

ELNEC Connections

End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium Summer 2008

Welcome to the Summer 2008 Issue!

The End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium is pleased to bring you the Summer 2008 issue of *ELNEC Connections*, a quarterly newsletter to showcase efforts in end-of-life nursing education and practice. This newsletter spotlights project developments and provides resources that may be useful to you as an ELNEC trainer.

ELNEC is a national education program to improve end-of-life care by nurses. The project, which began in February 2000, was funded by a major grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Additional funding has been received from the National Cancer Institute, Open Society International, and the Aetna, Archstone, California HealthCare, and Oncology Nursing Foundations. ELNEC is administered through a partnership between the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the City of Hope.



Stories Contained in This Newsletter:

Click on the titles below to view.



50th National ELNEC Train-the-Trainer Course Celebration Gala



Two ELNEC Courses Remain for 2008



ELNEC-SuperCore



ELNEC-Critical Care



ELNEC-Geriatric



ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care



ELNEC-International



Educational Opportunities

Plans are being made for the 2009 national ELNEC train-the-trainer courses.

Be sure to check the ELNEC website in September for a complete listing of these courses.

See www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC.

Are you planning an ELNEC training or train-the-trainer course at your institution?

If so, remember to fill-out the notification form and send it electronically to the ELNEC Project Office. The form and other resources are located at

www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC/TrainerResources.htm.

Over 200 Attend the 50th National ELNEC Train-the-Trainer Course and Celebration in Chicago



The ELNEC-SuperCore course registration had to be closed two months early, because of the over-abundance of registrations. On June 25-27, 104 nurses packed the Allerton Hotel to participate in the 4th national ELNEC-SuperCore train-the-trainer course. Because of the tremendous response to this course, a “mini” ELNEC-SuperCore course was offered in Chicago, June 27-28, to accommodate the 28 nurses who could not participate in the main event. To meet the continuing need for the ELNEC-SuperCore training program, an additional course has been added to the 2008 schedule. It will be held October 9-11 at the Marriott Washington-Dulles Airport Hotel.

Introductions by Linda Strodtman, co-producer of the *Evan Mayday's Good Death* video, and the late Evan Mayday's wife Cheryl highlighted the ELNEC-SuperCore course. Both Linda and Cheryl shared their experiences of caring for Evan and making the video. Participants had an opportunity for questions/answers and were able to discuss further information with Linda and Cheryl at the reception following the first night of the course. The *Evan Mayday's Good Death* video has been shown at all national ELNEC-SuperCore and ELNEC-Critical Care courses since November 2006. Many ELNEC trainers have ordered this video to show during their own courses.

On June 28, over 100 ELNEC trainers, faculty and staff attended the all-day continuing education event that highlighted the past seven years of the ELNEC Project. Updates were given on the various curricula and the unique ways that trainers are providing ELNEC education. Twenty trainers shared posters of their work in implementing and disseminating ELNEC in schools of nursing, hospitals, and in community settings. Seven trainers were honored as “Distinguished ELNEC Trainers.” They were:

- ELNEC-Core: Carol Long, PhD, RN, Capstone Healthcare, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ
- ELNEC-Graduate: Linda Strodtman, PhD, RN, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care: Ayda Nambayan, DNSc, RN, St. Jude Research Hospital, Memphis, TN
- ELNEC-Oncology: Carma Erickson-Hurt, MSN, RN, AOCN, South Coast Hospice and PC, Coos Bay, OR
- ELNEC-Critical Care: Sharon Kent, RN, CCRN, Kaiser, Woodland Hills, CA
- ELNEC-Geriatric: Linda Flummerfelt, RN and Pauline Jones, RN, Hospice of the East Bay, Pleasant Hill, CA



Left to right: Linda Strodtman, Sharon Kent, Ayda Nambayan, Carma Erickson-Hurt, Carol Long, Pauline Jones, and Linda Flummerfelt

For more photos of the event, see [page 6 and 7](#). Click on the following links to download:

[Poster Abstracts](#)

[Distinguished ELNEC Trainers](#)

[DVD Presentation: 7 Years and 50 Courses Later](#)

Two National Courses to Complete 2008 ELNEC Training Schedule



On October 9-11, two ELNEC courses will be held simultaneously at the Marriott Washington-Dulles Airport Hotel (a suburb of Washington, DC). Nurses from intensive care, coronary, step-down, dialysis, burn units, and emergency departments as well as nursing faculty focused on critical care will attend the seventh national ELNEC-Critical Care train-the-trainer course.

