

ELNEC Connections

End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium

Winter 2008

Welcome to the Winter 2008 Issue!

The End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium is pleased to bring you the Winter 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.

*With a new year, comes a new look.
We hope you enjoy the new format!*

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, and Aetna, Archstone, and California HealthCare Foundations. ELNEC is administered through a partnership between the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and the City of Hope (COH).



Stories Contained in This Newsletter:

Click on the titles below to view.



2008 National ELNEC Train-the-Trainer Courses



Archstone Foundation Provides \$900,000 for CA Nurses to Become ELNEC Trainers



ELNEC to Celebrate the 50th National Train-the-Trainer Course in Chicago



ELNEC Pins Available



ELNEC-SuperCore Course is the Largest Ever!
ELNEC-Graduate Updates
ELNEC-Oncology Updates



ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care Updates



ELNEC-Critical Care Updates



ELNEC-Geriatrics Updates



Two Upcoming International ELNEC Courses
Update on International Appeal



Resources

Eight 2008 National ELNEC Train-the-Trainer Courses

- ELNEC-Geriatrics, February 6-8, Pasadena, CA (grant-funding available for California nurses)
- ELNEC-SuperCore for Undergraduate/Graduate nursing faculty, February 20-21, Newport Beach, CA (pre-conference to AACN Master's Conference)
- ELNEC-SuperCore, March 12-14, Pasadena, CA
- ELNEC-Critical Care, April 21-23, Pasadena, CA
- ELNEC-Geriatrics, May 5-7, Pasadena, CA
- ELNEC-SuperCore, June 25-27, Chicago, IL
- ***ELNEC's 50th Course Celebration, June 28, Chicago, IL***
- ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care, July 9-11, Pasadena, CA
- ELNEC-Critical Care, October 9-11, Washington, DC

For more information and/or to register, go to: www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC or contact Pam Malloy at pmalloy@aacn.nche.edu. Click [here](#) for a flyer announcing the 2008 courses.



Archstone Foundation Provides \$900,000 Grant for California Critical Care and Geriatric Nurses to Become ELNEC Trainers

In December, the Archstone Foundation announced that it will fund three critical care courses beginning with the April 21-23, 2008 course. An ELNEC-Critical Care course in 2009 and 2010 will also be available. Funds will be used to provide free registration, the ELNEC-Critical Care syllabus, resource materials, meals, and CEs. "We are grateful to the Archstone Foundation for providing the support to continue our education for nurses across many different clinical areas. These represent tremendous opportunities to improve palliative care," stated Betty Ferrell, Principal Investigator of the ELNEC Project. More details about the geriatric training programs will be announced once final arrangements are made. For more information about this course and/or registration form, go to: www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC.



ELNEC to Celebrate the 50th National Train-the-Trainer Course in Chicago, IL

On June 28, 2008, ELNEC trainers from around the country will come to Chicago, IL to celebrate the 50th national ELNEC train-the-trainer course. This reunion will be a great opportunity to receive palliative care updates, network with other trainers, and honor those who have made exceptional contributions to this vital work.

Plan now to attend, to provide a poster about the outstanding work you are doing, and to nominate one of your colleagues for a Distinguished ELNEC Trainer Award. The registration form for this event, recommendation forms to nominate a colleague (or yourself) for an outstanding achievement award in palliative care, and applications to present a poster are available on the ELNEC website:

<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC/pdf/ELNEC50RegFrm.pdf>. Nomination form(s) and application to present a poster must be received no later than **February 1, 2008**.



ELNEC Pins Available to ELNEC Trainers

Many of you received an ELNEC pin when you donated to the ELNEC-International fund. The pin is still available to you for free if you donate to this fund. Any ELNEC trainer may purchase ELNEC pins to give to those who complete ELNEC training within their institution. We are pleased to announce that the ELNEC pins are now available for sale at \$10/each. You must order a minimum of 20 pins. The ELNEC Project Office must have a copy of the notification form of your upcoming ELNEC course, before pins may be ordered. The notification form is located at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC/TrainerResources.htm>. To order these pins, contact Celeste Radell at cradell@coh.org.

