly allergic infant foods are sweet potatoes and bananas, lowest allergic foods are lamb and quinoa

--Studies continue to show that the risk of IBD is highest in those consuming foods high in N-6PUFA (processed foods, fatty meats); lower risk of IBD in those consuming N-3 PUFAs (plant based fats) agreement that once present however the type of food consumption probably does not impact treatment/symptoms. The specific carbohydrate diet (SCD) does help with clinical symptoms but has NOT been shown to improve the histology in IBD

--EoE is found in 40% of all children who present with feeding refusal and EGD should be considered in these kids. Majority of the time in EoE dairy is the main culprit; rarely are multiple food restrictions needed—if so more likely to be a diagnosis of FPIES

--The terminology FTT is no longer recommended to be used—preference is Weight Faltering. Between 9-12 months having 1 month of no weight gain is within the realm of normal. LGA babies should show a downward trend in weight percentiles over the first 3 months of life or they will be prone to metabolic syndrome at a young age. On the reverse, 15% of SGA babies do NOT show catch up growth, 85% do show catch up in the first 3 months of life. Preemies less than 32wks gestation rarely show catch up growth

-- You can estimate a child’s height by taking the average of both parents and then add 2.5” for boys or subtracting 2.5 inches for girls

--24-26 week preemie only has 70 cms of small bowel; in the third trimester, they double the intestinal length.

--Manganese is not needed in TPN due to bag contamination, Suspect copper deficiency if child has high cholesterol, hypochromic, microcytic anemia and neutropenia. Cooper deficiency is common in those fed with a G-J tube. Need to monitor all trace elements every 3 months if TPN caloriess are greater than 75% of needs, check selenium and iodine. SMOF lipids appear more beneficial than Omegaven

--Sequential monitoring of MUAC (mid upper arm circumference) and TSF (triceps skin fold) every 7 days on inpatients is a good indicator of nutrient status in addition to daily weights; always check Vitamin levels fasting because if done right after oral supplements are given will be falsely high

--Vit E deficiency does not typically occur until after age 2 in malnourished patients—will see loss of DTR’s (first thing that goes away long before other symptoms), ataxia and decrease in EOM’s ; Easiest to develop toxicity on Vitamin E with supplementation

--Vitamin D3 is from animal sources and D2 typically from plant sources; Check Vitamin D once a year in March and supplement based on that level. Stoss protocol to replenish Vitamin D 500,000 PO one 1 day—can be done safely

--Vitamin A deficiency is monitored by looking at the retinol to retinol binding protein ratio

--MMA or homocysteine level detects early Vitamin B12 deficiency and is resulted quicker than drawing a vitamin level. Think of other B vitamin deficiencies (thiamine, etc) with complaint of burning feet

--Can be EFAD even if growing well, need to monitor the triene/tetrene ratio. Do NOT draw a prealbumin as a measure of nutrition as it will be low with any type of inflammation in the body

--85% of the bacteria in the human gut CANNOT be cultured at this time; the microbiome is very “plastic” and is highly dependent on what we eat. The “ideal” microbiome has NOT been defined. Be very skeptical of specific recommendations as there are so many individual differences – will likely be precision medicine based on unique difference in our microbiome

Rose Pauley, Secretary-Treasurer
Happy Summer!!!

It’s hot and sunny in Cleveland. We just hosted the All Star Game, the Soap Box Derby is underway, and the Cleveland Browns training camp starts in a few weeks!! It’s a great time to be in the 216!

There have been several website updates, including education videos and new handouts to use in clinic and share with families. The new conference scholarship applications have been updated so please take advantage of the many opportunities available! The ballot for new board positions will also be available so please vote!