Concurrently, nursing faculty, oncology, hospice, homecare, and acute-care nurses will attend the 5th national ELNEC-SuperCore course. Please pass this information on to any of your colleagues who may be interested in attending one of these courses. After attending either of these courses, participants will be prepared to return to their institution and train others. Nurses, as well as other members of the interdisciplinary team are invited to attend these courses.

Registration form and FAQ are located at www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC.

ELNEC-SUPERCORE

Train-the-Trainer Course: October 9-11, Washington, DC

Delaware End-of-Life Coalition Prepares to Train 50 Nurses in Each Hospital Across the State

Madeline Lambrecht, EdD, RN, President of the Delaware End-of-Life Coalition, has a big dream and an enormous plan. Madeline wants every hospital in the state of Delaware to have at least 50 ELNEC trainers. Thanks to funding provided by the Delaware Cancer Consortium, Madeline's dream will soon come true. Madeline's blueprint for success has been meticulous. She has gathered a stellar group of Delaware ELNEC trainers to assist with the development of the password-protected Web site that will house discussion features, additional ELNEC resources, local palliative care resources, quizzes associated with each module, CE information, etc.

A kick-off luncheon was held on June 11 for all Vice Presidents/Directors of Nursing and Directors of Nursing Education in all hospitals in Delaware including the Veteran's Administration. Also in attendance were Cancer-Care Coordinators from each hospital whose positions are mandated and funded by the state. The goal of the luncheon was to explain the ELNEC training that will be provided to 50 nurses in each hospital (5 of which may be social workers, pastoral care staff, psychologists, etc.) A complete ELNEC manual and text was distributed to everyone in attendance to keep in their administrative offices.

If you are interested in beginning your own state's ELNEC Coalition and/or want to receive more information on this work, you may contact Madeline at madeline@UDeI.Edu.

HospiceCare of Kansas/Midwest Implemented ELNEC Course for All Employees

As of April 2008, Kay Dimmitt, MS, RN, CHPN, and her team of educators at HospiceCare of Kansas/Midwest have trained 280 employees and 39 community healthcare professionals, using the ELNEC curriculum. This training has provided a more concise, interdisciplinary way of caring for patients and their families.

For more information on how Kay was able to provide this education to such a large number of staff, contact her at kdimmitt@Hospicecareofkansas.com.

Hospice & Palliative Care:
It's about Comfort,
Compassion and Dignity



ELNEC-CRITICAL CARE

Train-the-Trainer Course: October 9-11, Washington, DC

To Date, 462 Nurses Have Attended a National ELNEC-Critical Care Train-the-Trainer Course



On April 21-23, 2008, 118 critical-care nurses came to Pasadena, CA from across the U.S. and Canada to attend the 6th national ELNEC-Critical Care course. To date, 462 nurses and other members of the interdisciplinary team have attended one of these national courses. Most attendees were from the state of CA, as the course was funded by the Archstone Foundation.

Since the first ELNEC-Critical Care course debuted in November 2006, critical-care nurses have reported many changes that they have made in improving the care of patients and families. Some examples include expanding visiting hours; providing family meetings with the interdisciplinary team 24-48 hours after the patient has been admitted; making critical-care waiting rooms more appealing and restful for families; educating staff about a "quiet approach" when a patient is experiencing their last hours of life; developing algorithms and standards of care so that excellent palliative care can be provided; and having interdisciplinary team mail sympathy cards to family members whose loved ones died in a critical-care setting.

Two ELNEC-Critical Care courses will be funded by the Archstone Foundation (free registration for CA nurses)—one in 2009 and one in 2010. These courses will also be open to nurses from outside the state of CA, though the full registration fee must be paid by the participant and/or the institution.

ELNEC-GERIATRIC

2009 Courses will be listed on ELNEC Web site in September

129 Nurses Attend the 4th National ELNEC-Geriatric Train-the-Trainer Course

The Archstone Foundation provided funding to over 100 nurses from the state of California to attend the 4th national ELNEC-Geriatric train-the-trainer program in Pasadena, CA. The remainder of nurses attended the course from other states. Nursing faculty and nurses from acute care facilities, long-term care, skilled nursing facilities, hospice, home care, and various professional nursing organizations attended this 4th national course. The Archstone Foundation will fund two ELNEC-Geriatric courses for CA nurses: 1 in 2009 and 1 in 2010.

