How does a faith community nurse become part of the Advocate Faith Community Nurse Support Network?

Registered professional nurses currently serving as a faith community nurse within the service areas/regions of Advocate Health Care can request inclusion into the Faith Community Nurse Support Network. The request may be from the faith community nurse and/or clergy leader seeking the guidance, support and resources of Advocate Health Care and Faith Community Nurse Ministry. The congregation is encouraged to sustain the faith community nurse program through budget, physical space allocation and support of the ministry through the formation of a health cabinet and support of clergy leadership.

The faith community nurse requests and completes an application form and returns it to Advocate Faith Community Nurse Ministry. Upon meeting the requirements for inclusion and completion of a successful interview process, then, with mutual consent of both the faith community nurse and Advocate Faith Community Nurse Ministry, participation in the Faith Community Nurse Support Network will be initiated.

For further information or to request an application contact:

Faith Community Nurse Support Network
3075 Highland Parkway, Suite 600
Downers Grove, IL 60515
630.929.6104 || Fax: 630.929.9917
advocatehealth.com/parishnursing
Advocate Faith Community Nurse Ministry promotes and supports the wholistic practice of faith community nursing in the greater Chicago land area and within the surrounding regions of Advocate Health Care sites of care.

What is the Faith Community Nurse Support Network? | Committed to delivering quality faith community nursing within all of the Advocate service areas/regions, Advocate’s Faith Community Nurse Ministry, in 2002, established a Faith Community Nurse Network to link congregationally-based paid/unpaid faith community nurses within those identified communities with the resources and support of the Faith Community Nurse Ministry and all related services of Advocate Health Care. In October of 2010, the Network officially changed its name to the Faith Community Nurse Support Network. The purpose of the Faith Community Nurse Support Network is to provide supportive services and faith community nurse expertise, on-going education and spiritual support, materials and resources and networking opportunities to non-associate faith community nurses strategically located within the Advocate service areas/regions. Through the expansion of Faith Community Nursing, Advocate’s Faith Community Nurse Ministry honors its commitment to nurture the human spirit through health education, spiritual support and linking the needs of the whole person to resources within the congregation, community and the health system.

Benefits of Participation
- Offer resources of Advocate Mission and Spiritual Care/Faith Community Nurse Ministry which include: The Director of Faith Community Nurse Ministry/ Faith Community Nurse Support Network, the Office Coordinator of Faith Community Nurse Ministry/Mission & Spiritual Care, the network of Advocate Health Care Faith Community Nurses/Support Network, the Faith Community Nurse Ministry Educational Support Team, Advocate Congregational Health Partners, the Office of Mission and Spiritual Care, and all additional resources of Advocate Health Care.
- Provide dedicated support staff of Faith Community Nurse Ministry to the Faith Community Nurse Support Network members for such services as individual consultation, case review, community and general resource sharing, health and wellness program development and mentoring.
- Organize meetings and workshops for resource sharing, education, networking opportunities and theological reflection.
- Offer Day of Reflection for Faith Community Nurse Support Network members sponsored by Advocate Faith Community Nurse Ministry and supported by Advocate Mission and Spiritual Care.
- Provide the use of Advocate Health Care Faith Community Nurse Ministry electronic documentation system.
- Connect faith community nurses with resources and information through e-newsletters and e-mailings regarding whole-person health and use of our resource lending library.
- Offer educational programming for faith community nurses and clergy leadership around the development of collaborative working relationships and health and healing within a congregational setting.
- Offer discounts on Advocate sponsored conferences and programs.

Fees Associated with Participation
- $250.00 entry fee (One time only fee, 1st year of participation) – This fee covers the application and support network interview process, initial materials and resources, forms, and e-mailings. Additionally, the fee provides for the 1:1 supportive/consultative services of the Faith Community Nurse Ministry and networking meetings and workshops. An additional fee of $50.00 will be charged for those who select the option of the documentation system.
- $100.00 (Annual fee) – This fee provides for on-going receipt of materials and resources, meetings, e-mailings and consultative services/mentoring and annual day of reflection. An additional fee of $50.00 will be charged for those who select the option of the use of the Faith Community Nursing documentation system.

Qualifications for Participation in the Faith Community Nurse Support Network
- Current Professional Registered Nurse licensed in the State of Illinois
- Current CPR/AED certification
- Yearly TB Immunization strongly recommended
- Minimum of 5-7 years recent clinical nursing experience
- Participation in an interview process with Advocate Health Care Faith Community Nurse Ministry leadership, demonstrating a clear understanding of the function and roles of the faith community nurse and the faith community nurse ministry within the faith community.
- Demonstration of a practice that is compatible with the Scope and Standards established for Faith Community Nursing (the nursing specialty practice of Faith Community nursing) and the Nurse Practice Act of Illinois
- Willingness and ability to provide the time required to accomplish the responsibilities of this role
- Agreement to participate in educational and/or networking sessions offered during the calendar year or demonstration of continuing education that support the faith community nurse ministry role
- Letter of support from Congregational Leadership regarding their support of both the faith community nurse and the faith community nurse ministry
- Participation in a Basic Preparation Course in Faith Community Nursing is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED within the first year of participation in the Faith Community Nurse Support Network
- Recommendation of Professional Liability Coverage

Congregational Support
- Letter of support from Congregational Leadership regarding their support of both the faith community nurse and the faith community nurse ministry
- Commission or charge the faith community nurse in a manner consistent with the faith tradition
- Establish resources for the initial and ongoing support of the faith community nurse ministry
- Strongly recommend designated office space, use of a phone and computer, a locked file cabinet for confidential records and an operating budget for on-going educational and spiritual development