

# CON Faculty Practice Newsletter

Rush University  
College of Nursing

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Chicago, IL 60612

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## FACULTY PRACTICE CLINICIAN HIGHLIGHT: SUSAN BUCHHOLZ, PhD, RN, FAANP

For 13 years, I have had the privilege of having a part-time faculty practice at St. Clare Health Clinic located in Crown Point, Indiana. When I came to Rush University College of Nursing over six years ago, I was able to continue my faculty practice at St. Clare Health Clinic. St. Clare's is an excellent site for a faculty practice. We focus on an underserved population, and are able to provide the full spectrum of adult primary care. The clinic serves as an excellent site for keeping my nurse practitioner clinical skills. The patients we see often have multiple comorbidities as well as many psychosocial needs.

St. Clare Health Clinic serves as a clinical placement site for many students, including nurse practitioner students. Nurse practitioner students are able to significantly improve their history and physical taking skills, as well as learn how to make differential diagnoses and develop complex management plans. Because the nurse practitioner students coming in are already nurses, they quickly grasp how to use their nursing background to develop management plans that are realistic for the patient. The students also benefit from working with the other nurse practitioners, the registered nurse, the social worker, and the other clinic staff. St. Clare's is also a site for ongoing DNP Projects being done by nurse practitioner students. Over the years, my patients have often commented to me how much they have enjoyed being cared for by our nurse practitioner students. Patients have noted that the students listen carefully and are very thorough. The patients often see the nurse practitioner students as an important part of their health care team.

*"St. Clare Health Clinic strives to continue to be a health care setting where patients receive high quality health care, and great respect."*

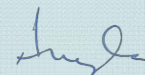
*-Susan Buchholz, PhD, RN, FAANP*



I continue to appreciate the opportunity to provide care at a clinic that embodies the Franciscan values of respect for life, fidelity to their mission, compassionate concern, joyful service and Christian stewardship. The clinic is led by an extraordinary nurse practitioner and nurse manager, Julie Mallers FNP-BC, who lives out these Franciscan Values. She works diligently to provide the nurse practitioners at the clinic with the tools and services that are needed to provide the best care possible. St. Clare Health Clinic strives to continue to be a health care setting where patients receive high quality health care, and great respect.

## NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Recently my two oldest children began karate lessons. On the wall of the dojo is this quote, *"Your technique means nothing if you're not using your talents for the betterment of humanity."* What a lovely sentiment, not only for a group of 6-year olds learning karate, but also for all of us working in community health. Because to me, community nursing is about bringing my nursing knowledge out into the world – it's about connecting with my population, earning trust, and learning to understand their healthcare needs in their own words and in their own environment. It is both deeply gratifying and humbling work, and has become my professional passion. I am so grateful to bring this passion to the Office of Faculty Practice because, through this work, our community partnerships and community clinicians truly help make the world a better place.



**Angela Moss, PhDc, MSN, APN-BC, RN**

Director of Faculty Practice

Assistant Professor/ Adult Nurse Practitioner  
Dept of Adult Health & Gerontological Nursing  
Director & APN, Healthy Living Program, Flying  
Food Group, Inc.

CON FACULTY  
PRACTICE  
JOB OPENINGS!



***A part-time APN  
opening with Trilogy  
Behavioral Healthcare!***

The APN will help develop the integrated healthcare programs for a primarily Spanish-speaking patient population. It requires a significant amount of time spent out in the community visiting clients: making assessments and developing treatment plans. Trilogy is based on the Northside of Chicago, Rogers Park area.

Requisition #2016-0316

***3 new Work Study  
Positions at the Rush Sue  
Gin Oakley Square Clinic***

These positions will work closely with the APRN to collect patient data and plan interventions for identified community health issues. Located in a large community on the West Side of Chicago. Flexible hours, around 8 hours/week.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities please contact Angela Moss at [Angela\\_moss@rush.edu](mailto:Angela_moss@rush.edu) or Virginia Deck at ph. 312-942-3467

## FACULTY PRACTICE PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: ST. CLARE CLINIC

By: Julie Mallers, FNP-BC  
Nurse Manager at St. Clare Clinic

The St. Clare Health Clinic operates under the auspices of Franciscan Alliance, grants and community support. It was founded in 1996 in response to the growing need for access to healthcare for the uninsured and poverty stricken families in Lake County Indiana. St. Clare's philosophy is based on a patient centered medical home model: primary care services, health education, and health resource information. Specific resources available include food pantry, social services, medication assistance, diabetic care, and lifestyle education. Due to the changes in healthcare coverage the clinic had to revise who qualifies for their services. St. Clare will expand services this summer to include health care coverage to Health Indiana Plan patients. This will enable the clinic to continue their mission to provide primary health care services to those who would otherwise endure hardship to access quality healthcare.

