

NZFCNA: BASIC INTRODUCTORY COURSE

Objectives of the Course:

1. To gain an understanding of the integration of faith and health as integral to the role of parish nursing¹ (faith community nursing)².
2. To gain the knowledge and skills required to practice as a beginning faith community nurse.
3. To have access to peer support
4. To learn of networks to receive continuing development and support.
5. To develop a commitment to continued spiritual growth to sustain the role of faith community nurse within a faith community.

There are 12 modules:

1. Introduction to Faith Community Nursing: its History and Philosophy
2. Theology of Health and Wholeness
3. Essential Requirements of a Faith Community Nurse: Skills and a Call?
4. Legislation and Ethics
5. Function of the Faith Community Nurse as Counsellor and Advocate
6. Function of the Faith Community Nurse as Resource and Referral Agent
7. Function of the Faith Community Nurse as Community Builder and Health Promoter and Health Educator
8. Function of the Faith Community Nurse as Coordinator of Volunteers
9. Function of the Faith Community Nurse as Care Manager
10. Getting Started with Faith Community Nursing
11. A New Zealand Perspective: working within The Treaty of Waitangi
12. Self Care, Reflection and Maintaining the Ministry

Modules each have activities to complete and/or questions to answer. On completion of all 12 modules please complete the FINAL EVALUATION³ and send with your completed LETTER OF SUPPORT to: Elaine Tyrrell, 365, Trafalgar Street, NELSON. Some aspects will need to be completed in conjunction with the priest/pastor of your own Church fellowship.

NZFCNA acknowledges the invaluable contribution of Dr Antonia (Anne) Van Loon of AFCNA in the preparation of much of the material in these modules.

Many nurses (or their ministers) are keen to commence their ministry before they complete this course. We recommend that you peruse module 10 before you do so, as this has many tips and ideas to avoid pitfalls and is based on a wealth of experience.

We strongly recommend that you purchase a copy of the NZFCNA Introductory Manual which outlines the basic tenets of the ministry and has proforma documents for your use. Available from NZFCNA, PO Box 64, KAIAPOI.

¹ Parish nursing is the term coined by Revd Granger Westberg when he instituted a model where nurses bridged a link between the Church and modern medicine.

² Faith Community nursing is a name chosen by many nurses in Australia and New Zealand as their Christian communities are not familiar with the term parish. However the work is exactly the same. Some churches may prefer another term such as pastoral nursing.

³ Electronic versions are acceptable but signed documents need to be in hard copy. Email to etyrrell@xtra.co.nz
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