



## American Academy of Nursing Announces 2021-2022 Jonas Policy Scholars

*Funded by Jonas Philanthropies, Program Develops Next Generation of Nursing Policy Experts*

**May 20, 2021 (Washington, DC)** – The American Academy of Nursing (Academy) is pleased to announce six individuals who have been selected to participate in the 2021-2022 cohort of the Academy Jonas Policy Scholars Program, funded by a generous grant from the Jonas Nursing and Veterans Healthcare, one of four impact areas within Jonas Philanthropies. These nurse leaders will participate in a two-year experience, focused on mentoring, policy, and engagement. Through professional development with the National Policy Mentoring Council (NPMC), in-depth policy discussions, and an immersion session with prominent stakeholders, the Scholars will hone their skills to impact change.

“The Academy is pleased to welcome this impressive cohort of Jonas Policy Scholars,” said Academy President Eileen Sullivan-Marx, PhD, RN, FAAN. “Each member of the 2021-2022 cohort brings a unique perspective that aligns with the Academy’s commitment to impacting policy and advancing health equity through nursing science, innovation, and leadership.”

The new cohort of Academy Jonas Policy Scholars will work closely with the Academy’s policy staff and NPMC to promote the [policy priorities](#) and [strategic plan](#) of the Academy:

- Heather Bradford, MSN, CNM, ARNP, FACNM – Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (PhD Student), Georgetown University and EvergreenHealth in Kirkland, WA
- Lakeshia Cousin, PhD, APRN, AGPCNP-BC – University of Florida College of Nursing (Assistant Professor)
- Rachel French, PhD, RN – University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing, National Clinician Scholars Program (Post-Doctoral Fellow)
- Laura Grunin, RN, MSN – New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing (PhD Student)
- Katie Fitzgerald Jones, BSN, MSN, APN – Boston College Connell School of Nursing (PhD Student) and VA Boston Healthcare System
- James Muchira, PhD, MSN – Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (Post-Doctoral Fellow)

Learn more about the 2021-2022 Jonas Policy Scholars cohort [here](#).

“We are excited to continue our long-standing relationship with the American Academy of Nursing by welcoming this next cohort of Jonas-AAN Policy Scholars,” said Interim Executive Director of Jonas Nursing and Veterans Healthcare Stephen Ferrara, DNP, NP, FAAN. “We look forward to them joining our network of over 1,400 scholars around the country. Now more than ever, nurses must be part of the decision-making process for health policy. Our partnership with the Academy will allow us to continue to provide our scholars with an in-depth experience of advocacy and leadership in policy-making through the field of nursing.”

The Academy’s [NPMC](#) consists of highly distinguished Fellows who serve as mentors for the Jonas Policy Scholars to further the understanding and engagement with the policy process.

- Stephanie Ferguson, PhD, RN, FAAN, President and CEO, Stephanie L. Ferguson & Associates, LLC (Chair)
- Patricia K. Bradley, PhD, RN, FAAN, Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence, Villanova University, M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing
- Rebecca Freeman, PhD, RN, PMP, FAAN, Interim Chief Nursing Informatics Officer, University of Vermont Health Network
- Paul Kuehnert, DNP, RN, FAAN, President & CEO, Public Health Accreditation Board

- Carole Kenner, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean and Professor, The College of New Jersey
- Lori Trego, PhD, CNM, FAAN, Associate Professor, University of Colorado Denver, College of Nursing

Learn more about the Jonas Policy Scholars program [here](#).

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### **About the American Academy of Nursing**

The American Academy of Nursing serves the public by advancing health policy through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge. Academy Fellows are inducted into the organization for their extraordinary contributions to improve health locally and globally. With more than 2,800 Fellows, the Academy represents nursing's most accomplished leaders in policy, research, administration, practice, and academia.

### **About Jonas Philanthropies**

Jonas Philanthropies is transforming healthcare for the better by investing where it matters most, in solutions that can be scaled for the greatest impact. Its programs address high-need issues and audiences with high-impact solutions: promoting leadership in nursing and veterans healthcare, preventing and treating low vision and blindness, and protecting our children's environmental health. For more information about Jonas Philanthropies, visit [jonasphilanthropies.org](http://jonasphilanthropies.org), follow us on Twitter, or like us on Facebook.

### **About Jonas Nursing and Veterans Healthcare**

Jonas Nursing and Veterans Healthcare (JNVH) is the signature program of Jonas Philanthropies. In partnership with schools across the country, Jonas Nursing and Veterans Healthcare identifies and invests in high-potential doctoral nursing Scholars who will address our nation's most pressing healthcare needs. These nurses will go on to fill leadership roles as faculty, clinical leaders and researchers. For more information about JNVH, visit [jonasphilanthropies.org/nursing-and-veteranshealthcare/](http://jonasphilanthropies.org/nursing-and-veteranshealthcare/) follow us on Twitter, or like us on Facebook.

### **Contact**

Caroline Kane | 202-777-1173 | [ckane@AANnet.org](mailto:ckane@AANnet.org)