

**FLORIDA
ASSOCIATION**



**OF SCHOOL
NURSES**

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FASNating News

FASN strives to improve the health and educational success of students and the school community by developing and providing leadership to advance school nursing practice.



***Collaborating with Outside Partners
to Enhance our Practice***

"Serving School Nurses Statewide"

www.FASN.net

Message From The President

FASN President's Report

As president, Dr. Gordon has made it a priority to increase the visibility of FASN. Her efforts have resulted in recognition on the QUIN (Quality in Nursing) Council and an invitation for FASN to work with the State Board of Nursing as Florida celebrates its 100th Anniversary. In addition, she has been active in the following areas:

1. Drafted e-mail to Andrew Keller of NursingNetwork outlining the Board's understanding of our arrangement related the transfer of our Internet domain from IPower to Nursingnetwork to be presented at the November FASN board meeting.
2. Represented FASN at a QUIN Meeting.
3. Explored the use of executive boards with the State Affiliated Presidents. Report to be presented at the January FASN Board Meeting.
4. Continued to work with the Finance Committee Chair, Karen Velinsky to develop finance policies.
5. Continued to work with the Communications Committee as FASN moves toward launching the new FASN Website.
6. Participated in 4 National Webinars on Management of Head Lice in School sponsored by NASN and SanofiPastuer with over 700 school nurses across the country participating.
7. Shot a head lice segment for PBS to air in January.

Shirley Gordon, Ph.D, R.N., N.C.S.N.
President, FASN
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Dr. Shirley Gordon
FASN President

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NASN ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO!!!

Janie Sailors, B.S.N., N.C.S.N.

“Why haven’t I heard anything about the 2013 FASN Annual Conference???” I always get the brochure by now!” Perhaps you, too, have wondered about this...

Do we have news for you!!! FLORIDA, and that means FASN, is the HOST of this year’s National Association of School Nurses’ Annual Conference!!!

Whooooooooooooohoooooooooooo!!! The conference is in our backyard!!! And, to encourage best use of limited dollars, FASN has chosen to not host an annual February conference and to save energies and resources to support NASN’s conference. We are reaching out to our loyal vendors to seek their support in funding registration fees. Stay tuned for more information on that.

Being local makes this an affordable event. For those who have never attended, there is nothing like it! It is by far the best professional dollars you can spend! Simply being able to network with peers from across the nation is worth the cost. FASN, as host, will also be able to offer “Marketplace” with fun school nursing items for purchase, as well as our renowned “Baskets Raffle”, both of which will infuse funds into our treasury!

The host hotel is the Swan and Dolphin at Walt Disney World, in Orlando.

Watch for more details as we get closer to the following dates:

- ✓ February 1, 2013 Registration and Room Block open
- ✓ February 8, 2013 Call for Poster Presentation Abstracts deadline
- ✓ April 15, 2013 Early Bird Registration deadline: Reduced rate is \$470
- ✓ May 17, 2013 Pre-registration deadline
- ✓ June 26, 2013 Pre-conference

June 27-30, 2013:

NASN 2013...

BE THERE!!!



‘Tis the Season... Happy Holidays from your Membership Secretary:

Shelley Bumm, B.S.N., N.C.S.N.



In all the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, both at home and school, we often forget we deserve a special gift, too. What better gift to give yourself

than a membership to FASN! It’s a gift, when opened that will keep on giving you support for your professional growth over the year of paid membership*. Membership gives you the gift of networking with your colleagues in School Nursing. It gives you the gift of supporting child health needs through collaboration with national policy makers, organizations and agencies regarding school nurse issues. It gives you the gift of visibility: advocating for minimum levels of preparation; advocating for manageable nurse to student ratios; and providing a forum for discussion of school health issues. Finally, membership gives you the gift of knowledge by providing continuing education opportunities, forums and conferences both statewide and nationally. This gift of membership has grown over the past year. Our current “members in good standing” now total 318. Many members have been creative in finding financial support for membership fees. Ask your School Administrators, PTA’s or PTO’s, local Lion’s and Rotary Clubs or community sports organizations if they are willing to give toward your gift of membership. This is your chance to be a part of a growing number of school nurses who have increased their school

nursing knowledge and skills through their membership in FASN. Join your fellow school nurses in a great organization and help to strengthen school nursing in the State of Florida by giving yourself the gift of membership this holiday season. Go to www.FASN.net and click on the Membership tab to print your NASN application or to join online with your credit card, go to their secure link. This link also allows you to make quarterly payments!

