

APGNN 2021 Award Winners



Excellence in Education Award:

This award recognizes an APGNN member that has designed and implemented an educational activity that addresses an unmet need in Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition. The project must promote excellence in pediatric GI nursing education, improve patient care, and provide educational ideas or templates for use with colleagues.

The 2021 Excellence in Education Award recipient: Emily Ventura, RN, BSN, CCRN

Project: Emily created an educational brochure for patients and their families with targeted disease information on Progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis (PFIC). The brochure introduces cholestatic disease in general, the similarities between subtypes, including symptoms, diagnostic tools, lab values, basic monitoring, and potential treatment options to date for PFIC. In addition, the brochure addresses potential differences in symptoms, clinical outcomes, treatment options and complications for all currently identified forms of PFIC. The information is presented in laymen's terms in table form and supplemented with a glossary of relevant terms for further assistance. It is available for distribution to patients and providers internationally.

Previous Excellence in Education Award winners:

2020 - Shelby Mudarri, MS, CPNP - Boston Children's Hospital, MA

Excellence in Mentoring Award:



The Excellence in Mentoring Award was established to honor mentors of APGNN members who support nursing excellence and professional development. The award recipient is a strong advocate for pediatric GI nurses and provides an excellent model of professionalism. The Mentor assists in professional development; inspires, encourages, and supports essential strategies for life success; encourages high standards and is accessible for advice and assistance.

The 2021 Excellence in Mentoring Award recipient: Margaret Stallings, NASPGHAN Executive Director – Nominated by Amy Donegan, MS, APRN

"I am nominating Margaret for this award because during my six-year cycle of the Presidency of APGNN she has been an invaluable resource not only to me but to the entire APGNN Board. Margaret has taught me many things about being a leader that I don't think I would otherwise have had the opportunity to learn in my career. For most of us that assume the Presidency role in this national organization, we have never had the opportunity to lead at a national level before.

From the start, Margaret was always available to take my calls or answer my numerous emails when I had questions. She helped me work through new issues and think of things in ways I hadn't before. During my Presidency terms, we began partnering more closely with NASPGHAN committees and invited NASPGHAN members to be part of the APGNN committees. This has been particularly helpful with our research committee and clinical practice committee. Margaret was helpful to me in establishing these relationships and without her guidance, I'm not sure it would have worked.

Another example of her mentorship includes inviting us to be a part of the NASPGHAN foundation and council. Through this, I was able to watch how the leaders of NASPGHAN functioned which in turn, influenced the way I enacted the role. I think this is a fantastic example of Margaret's mentoring style. She didn't tell me how I should act, or run the organization, she just allowed me to observe how others did it, then allowed me to take that opportunity and do with it what I wanted.

While there are numerous examples I could share, I think the biggest tribute to Margaret's mentoring ability is that we probably don't have a single Board Meeting that someone on the Board doesn't say "do you think we should run this by Margaret" or "let's get Margaret's input on this before we go farther". So, while I am the one nominating Margaret for this award, it was a unanimous decision from the entire board to do so. The APGNN organization would not be where it is today without the leadership and support of Margaret Stallings and I think it is time to recognize her for all she does."

Previous Excellence in Mentoring Award winners:

2020 - Elizabeth Prout, MD, MSCE - Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, PA



Sue Peck Excellence in Nursing Practice Award:

This award is established to acknowledge and honor an APGNN member that excels in the care of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition patients. Characteristics of the nurse receiving this award include being an excellent model of professionalism; advances the role of nursing in

Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition, and assists nursing colleagues in professional development. This nurse actively guides and assists with clinical work, research and/or education; articulates and encourages high standards and is accessible for advice and assistance as a mentor for those new to the specialty, is actively involved as an APGNN member in clinical, educational and/or research activities, assists in overcoming problems or barriers to ongoing professional development and is an excellent collaborator with other disciplines.

The 2021 Sue Peck Excellence in Nursing Practice Award recipient:

Patricia A. Bierly, CRNP – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia –

Nominated by Teresa Carroll, APRN

“Patty has been a long-time member of APGNN, since starting in Pediatric GI in 2000. Her commitment and dedication to APGNN is like no others. When I first met Patty, she was the Treasurer, and she held that board position for 6 years. She also has been and still is very active in the planning of our program every year and was the Chair of that committee for 4 years. She also helps with Membership, as she did during my time as Membership Chair. Patty currently helps with our Mentor program as she is a mentor to a new NP from Texas, which I know she truly enjoys.

Patty has a commitment to education of Nurses and Nurse Practitioners that is also seen in her work on our APGNN handbook and as a co-author on ACAP learning modules.

Patty has a great deal of respect from her nursing colleges including the name’s sake of this award Sue Peck as well as the multiple physicians at CHOP that she works with every day.

When I think I Patty, the words Nurse and APGNN do come to mind, but so does the word friend. Patty was one of the first APGNN members to welcome me “into the fold” and support me in taking a board position.”

Previous Sue Peck Excellence in Nursing Practice Award recipient:

2020 Maureen Kelly, MS, RN, DNP - UNC Hospitals Children's Specialty Clinic, NC



Susan Moyer NASPGHAN Foundation Grant

This grant is available to APGNN members to support research activities that have the potential to advance nursing care of patients and families of children with gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, pancreatic, or nutritional disorders.

The 2021 Susan Moyer NASPGHAN Foundation Grant recipient:

Melanie Oates, RN, BSN -Nationwide Children's Hospital Improving IBD Care Through Parent Mentoring

Previous Susan Moyer grant recipients:

2020: Goldie Markowitz, MSN, CPNP - Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, PA

Posters of Distinction:

**ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS OF AMBULATORY
CENTRAL-LINE ASSOCIATED BLOOD
STREAM INFECTIONS IN HOME
PARENTERAL NUTRITION PATIENTS ~**
Jennifer McClelland, BSN, MS, RN, FNP-BC;
Boston Children's Hospital



**IMPROVING MULTIDISCIPLINARY
EDUCATION FOR PATIENTS WITH NEWLY
DIAGNOSED INFLAMMATORY BOWEL
DISEASE (IBD) ~** Caitlin Dolan, MS, RN,
APRN, FNP-BC; Boston Children's Hospital



Abbott Nutrition New Member Scholarship Award Winner:

Kendra West, AND – Children's Hospital of Los Angeles