Initially, the clinic was manned with only a volunteer Medical Director and staffed Nurse Practitioner. The staff now currently includes three Family Nurse Practitioners, two Adult Nurse Practitioners, Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, and a Registered Nurse. Other staff members work with the patients to help them navigate outside resources, diabetes and lifestyle education, supporting the Nurse Practitioners, scheduling, and administration of grants and volunteer compliance

St. Clare routinely works with health care students to complete interprofessional collaboration education in health care. The students are involved with direct patient care through experiences with primary assessments, care plans, patient follow ups, and patient/family education. When students are asked about their experience at St. Clare, they stated that they were given the opportunity to utilize skills, critical thinking and reasoning while completing their clinical hours at St. Clare Health Clinic. The clinic also challenges students to be mindful of utilization of resources in regards to financial and social barriers to healthcare.

## STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

By: Teresa O'Brien, MSN, RN, OCN, AGNP-C

St. Clare's Clinic in Crown Point, Indiana is the ideal place for a nurse practitioner student to have a clinical rotation. St. Clare's Clinic provides excellent primary care to noninsured patients. There are several reasons for St. Clare's success and ideal learning environment. This includes the clinical faculty Susan Buchholz PhD, PhD, RN, FAANP, the model of care, staff, and the environment.

The opportunity to be guided and taught by an experienced nurse practitioner and educator has many advantages. Dr. Buchholz provides an environment that encourages learning and self-actualization in the role as a nurse practitioner. Her vast knowledge base introduced and encouraged me to begin thinking like an NP. By the end of my rotation, I was able to quote all of the national standards associated with common chronic medical ailments which well prepared me for certification. To this day, I look to Dr. Buchholz for guidance as a mentor.

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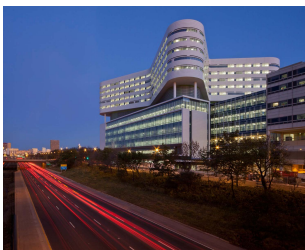
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The clinic is managed by an NP and the providers are NP's. The clinic operates under a nursing model, evidenced based practice, and nursing theory. This clinical model provides the ability to be mentored by seasoned NP's which is ideal for students. In addition, the nurse practitioners provided an environment conducive to learning and exploration. Caring for the uninsured allowed for holistic care, not only medical intervention, but also patient education, counseling, diagnostic testing, pharmacotherapy management and assistance with social and personal issues of the patient. Pharmacotherapy for the patients was guided by available medication in the clinic and the discounted medications available at pharmacies. This cemented the information provided in the pharmacology curriculum. Physical assessment skills were honed and relied on for diagnosis, as diagnostic testing can be a challenge in uninsured patients. Caring for uninsured patients was an eye opener for me, learning a great deal about healthcare and its limitations. Despite financial restrictions the patients received excellent primary care.

*"The environment was so conducive to learning that I chose to complete two clinical rotations at the clinic."  
-Teresa O'Brien, MSN, RN, OCN, AGNP-C*

The entire staff, clinicians and administrative staff, at St. Clare's are the kindest people that I have ever worked with in healthcare. They cared for each patient with the utmost respect and sincerity. Collaboration at all levels provides a smooth journey for patients through the system. St. Clare's not only provides medical care but also has a food pantry, educational programs, and a prenatal clinic. I witnessed numerous times how the staff went above and beyond for their patients.

St. Clare's Clinic is an ideal clinical rotation for a nurse practitioner student. I had the opportunity to work with other nurse practitioners, other nurse practitioner students and doctoral pharmacy students. The clinical faculty and staff provide an environment that encourages student growth and learning. The collaboration and exchange of information was encouraged and enlightening. Being mentored by seasoned nurse practitioners who provide excellent primary care is the perfect clinical rotation. The environment was so conducive to learning that I chose to complete two clinical rotations at the clinic.



### TWITTER ACCOUNT

The Director of the CON Office of Faculty Practice, Angela Moss, recently created a Twitter account. Follow her today at [@AngelaMossRN](https://twitter.com/AngelaMossRN)

### STUDENT SHADOWING OPPORTUNITIES

Our Faculty Practice clinicians and partner sites provide great RN & APN shadowing opportunities for current Rush nursing students.