*FASN is a unified affiliate with NASN (National Association of School Nurses). Unified Affiliates are those Affiliates that have agreed that eligible members must belong to both the Affiliate and National organizations. Membership in FASN also gives you membership in NASN.

TOP FOODS TO FIGHT “BAC” THE FLU

By Alyssa Greenstein, RD, LD/N



Preparing for flu season is top of mind for moms this time of year. Bottles of hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray and cold remedies fill store shelves leaving many of us feeling like we are prepping for the perfect storm.

But the battle against annual germ warfare is not one that's fought merely on hands, faces and in spaces between sneezes. Health experts say it begins with what you put in your body. A number of foods and associated nutrients have been shown to actually boost your body's ability to fight off the common cold and worse. The good news, they are all foods that show up on the “healthy” list for any diet, so feel free to enjoy for year-round health:

- Oatmeal contains a type of fiber with antibacterial properties. It appears to help speed wound healing, and may help antibiotics work better.

- Fish, which is already recommended for its heart health properties, is also rich in a mineral that helps white blood cells clear flu viruses out of your body. Many types of fish are rich in “omega-3” fats, which may help protect your lungs from respiratory infections.
- Beef and Milk are both rich in zinc, a mineral that aids in the development of white blood cells, which destroy bacteria and viruses in your body. Zinc is one of the minerals most commonly found to be deficient in people's diets, providing even more reason to drink milk with meals.
- Yogurt is arguably the most well-known of all the flu fighting foods. As an excellent source of probiotics, yogurt's “healthy bacteria” help keep “bad bacteria” in our digestive system in check.
- Sweet Potatoes are rich in vitamin

A, which actually helps boost your body's ability to fight germs from the outside, in. Skin is the body's first line of defense against germs and requires plenty of vitamin A to maintain its integrity. In addition to orange-colored vegetables such as sweet potatoes, vitamin A can also be found in milk and chocolate milk.

Alyssa Greenstein is a registered and licensed dietitian and Dairy Health and Wellness Senior Manager for the Dairy Council of Florida, a non-profit organization that works with schools, health professionals and others to build a positive health and wellness environment for dairy as a nutrient-rich food.

Help Keep Children Healthy with Florida KidCare

Rich Robleto, Executive Director

As school nurses, you are often the first medical contact a child has when they are not feeling well. This puts you in a unique position to provide the children and their parents with information about the importance of health coverage like Florida KidCare.

Established by the Legislature in 1998, Florida KidCare provides affordable health insurance to children ages 0 through age 18. There are four partners under the Florida KidCare program umbrella who administer services:

- MediKids—children 1-4 years old
- Healthy Kids—children 5-18 years old
- Children's Medical Services Network—children 0-18 years old with special needs
- Children's Medicaid—children 0-18 years old who meet certain income restrictions

There are currently more than 2 million kids receiving services such as doctor visits, immunizations, dental care, prescriptions and much more. The amount each family pays is based on household income, family size and other eligibility factors. Many pay \$15 or \$20 a month, but most pay nothing at all. Plus, we have a full-pay option available for households with income above the 200% Federal Poverty Level.

More in-depth TRAINING on Florida KidCare is available to all school nurses. Couple that with a few well placed marketing materials (available [HERE](#)) and provide application assistance for interested families, and you have the perfect recipe to help Florida KidCare reach those who would benefit most from the program.

Whenever possible, I encourage you to remind families that applying for Florida KidCare is easier than ever before. They can apply online at www.healthykids.org; print an application from the website and mail it to P.O. Box 980, Tallahassee, FL 32302-0980; or call 1-888-540-5437 to have an application mailed to them.