ELNEC-SUPERCORE

Three National Train-the-Trainer Courses in 2008:

February 20-21/Newport Beach, CA, ♦ March 12-14/Pasadena, CA, ♦ June 25-27/Chicago, IL

First ELNEC-SuperCore Course is the Largest Ever!

In October 2007, 212 nurses, representing 34 US states, Puerto Rico and Canada attended the first ELNEC-SuperCore train-the-trainer program at the Marriott Washington-Dulles Airport Hotel. Oncology, hospice, and medical/surgical nurses attended this program. Undergraduate and graduate nursing faculty from 23 colleges/universities participated.

To register for a 2008 national ELNEC-Super Core train-the-trainer course, go to:

www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC.

Four ELNEC-Graduate Trainers to be Honored at the AACN Master's Conference

In February, four ELNEC-Graduate trainers who attended the June 2006 course will be honored for the outstanding way they have been able to implement and disseminate the ELNEC-Graduate curriculum. These four graduate faculty members are:



Richard Brown



Carol Kelley



Margaret Wallhagen



Shirley Woolf

Richard Brown, MSN, CRNP, JD: Instructor and Project Coordinator for Child and Adolescent Acute and Continuous Care Advanced Practitioner Program, University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Carol Kelley, PhD, RN, CNP: Assistant Professor, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University

Margaret Wallhagen, PhD, APRN, BC, GNP, AGSF: Professor, Department of Physiological Nursing, University of California, San Francisco

Shirley Woolf, MSN, MA, CCRN, CNRN, CNE: Clinical Assistant Professor, Indiana University School of Nursing

For more information about the outstanding work of these faculty members, go to:

<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC/Graduate.htm>.

Use of Patient Simulators and ELNEC Curriculum: An Excellent Way to Provide Palliative Care Education

ELNEC trainer, Marilyn Stoner, is working with US and international nursing educators to discuss palliative care education and the use of patient simulators. In the past year, Marilyn created three simulations, using the 2007 NCLEX text plan and ELNEC. Marilyn is designing an international study which includes the testing of two simulation scenarios using end-of-life content (imminent death and post mortem care). If you are interested in learning more about Marilyn's work, you may contact her at marilynstoner@verizon.net.

ELNEC-PEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE

One National Train-the-Trainer Course in 2008: July 9-11/Pasadena, CA



Children's Hospice and Palliative Care Coalition (CHPCC) Celebrates Three Recent Awards

CHPCC has just received three major awards, each of which underscores the profound difference they have made in the lives of children with serious illnesses and their families. The awards are: California Association of Non-Profits Achievement in Innovation Award; The Kendall Inspiration Award given to Sophia Schultz and Shoshanna Spielman, two ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care trainers, who work with CHPCC's Partnership for Children Program; Lori Butterworth and Devon Dabbs, co-founders of CHPCC were honored as "Women of the Year" in Santa Cruz, CA. To read more about these awards, go to: <http://www.childrenshospice.org/>.



Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Resources Available

Recent reports suggest that approximately 19,000 neonatal deaths occur in the US every year. More and more pediatric nurses are requesting training specific to neonatology. An extensive resource list from the Pregnancy Loss and Infant Death Alliance (PLIDA) has educational materials, including videos and DVDs that would be useful as supplemental teaching materials. To view the listings, go to the PLIDA website: www.plida.org. If you are looking for educational films to compliment your teaching, go to www.compassionatepassages.org.

