
[insert congregation name]

Faith Community Nurse Position Description

Purpose of Ministry

To serve by integrating faith and health.

Our Mission

*Following Christ's example of service,
our health ministry cares for our congregation and community by providing
information, support, and healing presence.*

Description

The Faith Community Nurse (FCN) at _____
[insert congregation name]
provides noninvasive activities in a competent manor that promotes health, healing, and wholeness. The FCN facilitates the use of available resources within the congregation and community, empowering individuals and their families to navigate the complexities of health care, thus helping to bridge the gaps in our health education and care delivery system.

Qualifications

Education, training, and experience: Graduate of a NLN approved school of nursing and licensed in the State of Alaska as a Registered Nurse. Three years of professional nursing experience recommended.

Knowledge, abilities, and skills: Demonstrates knowledge of teaching/learning principles. Ability to assess, problem solve; organize and facilitate the health care needs of individuals and groups.

Completion of Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course.

Accountability

The Faith Community Nurse is accountable to the Pastor and Alaska Board of Nursing. Yearly evaluations completed with Leadership/Pastor. One FCN will be appointed as lead as agreed upon yearly. The Lead FCN will coordinate a yearly review of the effectiveness of the program with church leaders. All FCNs will work collaboratively with the FCN Coordinator at Alaska Faith Community Nurse Resource Center at Providence.

Time Required

Varies depending on programs and assessed needs

Liability

Covered by professional, volunteer, and church insurance.

Recommend file on each FCN to include:

Revised: 5/21

- RN licensure
- Course completion certificate for FCN Foundations course
- Copy of RN malpractice insurance
- Criminal background check
- FCN job description

Activities/Responsibilities

Health Counseling

- Assesses congregational and community health needs.
- Provides information and support related to health maintenance, disease prevention or illness patterns. Available to discuss questions and intimate concerns related to health care needs.
- Promotes stewardship of the body emphasizing self care of the whole person.
- Collaborates and communicates with pastoral staff and other health professionals to plan for health ministry programming.
- Examples include: Consultation at blood pressure screenings or other health ministry events / home, hospital and nursing home visitation / medication information / assistance in understanding medical jargon, treatment plans or State and social service programs, i.e.: Medicare.

Health Education

- Prepares, develops and/or coordinates educational programs based on identified needs for healthier lifestyles, early illness detection, and health resources.
- Networks with appropriate resources in the community to secure educational program resources.
- Examples include: Nutrition / Exercise / Stress Management / CPR – First Aid classes / Heart Health / Stroke Prevention / Diabetes prevention

Facilitation

- Provides training for those who are called to serve as health ministry needs are identified.
- Develops and/or facilitates support groups based on identified needs and resources.
- Identifies available support groups in the community that can be a resource to the congregation.
- Organizes noninvasive health care screenings: i.e.: blood pressure, paper / pencil risk assessments, health fairs.

Liaison/Referral Agent to Community Resources

- Develops community contacts in order to secure resources and services.
- Refers to physician or appropriate social service agency.
- Networks with other FCNs and professionals in the community.

Maintains documentation as outlined in the ANA scope and standards of faith community nursing

- Utilizes the nursing process in patient / client documentation systems.
- Maintains patient/client records in a locked and secure cabinet.
- Maintains privacy and confidentiality as outlined in the confidentiality guidelines.
- Documents FCN activity.