With the support of school nurses throughout the state, I believe we can reach our goal of ensuring that all Florida's children have access to quality health care services.

Rich Robleto is the executive director of the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, a Florida KidCare partner.



FOOD ALLERGIES IN OUR SCHOOLS

A Grassroots Advocacy Effort Gains Strength

Lauren Maunus, International Baccalaureate Student

While childhood obesity has tripled in the last three decades, food allergy prevalence has increased at an alarming rate of 55% in the last five years and afflicts eight percent of all school-age children. A critical element of student nutrition awareness includes identification of the top eight allergens and nutrition information for all items offered in the public school cafeterias. Children suffering from life-threatening allergies and diet-related illnesses face challenges of social discrimination and psychological stress of social stigmatization.

Children with food allergies are at risk for anaphylaxis, a systemic allergic reaction that can kill within minutes due to asphyxiation or extremely low blood pressure. Nearly six million American children have food allergies and/or anaphylaxis. The risk of accidental exposure to allergy-causing foods can be reduced in the school setting by requiring that all items offered in the public school cafeterias identify the eight major allergens: peanuts, tree nuts, milk, eggs, soy, wheat, fish and shellfish, which account for 90% of all reactions.

Lauren Maunus, a tenth grade International Baccalaureate student attending South Fork High School in Martin County, has led a grassroots advocacy effort to address this growing public health problem. Inspired by her younger sister who suffers from anaphylaxis, Maunus drafted legislation that mandates that Florida public school cafeterias identify the top eight allergens in all items offered and provide nutrition information on school websites and at the point of sale.

The legislation benefits a large range of students suffering from food allergies, anaphylaxis, and diet-related illnesses, and serves a great value as we combat childhood

obesity. Providing nutritional information on school websites and at the point of sale presents a unique opportunity to empower, educate, and engage students who participate in National School Lunch and Breakfast Program to make healthy choices.

In July of 2011 jurisdiction of the school lunch program was transferred to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as part of the Healthy Schools for Healthy Lives Act. The Florida Department of Agriculture, which enthusiastically supports the initiative, is working with Maunus to implement a functional solution via menu-management software to safely manage Florida's 240,000 students who suffer from food allergies and nearly one million combating obesity.

Maunus is working with Martin County School District to offer this critical information via its website and to pilot allergen identification via menu management software placing Martin County at the forefront of student safety.

The proposed legislation has the support of the Florida Association of School Nurses, Food Allergy Anaphylaxis Network/ Food Allergy Initiative, Florida Parent Teacher Association, Florida Medical Association, Florida Academy of Family Physicians, Florida State Alliance of YMCA's, Florida Department of Agriculture's Food, Nutrition, and Wellness Department, Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Florida Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Society. Maunus is also working with the National Obesity Council and the Florida School Nutrition Association. She has been invited to join the FCAAP's Advocacy Council in Tallahassee this spring.

Maunus and FASN look forward to the positive outcome for the State of Florida, and the day when all foods are labeled to provide a healthy as well as safe educational environment for its students.



Dental Health for Overall Health

Florida Dental Association

There are many connections between dental health and overall health. Often dentists will notice initial signs of diseases affecting the rest of the body. The correlation stems from the effect of periodontal disease, also known as dental disease.

"Dentistry is the gateway to good health," Florida Dental Association (FDA) President Dr. Charles Hoffman said. "By developing proper dental hygiene habits early, dentists and patients can work together to achieve

lifelong health."

One important illness dentists may notice is cancer. Smoking, alcohol-use and sun exposure increase the risk of dental disease and oral cancer. Oral cancer often starts as a tiny, unnoticeable, white or red spot, or sore on the lips, gum tissue, cheek lining, tongue, and hard or soft palate. Other signs include a sore that bleeds easily or does not heal, a color change in the gums, a lump, a small eroded area, tenderness, difficulty moving the jaw, or a change in the way the

teeth fit together. Currently, only half of all patients diagnosed with oral cancer survive more than five years, but dentists have the skills and tools to ensure that early signs of cancer and pre-cancerous conditions are identified.