If you have something at your center you want to highlight or you’ve done something amazing you want to share, please let me know and I will get it out there!! Just email me at sharon.perry@uhhospitals.org

- Sharon Perry, Media Chair

Like us on Facebook @APGNN
Follow us on Twitter @APGNN1
Follow us on Instagram @apgnn1

PATIENT AND FAMILY EDUCATION

The Patient & Family Education Committee has continued to expand the GIKids.org website, which plans to launch in a few weeks! Please be on the lookout for the new website, which will be much more user-friendly and the content will be fully reviewed and up to date. I want to thank the committee for recent work on the following educational materials:

- pH impedance testing
- Abdominal ultrasound
- Upper GI Series
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- Biofeedback therapy
- School Accommodations for Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- School Accommodations for functional GI disorders

Please consider applying for the Excellence in Education Award! This is a fantastic way to highlight the work you do every day that helps our patients and their families. The application is straightforward and available on the website. If you have any questions or want to discuss an idea, please feel free to reach out to me.

~ Elizabeth Burch, CPNP
Patient & Family Education Committee Chair

“the summer night is like a perfection of thought” - Wallace Stevens
MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our new members!

We are looking forward to our annual meeting on October 18 to 19, 2019 in Chicago. Planning has begun. There are many ways to participate for APGNN members:

♦ Apply for the APGNN Conference Scholarship, which covers your conference registration and a portion of your hotel accommodations. We are awarding 3 scholarships this year

♦ Apply for the Abbott Conference Award open for those who submit a nutrition related oral abstract or poster. We have the pleasure of providing 3 scholarships and 1 additional scholarship to one of our new members this year

♦ Submit the name of someone who has been instrumental in your journey as a pediatric gastroenterology nurse for the APGNN Mentoring Award

♦ Choose to honor a nursing colleague for the Excellence in Nursing Practice Award

♦ Join a committee :)

The Membership Committee is looking for motivated members for the following projects:

♦ APGNN Mentoring Program to help our nurse colleagues in their new role as pediatric gastroenterology nurses and advanced practice practitioners

♦ APGNN conference exhibit booth – recruiting and networking with new and current members

♦ Recruiting new members and planning activities to energize our membership

Membership promotions:

♦ If you know someone who wants to become a member, have them fill out a membership application. It’s right in this newsletter!! We are still offering a buy 3 memberships, get 1 free!

♦ Collaborations with other organizations: Right now we have a partnership with NAPNAP that allows a 20% discount on APGNN membership for NAPNAP members. We would like to collaborate with other nursing associations to enhance our membership

Applications for Membership, Conference Scholarship, Abbott Nutrition Travel Scholarship Award, the APGNN Mentoring Award, and the Excellence in Nursing Practice Award are attached to this newsletter.

Bernadette Diez, FNP
Membership Committee Chair
APGNN Membership Application 2019

Type of Membership

- **Full** – nursing professions (RN, APRN, LPN) working in GI full or part time, not Industry/Pharma

- **Associate** – non-nursing professions (PA, RD, Social Worker) working full or part time in GI, resident outside US/Canada, or anyone (including nursing professions) working in Industry/Pharma

- **Joint NAPNAP Membership** – Applicants who are members of NAPNAP will receive a 20% discount

- **Institution Group Payment** - Buy 3 get the 4th free dues offer; this offer is available to both new and renewing members from the same institution. New Member Applications and Renewal Invoices for current members must be submitted together with a single payment from the institution in order to qualify.

Information

Name: ________________________________________ Degree _____________ Gender ______ DOB: ________________

Email: ___________________________________________ Alternate Email: ______________________________________

Employer: ___________________________________________ Setting: ___________________________

Work Address: ___________________________________________ City: _________________ State/Zip: ________________

Phone #: _________________________________________ Fax#: _________________________________

Home Address: ___________________________________________ City: _________________ State/Zip: ________________

Phone #: _________________________________________ Preferred Mailing Address: Work  Home

Years in GI Practice: _______________ Today’s Date: _________________________________

Please select the APGNN committee(s) you are interested in:

- **Program** – planning of the annual APGNN conference content, topics, speakers

- **Research** – review grant applications, input on research projects

- **Pt/Family Education** – creation of patient education materials, multi-media format