Data Published from the First Cohort of ELNEC-Geriatric Trainers



In February 2008, 77 nurses, social workers, and other health care professionals working in geriatric settings attended the first ELNEC-Geriatric train-the-trainer program. This course, funded by the California HealthCare Foundation, was open to California geriatric personnel from long-term care, skilled nursing facilities, and hospices. Highlights of the 10-month, post-course evaluations showed (95% returned evaluations): 302 programs, using ELNEC-Geriatric individual modules were presented; 5,429 nurses, nursing assistants, and other interdisciplinary team members had attended at least one ELNEC-Geriatric module presentation; 30% reported that they had held an ELNEC-Geriatric program outside of their home facilities, reaching an additional 303 healthcare professionals.

For more information about this outstanding work, review the recent article that was published: Kelly, K., Ersek, M., Virani, R., Malloy, P., & Ferrell, B. (2008). End-of-life nursing education consortium geriatric training program: Improving palliative care in community geriatric care settings. *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*, 34(5), 28-35.

ELNEC-PEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE

2009 Course will be listed on ELNEC Web site in September



7th National ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care Course Held in Pasadena, CA

On July 9-11, 100 nurses and other members of the interdisciplinary team attended the ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care (PPC) train-the-trainer course. To date, over 650 pediatric nurses have attended a national ELNEC-PPC course. The course this year provided three unique opportunities to learn more about pediatric palliative care. First, a panel of parents whose children had died presented stories of how nurses “bore witness” with them through the tragic event. Second, Lori Butterworth, the Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Children’s Hospice and Palliative Care Coalition, described her continued work in promoting excellent palliative care in the state of CA for its most vulnerable population. Lastly, Karen Durgans, who worked on the *Lion in the House* video project (a PBS special), talked about the progress of the video and how it is being shared as an educational tool across the U.S.

The Art of Creating Ritual Honors the Parent-Child Relationship

Kathie Kobler, Bereavement Coordinator at the Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL, understands the importance of rituals in perinatal and pediatric death. Common to all cultures throughout history, ritual provides meaning and order to transitions, symbolically connecting people and events. Throughout the trajectory of care for a child with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition, the use of ritual can honor the parent-child relationship, offering acknowledgement and support to families. Intention, participation, and meaning-making are the key dimensions of ritual which arise from clinical encounters. By listening to what is most important to parents and families, opportunities for both formal and informal ritual can be co-created. Through ritual, care providers facilitate meaningful, transforming moments which can provide comfort and an avenue to healing. For more information, contact Kathie at kathie.kobler@advocatehealth.com.

ELNEC-INTERNATIONAL

ELNEC-SuperCore, September 23-26, Tajikistan

One-Year Post-Course Evaluations Reviewed from First Salzburg ELNEC Course



In October 2006, the first Salzburg Medical Seminar Series for Nurses in Palliative Care took place in Salzburg, Austria. Supported by the Open Society Institute, four ELNEC faculty members, Nessa Coyle, Patrick Coyne, Betty Ferrell, and Judy Paice, taught ELNEC to 38 Eastern European nursing leaders in education and clinical practice from 14 Eastern European countries. The one-year, post-course data has been received and the summary of activities related to use of ELNEC materials has been stunning.

Every one of the 14 Eastern European countries has received some type of ELNEC training from these trainers. Examples of extraordinary dissemination of ELNEC include:

- presenting the communication module to the Armenian Pain Control and Palliative Care Association;
- developing a grant proposal for a partnership program in developing palliative care in Kyrgyzstan;
- consulting with the President of the Palliative Care Association of Lithuania;
- translating ELNEC into the native language of Mongolia;
- graduating 15 nurses with ELNEC training from the Cancer Center in Russia;
- discussing with the Minister of Health the possibility of starting a palliative care school for health practitioners in Slovenia;
- and adding parts of the ELNEC syllabus to the curriculum of the Pedagogic Therapists Course at Comenius University in Slovakia.

For more information on ELNEC-International, go to www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC/Global.htm.

The Sale of ELNEC Pins Continues to Provide Funding for ELNEC-International



Don't forget to order ELNEC pins when providing an ELNEC course. Trainers have reported giving pins to those they train at the end of the training course. You may purchase the pins in bulk of 20 or more for \$10/pin. All proceeds go to the ELNEC-International fund.