Please contact Virginia Deck at [Virginia\\_deck@rush.edu](mailto:Virginia_deck@rush.edu) if you are interested in shadowing at one of our partner sites.

### NP CONNECT

NP Connect will meet again on Tuesday, June 7th at 7PM at Tuscany on Taylor. Reservations are under Nurse Practitioners. Please join us for some fabulous food and conversation. We're interested in getting to know about you and your work. Come and meet your fellow community NPs. Students are welcome!

For more information please contact Sheila Leen, [sheila\\_leen@rush.edu](mailto:sheila_leen@rush.edu)

### CON FACULTY PRACTICE CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) COURSES

#### *Current Course Offerings:*

#### **Adult Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Offered for 8 CE Credits**

**Next course offering is being held on July 22, 2016**

This course educates an individual to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders. This 8-hour course is intended for the general public, as well as any healthcare provider.

#### **Fundamentals of Critical Care (FCCS) Offered for 14 CE Credits**

**This 2 day in class course takes place twice a year. The next one is on August 8 – August 9, 2016. Spots are filling up quickly – limited seating is available, so sign up today!**

This course includes a didactic lecture, simulation and case-based skill stations in critical care support. The course is intended for the following audiences: APN, MD, RT, PA, RNs in critical care, Residents, Fellows and APN students.

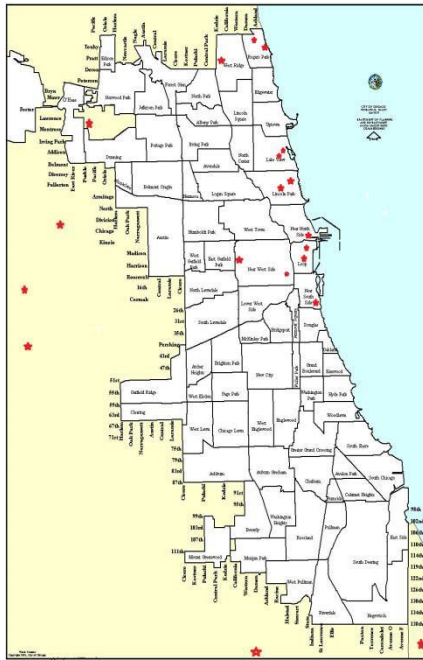
For more information regarding this course and other continuing education courses offered by the Office of Faculty Practice, please contact Virginia Deck at [Virginia\\_deck@rush.edu](mailto:Virginia_deck@rush.edu)

CON FACULTY PRACTICE MISSION

*To provide practice opportunities for the integration of education, research, and clinical practice to advance faculty and staff in their clinical field of expertise, and to provide measurable health benefits and solutions for the populations served*

CON FACULTY PRACTICE VISION

*To be recognized for excellence in providing comprehensive and innovative evidence-based nursing services that address the healthcare needs of individuals, families, and communities*



CON FACULTY PRACTICE FACTS:

- 21 Chicagoland community partnerships
- 47,220 annual student clinical hours across all sites
- 7 ongoing DNP student projects in 2015-2016
- 5 ongoing pre-licensure student capstone projects in 2015-2016
- 3 exploratory and/or interventional research studies in 2015-2016
- 7-8 national posters representing Faculty Practice scholarly work presented on average each year

**FACULTY PRACTICE PARTNERS**

See map on the bottom left for our Partner locations

- Advocate -Good Samaritan/Why Wait Clinic
- Andrew A Roth MD
- The Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind
- DuPage County Health Department
- Epilepsy Foundation of Northern Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska
- Facing Forward to End Homelessness
- Flying Food Group Inc.
- Franciscan Alliance, St. Clare Health Clinic
- Heartland Health Services
- Jewish Children and Family Services
- Dr. Marla Kushner
- RUMC Laurence Armour Day School
- Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities
- Mercy Hospital- CPS Phillips & Dunbar High School Clinics
- Dr. Patricia Merwick & Associates
- Providence Englewood Charter School
- Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
- Sue Gin Clinic at Oakley Square
- Trilogy Behavioral Healthcare
- Village of Park Forest
- Wesley Place

**FACULTY PRACTICE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM**

**Director of Faculty Practice**  
Angefa Moss  
PhDC, MSN, APN-BC, RN

**Administrative Coordinator**  
Virginia Deck  
MHAC, BA

**Data Coordinator**  
Nancy Nichols  
MLIS, RHIA