- **Membership** – provide ideas for recruitment and retention, revise benefits, review award applications

- **Clinical Practice** – creation of nursing education modules, multi-media format

- **Media** – contribute articles/ideas to quarterly newsletter, facebook and twitter as well as keeping members informed of areas of concern, dates and deadlines

Mentoring Program:

If you are interested in being a mentor to someone or having someone mentor you, please check the appropriate box and we will send you the application:  Be a Mentor  ☐ Have a Mentor  ☐

Payment:

Annual Dues - $80 Full Membership / $55 Associate Membership / $64 Joint Membership

Optional (please check if you would like to include in your initial payment):

- **2019 Subscription to Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology & Nutrition** - $60.00

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO APGNN

Credit Card: _____________________________ Card #: _____________________________

Exp Date: _____________________________ Verification Code: _____________________________

Name on Card: ______________________________________________________________

Once application is completed send with payment to:

Gina Brown, APGNN Membership Liaison
NASPghan
714 N. Bethlehem Pike, Suite 300, Ambler, PA 19002
Fax # 215-641-1995 Email: gbrown@naspghan.org

Questions about membership please contact Bernadette Diez at bdiez@psvcare.org
RESEARCH & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Happy Summer! We are very excited to announce APGNN abstract submissions have doubled for the 2019 NASPGHAN annual conference. It is inspiring that so many nurses are participating in clinical inquiry. Also, at the June APGNN Nursing Research and Quality Improvement Committee meeting, the board members decided to initiate a segment in the newsletter called “ASK THE EXPERT”. The goal of this is to demystify research and the research process, support nurses in their quest to solve a problem and increase nurses’ knowledge of and participation in clinical inquiry. Please feel free to submit questions to the Fall newsletter to: Sara.Fidanza@childrenscolorado.org or Kerri.Fournier@childrens.harvard.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!

Our first inquiry came out of our June meeting. “What is the difference between evidenced-based practice (EBP), quality improvement (QI) and nursing research?” This is a great question and can often be a stumbling block. As nurses we share the primary responsibility of promoting a culture of safety and high reliability in all healthcare encounters by ensuring that care delivery practices integrate the best available evidence. But which is the best option to answer your question, investigate a problem or improve patient outcomes; nursing research, evidence-based practice (EBP) projects, or quality improvement (QI)?

EBP is a problem-solving approach that integrates, appraises and synthesizes the best evidence from research and patient care data, with clinical expertise and patient preferences and values, to inform clinical decision making. Informed clinical decision making is essential for the delivery of high-quality care, reducing healthcare costs and improving patient outcomes. The purpose of EBP is to translate evidence into practice, increase the effectiveness of treatment, encourage consistency in practice, utilize interdisciplinary approach and encourage practice not based on tradition. In EBP, the nurse will identify a clinical problem, search for the best available evidence, critically appraise the evidence, apply the evidence and evaluate the outcomes. EBP does not generate new knowledge (Melnyk, Fineout-Overholt, Stillwell, & Williamson, 2010).

QI is a method to evaluate the effectiveness of nursing interventions and to provide direction for further improvement in the achievement of quality clinical outcomes and cost effectiveness. The purpose of QI is to bring about an immediate improvement in care practices, compare organization to standards/benchmarks, increase cost effectiveness and make processes more efficient. In QI the nurse will identify the practice that requires improvement, collect and analyze data, generate recommendations, implement processes for change, analyze possible barriers and cost effectiveness of changes. Like EBP, QI does not generate new knowledge (UAB Center for Nursing Excellence, 2010).

Nursing Research is a formal, systematic and rigorous approach to inquiry that is designed to generate, test or contribute new knowledge to advance the nursing profession. The purpose of nursing research is to address an existing gap in knowledge to improve practice and to disseminate findings. In nursing research, you answer a question by testing a hypothesis (Fawcett & Garity, 2009).