ELNEC-CRITICAL CARE

*Two National Train-the-Trainer Courses in 2008:
April 21-23/Pasadena, CA, **funded for CA nurses** ♦ October 9-11/Washington, DC*

Medical Center's Palliative Care Program Has Implemented Innovative Projects: "Nurse Champions" Working to Improve Care

Nine nurses from various critical care units at the Torrance Memorial Medical Center (TMMC) in Torrance, CA have attended ELNEC-Critical Care training. These nurses represent such clinical areas as the intensive care unit, burn unit, and the neonatal intensive care unit. Once these nurses returned to TMMC from ELNEC, they were given the distinction of "Nurse Champion." These nine critical care nurses, plus another nine nurses from medical/surgical units at TMMC have met with the palliative care team to discuss ways to develop their palliative care skills. Examples include participating in a chart-audit on advance directives, presenting in-services on pain management, assessing patients with complex medical profiles and discussing the benefits of advance care planning, integrating evidence-based practice through participation in journal club, and developing a family education tool titled *Understanding Ventilator-Withdrawal*.

Mary Hersh, Palliative Care Program Manager at TMMC, has developed a grid that shows how she is able to assign and track the various projects in which ELNEC Trainers/Champions are involved. This tracking of the many different clinical projects of nurses also allows the entire team to see the impact this education has on improving systems of care. You may contact Mary for more information about this project at mary.hersh@tmmc.com.

ELNEC-GERIATRICS

Two National Train-the-Trainer Courses in 2008:

February 6-8/Pasadena, CA, partially funded for CA nurses ♦ May 5-7/Pasadena, CA

Second National ELNEC-Geriatrics Course Held

Seventy-two geriatric nurses from 19 US states attended the second national ELNEC-Geriatrics course and the first for nurses outside of the state of CA. These nurses represented schools of nursing, skilled nursing /long-term care and acute care facilities, hospices, and managed care organizations.



ELNEC-Geriatric Trainer has Developed a Palliative Care Course for University

Carol Enderlin, from the University of Arkansas College of Nursing, has used the ELNEC-Geriatric curriculum to develop the course description and objectives for a stand-alone palliative nursing care course at Henderson State University. This project is being used as part of her leadership activities for the Hartford Geriatric Pre-doctoral Scholarship. The course will debut in the 2008-2009 school year. For more information on Carol's work, contact her at caenderlin@uams.edu.



ELNEC-Geriatric Trainer Uses Interdisciplinary Approach to Train Staff

Within two months of completing the second national ELNEC-Geriatric train-the-trainer course, Anne Mahler, Geriatric Clinical Nurse Specialist at the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center/Hebrew Senior Life in Boston, MA, began providing palliative care education. With the assistance of a chaplain, physician, and social worker, Anne provided 15 classes titled "An Overview of Palliative Care" with 450 multidisciplinary staff attending. In January 2008, Anne will be providing several classes on various shifts/days on the topic of "Pain Management."

For more information on Anne's work, contact her at AnneMahler@hrca.harvard.edu



ELNEC Trainer Receives Grant to Enhance Quality of Care for Patients with Dementia

Carol Long, CEO and Principal Capstone Healthcare Group in Phoenix, AZ, has worked for the past two years on a community outreach program titled "Palliative Care for Advanced Dementia: A Model Teaching Unit Program," which ensures a higher quality of life for those with dementia and their families. Carol, the co-director of the project, along with co-director Tena Alonzo, works to sustain the goal of creating a replicable and practical model of excellent advanced dementia care and to share this model with nursing facilities in Maricopa County (AZ). This project, based at the Beatitudes Campus, partners with Hospice of the Valley, which has been instrumental in the creation of the training concepts and tools of the program. In the first two years of the funded project, the focus has been on training and evaluations, and four facilities have participated. A total of 225 staff have participated in the complete training and hundreds more have had some exposure to the material. Evaluation data have shown extremely positive results: more stable weights for residents, dramatic decreases in medication costs, and utilization of appropriate medications (including a reduction in the use of antipsychotics and sedatives). A major result of the training program is the demonstration that quality of life for persons with advanced dementia can be quantified. This training program is funded by the BHHS Legacy Foundation, an Arizona charitable organization, whose philanthropic mission is to enhance the quality of life and health of those it serves. For more information about this project, contact Carol at carolong@cox.net.

