



*“Improving the health of our community through faith based nurses and health ministers”*

## **PeaceHealth awards \$22,200 Community Collaborative Grant to Health Ministries Network**

Health Ministries Network is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in Bellingham Washington that advocates for holistic health care in Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan Western Washington. The grant supports the work of faith community nurses and community health advocates in over 50 congregations and community organizations. ...

... The grant will be used to provide transitional services and palliative care for those in our community without family or home health care resources, including: 1) make advance directive planning a goal in the congregations we serve; 2) improve the quality of life for our congregants and their families with transitional (hospital to home) care services; 3) detect early symptoms (red flags) to decrease hospital readmissions; and 4) track these interventions to estimate cumulative savings.

The grant proposal, itself, follows:

### **PeaceHealth Community Collaborative Grant Proposal**

**April 2018**

**Health Ministries Network**

**800 East Chestnut St., Suite 1-A Bellingham, WA 98225 (360) 510-9797**

**Submitted by:**

Health Ministries Network Board of Directors  
Ellen Warren, FCN, HMN Board Chair  
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Kevin Majkut, HMN Board Treasurer

**Prepared by:**

Carol Nicolay, Ed.D  
HMN Interim Community Outreach Coordinator

### **Proposal Summary:**

In 2017, the Peace Health Community Collaborative Committee awarded a \$20,000 grant to sustain the operations of Health Ministries Network as we transitioned from the sponsorship of the PeaceHealth Spiritual Care Department to a Washington State non-profit

health advocacy corporation. This grant in combination with the \$20,000 matching fund grant from Chuckanut Health Foundation has allowed HMN to continue the support of Faith Community Nurses and Health Ministers in Western Washington. Thank you!

To continue this work, we are requesting your continued financial support with a renewed \$20,000 grant for 2018-19 HMN operations. Included in this proposal are updates of the HMN structure, funding, staffing and governance, and the continuing initiatives for Transitional Services, Community Palliative Care, and Faith Community Education. We appreciate the opportunity to submit this proposal for renewed grant.

### **Health Ministries Network**

We continue to be the liaisons between health care institutions and our clients, as we strive to fulfill our purpose: *To link faith community nurses, congregations, community organizations and hospital resources to serve our community by promoting preventative health care, social justice and spiritual well-being.* Over the past 20 years, Health Ministries Network has prepared 225 Faith Community / Parish Nurses and Health Ministers in 85 different faith communities that cross all boundaries of faith and culture for service in their congregations.

### **2017: A Transitional Year**

Faith Community Nurses and Health Ministers impact the health of the congregations they serve. The 2017 HMN Annual Report shows that our nurses and health ministers provided 22,482 hours in direct service to clients a four county area. The monetized value to our communities was \$786,870.

What the 2017 HMN Annual Report does not include is the transformation of HMN's structure, funding, staffing and governance. This transformation would not have been possible without the faithful work and support of Rev. Tessie Mandeville, 2016-17 Interim HMN Coordinator, Dr. Charles Nelson, Webmaster, Chris Lindberg, HMN Administrative Assistant, Chris Phillips, Director of Community Relations, PeaceHealth, Sue Sharpe, Executive Director, Chuckanut Health Foundation, the First Congregational Church of Bellingham, the JBT Parish Nurse Education Fund (established by Tisch and Dave Lynch), Sampson Alvarado, HMN Communications Assistant, Dr. Carol Nicolay, 2017-18 Interim HMN Coordinator and the people and organizations (Addendum 1) who made charitable contributions. HMN is currently seeking a part-time Executive Director to assume leadership in July, 2018.

### **HMN made remarkable strides toward becoming a sustainable non-profit. Highlights of our 2017-18 accomplishments include:**

- Award of IRS Tax Exempt Non-profit 501(c)(3) status to HMN
- Fiscal Agent Agreement with *Chuckanut Health Foundation* (3 years)
- A Coordinated Services Agreement with *PeaceHealth* for HMN office space and furnishings

- \$20,000 *Chuckanut Health Foundation* matching funds (operational) grant
- A new HMN Health Non-Profit Advocacy Brochure (community outreach)
- Governance (bylaws) for a 12- member HMN Board of Directors
- Installation of HMN Board Officers (with job descriptions)
- A Health Ministries Network *WECU* business account
- Hiring a HMN Communications Assistant (new job description)
- Monthly professional education (CEU eligible) with an average attendance of 20+
- An activated Health Ministries Network Facebook page with news and event photos
- A revised and simplified HMN website initiated by Webmaster, Chaz Nelson
- The first HMN/JBT Christmas Tea Fundraiser that netted a combined \$11,600 for both funds
- · \_A simplified on-line survey to capture HMN hours of service in seven categories (*Angel Appreciation Awards* for exemplary service in each category)
- New community connections with *North Sound HCA, Bellingham at Home, Signature Health Care*
- A (new) *HMN Executive Director Position* Description and a search that opened in March
- · \_*Foundations Faith Community Nursing / Health Ministry* eight week hybrid course for *Faith Community Nurse (FCN), Congregational Health Minister (CHM)* and a new category, *Community Health Advocate (CHA)*. 14 are enrolled and nine graduated on April 29. The remaining five are in process toward completion.

### **Proposal for Operational Grant**

We are submitting this second-year proposal for a renewed \$20,000 grant from the PeaceHealth Community Collaborative Fund for HMN operational expenses.

With HMN approaching its 21th anniversary, we acknowledge Chuckanut Health Foundation, PeaceHealth/SJMC, Christian Healthcare Center, and the First Congregational Church of Bellingham who has nurtured us and with whom we have established working relationships. We consider the support of these supporters vital to our success.

The HMN Board of Directors is also aware that a next step in the organization's development is to establish a Fund Development Program to insure solid organizational support. This effort needs to be consistent with the mission of the Network: diversifying the funding base while maintaining the strong history of direct service, providing opportunities for community support, and creating a sustainable model for the successful future of the Network. The planning of this Fund Development Program is a critical goal in the upcoming year.

## **2017-18 Grant Activities and Outcomes**

With the 2017 PH SJMC operational funding grant and matching funds, we hired Interim Community Outreach Coordinator, Dr. Carol Nicolay who assumed the leadership responsibility for Health Ministries Network to continue our work with local congregations with a focus on *Transitional Care Services, Community Palliative Care, and Faith Community Nursing Education*.

### **Transitional Care Services**

In 2017, we proposed a pilot program that specifically focused on *Care Transitions*. The desired outcomes for this pilot program were to: 1) train eight Faith Community Nurses using the local CHCC Care Transitions model, 2) build structured Care Transitions programs in seven local congregations, and 3) reduce the occurrence of 30 day Medicare readmissions.

In practice, our faith community nurses and health ministers already do substantial care coordination and management in their congregations. We learned that the nurses in our network did not see a need for further training in the CHCC Transitions model, so we shifted our focus to the congregations who had the nurses using Care Transitions in practice. 4