Heart disease may also be affected by dental conditions. Oral cavities provide diseases with a direct access point to the blood stream, thereby reaching the heart. One recent study published by the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) found

periodontal bacteria in the arteries of 9 out of 15 patients with coronary artery disease.

Diabetes is very important to monitor, especially from an oral health perspective. Oral health and nutrition go hand in hand, which is why diabetes patients benefit so much from regular dental care. Properly maintaining diabetes is very important, as poorly controlled type 2 diabetic patients were found more likely to develop periodontal disease than well-controlled diabetics in an AAP study.

(cont.)

Dental, cont...

Many people suffer from arthritis, which may be affected by periodontal disease. In a recent AAP study of 130 people, the 65 people who had rheumatoid arthritis were more than twice as likely to have periodontal disease. In the same study, arthritis sufferers averaged 11.6 missing teeth, compared to 6.7 in the control group.

The FDA strives to improve the oral health of Florida residents, promote ethical practice standards and direct the evolution of the practice environment through continuous education and advocacy for the profession and the public.

For more information about the FDA, visit www.floridadental.org.

FTE WEEK & SCHOOL NURSES

Kathleen C. Rose, R.N., M.H.A., N.C.S.N.

At the end of November, an announcement went out to all the School Health Coordinators, both DOH and DOE, reminding them of the school health counts that will be taken during FTE week. Since FTE stands for Full Time Equivalency, and determines what schools will be paid per student, is it important to gather school health data? Yes, VERY!!

Here is our opportunity to shine! Legislators look at this data. The Departments of Education and Health look at this data. When we say that we help to keep students in school, safe and ready to learn, this data can show this. The fact that we give an inhaler to a student indicates that student is in school, not at home sick and unable to learn. When the “powers that be” see the number of procedures that are done and the number of medications that are given, we can explain that our ability to do these things are removing the barriers to that student’s education. FTE counts the number of bodies in their seats. We show them how

we help to make that happen.

We have all dealt with a student diagnosed with ADD or ADHD who is out of medication or keeps forgetting to take it at home. It is not unusual for his behavior to escalate to the point that the student is suspended. Our medication administration is removing one barrier to that student’s education. A student who is able to focus and is on task is a student who can begin and continue the learning process. Our School Health Coordinators can use this data to show their Superintendents and School Board members how we are helping the school grades to improve. If the grades are not where we want them to be, is it partially due to the fact that the school only sees their school nurse one day a week? If the school nurse is constantly putting out fires, she doesn’t have much time left to teach an asthmatic how to care for his asthma or how to recognize his triggers and symptoms.

It is important, whether you work in a public, private or charter school, that you document your health encounters. If they happen in the clinic or the classroom or on the PE field, count them. Whether your salary is paid for by DOH, DOE, a taxing district, a foundation or private tuition, let the extent of what you do be made known. Let your data speak up for school nursing. Help your administrators to show the state and the legislators that school nurses do much more than put on bandaids.

Check out the DOH School Health Web site at: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Family/school/attachments/sh_index.htm. It will give you the list of School Health Coordinators and much more information that can help you in your school nursing practice including two blank forms to choose from - one in Microsoft Excel and one in Microsoft Word, to keep your counts with. This is a valuable partner to keep handy!

BestNursingDegree.com: Helping Nurses Pursue Further Education

One of the best aspects of joining the nursing profession is the sheer variety of career directions that may be open to you. You can start out with a Licensed Practical Nurse degree and then add to your experience with a Bachelor of Nursing Science, Master’s or even a Doctor of Nursing Practice. As the nursing field continues to develop, education will be an increasingly important component in both securing a position and in advancing in the field. That leaves the question—how do you decide which program will best fit your needs?

BestNursingDegree.com is a resource that can help you answer some of your education questions, whether you’re just starting out in nursing or going back to school to further your education. Right on the homepage, you’ll find a listing of available nursing degrees. You can choose on-campus or online programs, and

narrow by degree type and location. The online options are particularly helpful if you need to work while going back to school—popular choices include online RN to BSN and online MSN programs. For school nursing, the minimum-level degree is generally a BSN, so the RN to BSN or even the MSN can both help you round out your resume.