In summary “research generates it, EBP translates it, and QI incorporates it. Answering the unanswered question drives research, whereas existing evidence usually directs both EBP and QI.” (Lockhart & Shirey 2011, p. 60)


Sanford Health 2012: Evidence Based Practice, Research, Quality Improvement, Performance Improvement: Articulating Differences and Similarities

University of Alabama at Birmingham Center for Nursing Excellence (2010). Evidence based Practice, Quality Improvement and Nursing Research Fact Sheet.

Sara Fidanza, MS, RN, CNS-BC, CPNP-PC Kerri Fournier, BSN, RN, CPN

Co-Chairs, APGNN Research Committee
APGNN MEMBERS PLEASE PREPARE TO VOTE FOR NEW BOARD CHAIRS!

We have some fantastic candidates scheduled to run for our upcoming election. Please read the candidate bios on pgs. 9-12 to learn more about the ladies who have answered the call to run for office! Each candidate is well qualified and will do an excellent job! Even though there is only one nominee for each category, it is imperative that you vote to confirm them. We must meet a quorum of votes to make it official.

Please take a few minutes to learn about the candidates! Their bios are on pages 9-12. You can confirm them now by clicking on the following link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J6L9FC5

Additional email reminders with the ballot will also be sent until we meet our needed quorum.

Hope you will get a chance to meet the ladies and the rest of the board at our upcoming conference in Chicago!

Ryan Shonce Waduge, FNP
Past President

MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT

APGNN MEMBERS PLEASE PREPARE TO VOTE FOR NEW BOARD CHAIRS!

We have some fantastic candidates scheduled to run for our upcoming election. Please read the candidate bios on pgs. 9-12 to learn more about the ladies who have answered the call to run for office! Each candidate is well qualified and will do an excellent job! Even though there is only one nominee for each category, it is imperative that you vote to confirm them. We must meet a quorum of votes to make it official.

Please take a few minutes to learn about the candidates! Their bios are on pages 9-12. You can confirm them now by clicking on the following link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J6L9FC5

Additional email reminders with the ballot will also be sent until we meet our needed quorum.

Hope you will get a chance to meet the ladies and the rest of the board at our upcoming conference in Chicago!

Ryan Shonce Waduge, FNP
Past President

Clinical Practice

Happy Summer!

I hope everyone is finding the time to enjoy some much needed time off!!

The APGNN Clinical Practice Committee has been busy creating several new GI/Nutrition/Liver Nurse and Provider Educational Materials. We have finished the content of a Basic Liver Disease Teaching Module and are just awaiting a few pictures from a medical illustrator before publication. A module on Pediatric Acquired Liver Disease is in the final stages of completion. Once these two modules are completed they will be voiced over and available for CE credit on the APGNN website.

We are also working on two GI “boot camps” as well. These will be multi modality educational modules to take the new or new to GI nurse from novice to expert on that particular topic. The first two modules under construction are FTT/Malnutrition and Constipation. Our goal once these are complete is to expand to numerous different topics in the future.

I want to thank all of you currently on the APGNN Clinical Practice Committee for all of you hard work on our projects. I also want to invite any of you interested in helping on any of the above projects or with ideas for new projects to reach out to me at dkgarner@texaschildrens.org

Have a wonderful fun filled summer!

Donna Garner
APGNN Clinical Practice Committee Chair
APGNN 2019 Committee Chair Ballot

Join me in congratulating the following ladies who are taking an exciting step in their career by running for APGNN office positions this year!

Please read the attached bios carefully. Please prepare to choose only ONE candidate per chair on the survey monkey, which will follow in a few weeks.

We are electing 4 positions this cycle: President Elect, Secretary Treasurer, Pt and Family Education, and Research Chair.

Please VOTE for one candidate per category, even if there is only one candidate you must VOTE to make it official!