ELNEC-INTERNATIONAL



Two International ELNEC Courses to be Held in the Spring

Because of the tremendous success of the 1st Salzburg Medical Seminar Series for Nurses in Palliative Care last year, four ELNEC faculty have been invited to return to Salzburg, Austria to present the ELNEC train-the-trainer program, March 30-April 5. Nessa Coyle, Patrick Coyne, Betty Ferrell, and Judy Paice will provide the ELNEC training to Eastern European nursing leaders in education and clinical practice. Nessa and Judy will leave Salzburg and travel

on to Kazakhstan to hold an ELNEC course there from April 7-9. Both of these courses will be sponsored by the Open Society Institute.

An additional bonus will be provided for these two courses. Not only will these trainers attending the Austria and Kazakhstan courses receive ELNEC in English, but they will also be presented with a copy of the ELNEC curriculum written in Russian. The Russian version is being made possible by a generous donation by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

Over \$19,500 Given to ELNEC-International Efforts

In October, a letter went out to ELNEC trainers, asking for their financial support of the ELNEC-International efforts. To date, over \$19,500 has been received from ELNEC trainers and friends. These funds will be used to help translate ELNEC into Chinese, assist nursing leaders from other countries to attend ELNEC train-the-trainer courses, and aid in supplementing ELNEC courses in other under-served countries. If you would like to give to this fund, [click here](#) for a copy of the international brochure. In appreciation of your gift of \$25 or more, you will receive an ELNEC pin.

Please Note: Due to the generous financial support of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), the ELNEC-International version is in the process of being translated into both Russian and Spanish.

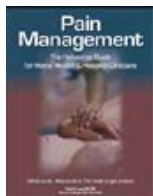
ELNEC-Trainer Learns to Practice Hospice Nursing in Mexico with “Limited Resources, But Lots of Heart”

Lisa Rall, RN, Certified Interpreter and an ELNEC-Geriatrics trainer from the Hospice of Petaluma/Memorial Hospice, recently spent four weeks at San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico where she used ELNEC-Geriatrics slides to train healthcare providers. In addition, Lisa helped to open the first bicultural, open-access hospice in all of Mexico on November 16, 2007, *Hospice San Miguel*.

Much of her time was spent in assisting with the opening of the hospice and translating forms into Spanish. Lisa and her colleagues also made contact with the local Red Cross volunteers and provided education about “Do Not Resuscitate” (DNR) orders and advanced directives. “I am learning so much about the culture and myself and what it means to practice hospice with limited resources, but lots of heart,” stated Lisa. “The ELNEC-Geriatrics curriculum was an invaluable resource and I look forward to the release of the entire training in Espanol,” said Lisa. For more information about this opportunity, contact Lisa at snooky@sonic.net.

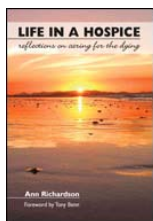
RESOURCES

ELNEC Trainers are Co-authors of New Pain and Hospice Book



Carol Long and Bonnie Morgan have written a book titled *Pain Management: The Resource Guide for Home Health and Hospice Clinicians*. The book uses evidence-based, holistic practice guidelines. It includes a list of 50 quick reference tools, scales and tables for assessment, care planning, and accurate documentation. There are also 29 creative patient teaching tools, safety/medication error prevention techniques, and case studies. For more information and/or to order this book, go to: www.hmponline.com.

New Book Available on Hospice, as Seen Through the Eyes of People Who Work in Them



There is growing public and professional attention to end-of-life care and the way dying patients and their families are treated. How can hospices make the process as peaceful and dignified as possible? Who dedicates their careers to helping the dying? What difficulties are they up against in providing this care, and what makes it all worthwhile? *Life in a Hospice*, written by Ann Richardson provides vivid, real-life accounts of hospice life from managers, doctors, nurses, and support staff. For more information and/or to order this book, go to:

<http://www.radcliffe-oxford.com/books/bookdetail.aspx?ISBN=1846192439>.