To order your pin, e-mail Celeste Radell at cradell@coh.org.

ELNEC Translated into Japanese and First Training Course Held in Osaka



ELNEC trainer Sayaka Sakamoto-Takenouchi, a PhD student at Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine, held the first ELNEC-Japanese train-the-trainer course on June 14 and 15, 2008 in Osaka, Japan. Sixty-four participants, representing 17 institutions/faculties, attended this course. On behalf of the ELNEC Project Team, we would like to express our gratitude for the tremendous amount of work and dedication Sayaka has put forth to translate ELNEC into Japanese.

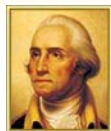
To contact Sayaka directly, email her at s.sayaka@pbh.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp.

For a list of other ELNEC trainers who have provided international work, see
<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC/pdf/IntlTrainers.pdf>.

If you have been involved in international outreach and your name is not included on this list, contact Pam Malloy at pmalloy@aacn.nche.edu.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Spirituality and Health Care Graduate Certificate Program Available



THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON DC

Spirituality and Health is a relatively new field that has emerged over the last 20 years. More than 80% of U.S. medical schools have courses in spirituality, and many hospitals have spirituality initiatives. This certificate program was developed by The George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health (GWish) and funded by the John Templeton Foundation. The program provides healthcare professionals with the theoretical, ethical, empirical, and practical tools necessary to integrate spirituality into their clinical practices, foster leadership in spirituality and health, and impact the healthcare environment to create more compassionate systems of care. For further information about this project, go to <http://www.gwish.org/>.

Gift From Within Offers New Materials



Gift from Within (GFW) is an international, non-profit organization for survivors of trauma and victimization. This site offers many resources on compassion fatigue, grief and bereavement, post traumatic stress syndrome, recovery, self-care, resiliency, and many other topics. For resources on these topics and many others, go to

<http://www.giftfromwithin.org/html/articles.html>.

Angola Prison Video Has New Contact Person



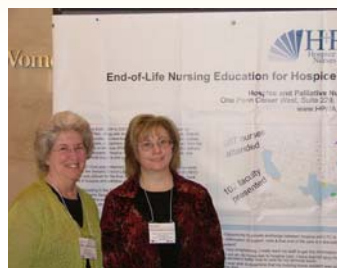
Open Society Institute can assist you in ordering the video, *Angola Prison*. This popular video is shown at most national ELNEC train-the-trainer courses, as it portrays prisoners being trained as hospice volunteers in Angola Prison in Louisiana. Please contact Wei Chang at WChang@sorosny.org if you are interested in ordering this video.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 50TH ELNEC CELEBRATION GALA

Wonderful Creative Posters....ELNEC Trainers Have Done Amazing Work!



Vidette Todaro-Franceschi
Hunter College, NYC
*EOL Education Via Online
Community B'Board*



Judy Lentz and Deena
Sutermaster, HPNA
*HPNA Partners With LTC
Nurses to Improve PC*



Susan Breakwell
Rush University
*An Interdisciplinary
PC Education Program*



Nathania Bush and Teresa
Howell, Morehead State
University, *Camp SMILE:
Service Learning*

See Next Page for More Pictures of 50th National ELNEC Course and Gala

HIGHLIGHTS OF 50TH ELNEC CELEBRATION GALA



Laura Urquhart and Louise Meyer, Dartmouth Hitchcock
ELNEC Trainers Learn From The Trainees



Dawn McKay
Liberty University
Sharing the Burden: Teaching "Good Death"



Rita Stern, Poudre Valley Hospital
Legacy Projects: Creating Remembrances for Loved Ones

[Click here](#) to view poster abstracts and e-mail addresses of trainers who presented their work.

Up-Date and Gala Events Honoring ELNEC Faculty and Distinguished Trainers



Rose Virani and Sayaka Takenouchi



Linda Flummerfelt, Sharon Kent, Linda Strodman, Ayda Nambayan, Carol Long, Pauline Jones, and Carma Erickson-Hurt



Pam Malloy, Polly Bednash, Betty Ferrell, Anne Rhome



Left: ELNEC Faculty
Below: Judy Paice and Kathe Kelly



Above: Liz Sumner, Hollye Harrington Jacobs
Right: Kathy Kobler, Liz Sumner, MaryBeth Tank Buschman, Karen Kavanaugh