PRESIDENT ELECT

Elizabeth Burch RN, MSN, CPNP
Boston Children’s Hospital

I have been working in the Pediatric Gastroenterology field for the past 11 years, and as I often tell people I will be a “GI Li fer”. Currently, I am a nurse practitioner at Boston Children's Hospital within the Motility and Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders Center, and I am the Clinical Coordinator for the Multidisciplinary Functional Abdominal Pain Program. I care for patients with complex motility and aerodigestive disorders, with a interest in pain-predominant functional GI disorders and program development. Prior to my work at Boston Children’s Hospital, I was a registered nurse on the Pediatric & Small Bowel Transplant Unit at Georgetown University Hospital, followed by a nurse practitioner in Pediatric Gastroenterology with an emphasis on the Inflammatory Bowel Disease population. I have been a member of APGNN since 2012 and contributed to the Social Media and Program Planning committees. For the past two years, I have served as the Chair for the Patient & Family Education Committee and collaborated with NASPGHAN's Public Education Committee to improve and update the GIKids.org website. My professional joy comes from building relationships with people – families, patients, and colleagues. Should I be elected, it would be an honor and privilege to lead APGNN. I view this role as one of true collaboration among members with a unifying message to promote and advocate for the nursing role in the field of Pediatric Gastroenterology.
I have worked as a PNP in Gastroenterology for nearly 12 years. I started my career as a pediatric nurse after graduating from the University of Pennsylvania with a BSN in Nursing and Minor in Nutrition (2002). At that time, I took a job as an inpatient nurse at NYU Medical Center, caring for pediatric patients with a variety of medical and surgical conditions. After finishing my Master of Science at New York University in 2006, I started a job as a PNP in Pediatric Gastroenterology still working NYU Langone Medical Center. In late 2010, I moved to Denver accepting a position as a PNP at Children’s Hospital Colorado. In this job I mainly care for general GI patients in outpatient clinics with conditions such as constipation, abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting, reflux and failure to thrive. I have cared for children with Intestinal Failure (IF) and Short Bowel Syndrome (SBS) through the Intestinal Rehabilitation Program since 2012. As the IR Program continues to grow I have expanded my role with greater involvement in the team and patient care.

I have been a member of the Association of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition Nurses (APGNN) since 2011 and a member of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) since 2006. I served as the Clinical Practice Committee Chair of APGNN for 3 years (2013-2016) and was a member of NASPGHAN’s Clinical Care and Quality Committee during this time. I took some time away from APGNN while I had 2 young babies at home! During my time away, I become the Lead Advanced Practice Provider within in my department (2016-present) and was recently elected as one of the Advanced Practice Council Chairs, a 3 year commitment as part of a tri-chair representative for Children’s Hospital Colorado and the University of Colorado. I have recently participated in a 2 day Clinical Leadership Development Program run by the University of Colorado. In early May 2019 I was recognized as a Top-Rated Provider based on 2018 Patient-Family Experience survey results.

My prior experience with APGNN has been rewarding both professionally and personally. I look forward to the opportunity to be involved with the board and its initiatives, should I be elected again!
Although I am a board-certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, I have been employed as a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in the Digestive Health Institute (DHI) of Children’s Hospital Colorado for the past 35 years. The DHI is a very busy practice, with 39 providers and 11 fellows who provide service to patients in more than a seven-state region, with network of care clinics throughout Colorado and Montana. In my role as CNS, I have provided leadership in the development of clinical programs to improve the care of children with Short Bowel Syndrome (Intestinal Rehabilitation), Nutrition Support and Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Over the years, I have transitioned from inpatient to outpatient care with focus directed at population management and care coordination across the continuum. In addition, I provide organizational leadership, consultation and education in the areas of: enteral and parenteral access devices; homecare interface; patient education handouts, policy/procedures and telephone triage guideline development and revision; EBP, QI and research; evaluation of new products and recommendations for innovations in care. Accomplishments include multiple abstracts, posters, national speaking, publications and I have coauthored a chapter in two nursing pathophysiology books. I also have received a Nightingale Award nomination and a 2012 Women of Distinction Award from CCF, a 2016 Daisy award and two Children’s Hospital Colorado Nursing Excellence awards in 2013 and 2018. I have been involved with APGNN for over a decade and in the past was a member of ASPEN (nutrition support certification) and an elected official for the local chapter, CSPEN. My passion is to provider leadership and mentorship of GI nurses focusing on EBP, QI, Research and Innovation to improve patient outcomes.
I am a certified Family Nurse Practitioner working at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital in the Pediatric Gastroenterology & Nutrition Clinic. I have worked here as a provider for nearly 4 years treating patients aged 0-21 years that are experiencing abdominal pain, celiac disease, inflammatory bowel disease, functional GI disorders, failure to thrive, reflux and any other gastroenterology complaint. Prior to my role as a nurse practitioner I worked as a small bowel and liver transplant nurse at Georgetown Hospital for 5 years. During that time, I also served as interim transplant nurse educator for 6 months.

I have been a member of APGNN since 2015. Over the years, I have been a part of the Patient and Family education committee. I have helped contribute by updating the pH Impedance patient information handout. I also expanded upon and updated patient/family education material on 504 plans for inflammatory bowel disease patients.

I am passionate about educating my patients and parents about their health, encouraging self-management and helping them be an integral part of their care. During my time as a Nurse Practitioner in Pediatric Gastroenterology at Georgetown, I have created and updated many of our patient handouts/informational guides to improve the child and parent's understanding of their diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis. I am always looking for a “better way” and methods to expand knowledge about one's health and wellness. I hope to broaden this further by leading the Patient and Family Education Committee.
Abbott Nutrition Travel Scholarship
Guidelines for Submission/Evaluation

Deadline for application submission: September 1, 2019

The 2019 APGNN Meeting will be held October 18-19th in Chicago, IL

Purpose
To provide financial assistance for selected individuals to attend APGNN’s Conference, therefore, supporting the educational development of the organization’s members.

Eligibility
Applicant must be a full APGNN member with no outstanding dues.
Submission of a nutrition based poster or oral abstract (3 scholarships).
One scholarship will be awarded to a new member, defined as a person who has joined APGNN as a full member during or after the previous APGNN Conference.

Selection Criteria
The APGNN Research Committee, the Clinical Practice Committee and the Executive Board will review the applications and submitted abstracts. Criteria for the selection of the 3 scholarships are outlined below. One scholarship will be awarded via random selection by the Membership Committee Chair. This member must be a new member to APGNN (see eligibility).

Award Process
Four scholarships of up to $1250 each will be awarded to support conference expenses. This is intended to cover the cost of the conference, travel, and hotel expenses. Receipts will be submitted to the APGNN Secretary/Treasurer, and the applicant will be reimbursed.
Applicants will be notified of acceptance via email.

Criteria Used In Evaluating Applicants
New member application with description of how the scholarship and attendance to the annual meeting can be applied in daily practice will be reviewed by Membership Committee Chair. Oral or Poster presentation applications related to nutrition in the area of clinical practice, research or professional education will be considered. The application and submitted abstract will be reviewed with attention to the following areas:
- Knowledge of subject matter
- Evidenced based information
- How item of interest is related to nutrition

Electronically submit application form or abstract to Kerri Fournier or Sara Fidanza, APGNN Research Co-Chairs at Kerri.Fournier@childrens.harvard.edu or Sara.Fidanza@childrenscolorado.org no later than September 1, 2019
PRESENTATION APPLICATION FORM

Member Name: ____________________________________________________________

Poster/Presentation Title: _________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Brief description of the subject matter:

Discuss the role of nutrition as it relates to the subject matter, how it will be applied to patient education or clinical practice:

Electronically submit application form or abstract to Kerri Fournier or Sara Fidanza, APGNN Research Co-Chairs at Kerri.Fournier@childrens.harvard.edu or Sara.Fidanza@childrenscolorado.org no later than September 1, 2019
NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM

Member Name: _________________________________________________________

When did you join APGNN? _____________________________________________  
________________________________________________________________________  
________________________________________________________________________

Brief description how this travel scholarship and attendance to the annual meeting can be applied to your daily   
practice/work:

Electronically submit application form or abstract to Kerri Fournier or Sara Fidanza, APGNN Research Co-Chairs at   
Kerri.Fournier@childrens.harvard.edu or Sara.Fidanza@childrenscolorado.org no later than September 1, 2019
APGNN Conference Scholarship
Guidelines for Submission/Evaluation

Deadline for application submission: August 1, 2019

The 2019 APGNN Meeting will be held October 18-19 in Chicago, Illinois

Multidisciplinary approaches to pediatric gastroenterology problems will be highlighted during the conference. Selected topics for nurses as well as interdisciplinary sessions will be offered.

Purpose

To provide financial assistance for selected individuals to attend APGNN's Conference, therefore, supporting the educational development of the organization's members.

Eligibility

At the time of application submission, must be a full or associate APGNN member for at least 6 months and with no outstanding dues.

Selection Criteria

Three APGNN Board Members will review the applications and determine 2-4 candidates who best plan to apply the conference information to their practices.

Award Process

Two full members and one associate member will be awarded financial support for conference tuition and hotel accommodations for 2 nights shared hotel room or 1 night single room.

Criteria Used In Evaluating Applicants

- Creativity
- Practicality
Impact on patients, families and colleagues
APPLICATION FORM

Name:_____________________________________ Title(s):_________________________

Place of Employment: __________________________________________________________

Present Job Title: __________________________________________________________

Describe below how you plan to apply the conference content you anticipate learning into your practice (please limit to 200 words):

Electronically submit to Bernadette Diez, APGNN Membership Chair, bdiez@psycare.org no later than August 1
Recognizing Education Programs of Distinction:

**Purpose:** To honor, recognize, and promote excellence in pediatric GI nursing educational activities that improve patient care and provide educational ideas/templates for use with colleagues at APGNN and NASPGHAN. This will in turn help APGNN achieve its objective to be the recognized leaders in GI nursing and family education by members, physicians, nurses, and healthcare consumers.

**Award:** The winner will be invited to present his/her program at the APGNN Annual Conference. Funding will be provided for conference expenses and includes up to $500 for travel, 2 nights hotel stay at conference rate, and complimentary APGNN conference registration. Details about the educational project will be featured in the APGNN newsletter, website, and will be presented to APGNN members and/or the public for dissemination and use.

**Eligibility:** Any APGNN member or other pediatric gastroenterology nurse/nurse practitioner who has designed and implemented an educational activity (patient/family, peer, or community) that addresses an unmet need may apply. The project may be an individual or collaborative effort where the applicant has held a leadership role or been an integral part of the endeavor.

**Coaching:** Board members, independent of the judging panel, will be available to help identify and coach applicants through the process. The primary coach will be the APGNN Patient & Family Education Committee Chair.

**Application Submission:**

**Deadline:** August 1, 2019

**Submission:** Applications should be submitted in PDF format to the APGNN Patient & Family Education Committee Chair (Elizabeth Burch: elizabeth.burch@childrens.harvard.edu).

**Application:** Please describe the following regarding your project:
- What unmet educational need does your project address?
- How is your project innovative?
- What were the outcomes of your project? What lessons were learned throughout the process, such as feedback received for future improvements?
- Is the project able to be reproduced and widely applicable?
- Please identify evidence-based resources used to help develop and implement your project.
Judging Criteria:

Each application will be evaluated by a panel of judges comprised of the APGNN President, APGNN President Elect, APGNN Clinical Practice Chair, a nurse educator, and a physician. All applications will be blinded (will not be identified to the judging panel). A point system will be utilized to determine the rankings:

1. Needs Assessment: A specific, well-characterized need was identified using current references and objective criteria (20 points)
2. Project Innovation: Innovation is defined as addressing an old need in a new way or new need that was previously not addressed (20 points)
3. Outcomes: Outcomes were measurable, met, and relevant to the identified need. If outcomes were not met, reflection / learning lessons for the future were discussed (20 points)
4. Impact: The educational program is reproducible and widely applicable (20 points)
5. Evidenced-Based: The project was based on current, evidence-based research and clearly cited (20 points)

Nominations:
You may nominate someone for this award, however nominees will be required to complete the application. If you wish to nominate someone, please email the following information to the APGNN Patient & Family Education Committee Chair (elizabeth.burch@childrens.harvard.edu):

- Your name
- Your email address
- Name of nominee
- Nominee’s phone number and email address
- Reason for nomination

Questions:

Please contact the Patient & Family Education Committee Chair, Elizabeth Burch, should you have any questions. She can be reached via email at elizabeth.burch@childrens.harvard.edu
APGNN Excellence in Mentoring Award
Guidelines for Submission/Evaluation

Deadline for submission of nominations: August 1, 2019

Purpose
The mentor award was established to honor mentors of APGNN members who support nursing excellence and professional development; to identify role model mentors; to heighten awareness of the need for mentoring; and to encourage broader mentoring participation in pediatric gastroenterology and nutrition.

Eligibility
Served as a mentor to an APGNN member during the past 36 months

Submission Criteria—All nominations must include
- Two-page (typed, approximately 250 words) letter of nomination that enumerates the ways in which the mentor reflects the purpose of the award; fostering your career development through scholarship, teaching and advocacy
- Curriculum vitae of nominee
- Your name and contact information

Award Process
Award to be determined by current Membership Committee Members. The recipient will be awarded a commemorative plaque or certificate and a check in the sum of $250.00 during the annual APGNN meeting to be presented by his/her nominating APGNN member.

Criteria Used In Evaluating Nominees
- Respects goals and assists in professional development; inspires, encourages, supports essential strategies for life success
- Actively guides and assists with clinical work, research and/or education; articulates and encourages high standards
- Accessible for advice and assistance; takes time to ensure guidance is provided
- Actively seeks financial or other support for education, research or clinical activities
- Actively involves APGNN member in clinical, educational and/or research activities
- Actively involves APGNN member in professional conferences and/or publications
- Provides assistance to overcome problems or barriers to ongoing professional development
- Helps to ‘network’ with other relevant professionals
- Alerts to career opportunities; helps secure and/or advance employment opportunities
- Is a strong advocate for pediatric GI/nutrition nurses
- Provides excellent model of professionalism

Electronically submit to Bernadette Diez, APGNN Membership Chair, bdiez@psvcare.org no later than August 1, 2019.
APGNN Excellence in Nursing Practice
Guidelines for Submission/Evaluation

Deadline for submission of nominations: August 1, 2019

Purpose
This award is established to acknowledge and honor APGNN members in good standing that excel in the care of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition patients.

 Eligibility
Has been an APGNN member during the past 36 months

Submission Criteria-All nominations must include
• One- to two-page (typed, approximately 250 word) letter of nomination that enumerates the ways in which the APGNN member reflects the purpose of the award; fostering practice, teaching and/or advocacy
• Curriculum vitae of nominee
• APGNN Nominator’s name, professional credentials and contact information

Award Process
Award to be selected by members of the APGNN Executive Board and coordinated by the Membership Committee Chairperson. The recipient will be awarded a commemorative plaque and a check in the sum of $250.00 during the annual APGNN meeting to be presented by his/her nominating APGNN member.

Criteria Used In Evaluating Nominees
• Provides excellent model of professionalism
• Has expanded the role of nursing in gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition
• Assists nursing colleagues in professional development. Actively guides and assists with clinical work, research and/or education; articulates and encourages high standards
• Accessible for advice and assistance as a mentor for those new to the specialty and takes time to ensure guidance is provided
• Is actively involved as an APGNN member in clinical, educational and/or research activities
• Provides assistance to overcome problems or barriers to ongoing professional development
• Collaborates with other disciplines

Electronically submit to Bernadette Diez, APGNN Membership Chair bdiez@psvcare.org no later than August 1, 2019.