If you’re really not sure what approach to take with your nursing education or career, BestNursingDegree.com offers a unique tool to help you learn more about your options. The New Nurse Survival Guide has a wealth of information on everything from degree options to resume tips and nursing malpractice insurance advice. The guide is embedded in the homepage, and you can search articles based on where you are in your nursing career, either pursuing education, job hunting or

working.

If you’re interested in more information on school nursing in particular, the site has a video interview with Linda Davis-Alldritt, the President of the National Association of School Nurses (NASN). Click the image to view it. In the video, she discusses school nursing in general as well as the National Association of School Nurses, emphasizing how new school nurses can become more involved and advocate for the profession.



For more information, visit <http://www.BestNursingDegree.com>.

NASN DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kathleen C. Rose, R.N., M.H.A., N.C.S.N.

Florida State Director



The National Association of School Nurses has Board meetings twice a year, the first during January and the second in June, just prior to the national conference. Our January Board meeting in Alexandria, Va., starts January 26, and ends on January 30, 2013, with a trip to visit our Legislators in D.C. As at all NASN Board meetings, I will be voting on items that will impact school nursing for many years to come.

We receive the "Board book" approximately a month in advance so we will have ample time to review the many motions and reports on our agenda. In addition to what my own subcommittee (Advocacy & Public Relations) has been doing, I will need to be aware of what the other four subcommittees are doing. It is important that I study each proposed action in order to be prepared to discuss issues of importance to NASN, FASN and school nursing in general.

As a Board member, I represent both the state view, which FASN represents and the national view, which NASN represents. When I send reports to the FASN Board or send out information in an e-blast, I take your responses to me quite seriously. These go back to national so that they are fully aware of how the grassroots nurses feel about the issues. Our communication in Florida is awesome and working! When I asked for possible parent advocates, I was able to send in 8 names. Some states had none. NASN is constantly learning how Florida feels about the issues. Our thoughts do make a difference. If I have questions about any of the proposed policy and position statements, I can seek answers from our NASN officers, our affiliate Board, our state school nurse consultant, local pediatricians, nursing educators, and other experts.

Through NASN, we are able to collaborate with more outside partners and these collaborations enhance our school nursing practice. The

week before Thanksgiving, Donna Mazyck (Executive Director), Carolyn Duff, (President-elect) and Linda Davis-Aldritt (President) attended the American Nurses Association's Organizational Affiliates meeting and the Nursing Organization Alliance (NOA) Summit that were held back-to-back in Nashville. Participation in both groups provided an opportunity for NASN to support and promote, to our clinically-based colleagues, the work that school nurses do. They had many opportunities to meet with other nursing leaders from sixty-four national nursing specialty organizations. I hope to hear more about this at our meeting and will bring this information back to you.

In the meantime, do not forget all the ways that NASN, as one of our partners, can help you with your nursing practice. There are position documents that can support your work and the decisions that you make. We have the VSP "Sight for Students" vision vouchers that our membership in FASN/NASN entitles us to. Professionally, there are free CEU's that come with your membership. If you were to receive them as a non-member, the cost would fully pay for your membership. Finally, there is a reduced rate for conference registration as an FASN/NASN member. Since the conference is right here at home in Florida, we want to take full advantage of this partnership!

Reports go to the FASN Board prior to our meetings about my activities as your NASN Director and Board member. They are also posted on the FASN web site, www.FASN.net. Don't hesitate to check them out! Go to the About Us tab and click on the Director's Report tab.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Elizabeth Wipf, M.S.N., President-elect

FASN is excited to announce the FASN Member Spotlight - a new feature on our website.

A member will be featured on the website every month so that all visitors to the website can see what wonderful school nurses FASN has and what they are doing to impact the health and education of students around Florida.

The article will feature all the many accomplishments the School Nurse has achieved, some personal information to get to know our members better, and any other information the member would like to share with others regarding her experience as a school nurse. This will be a great addition to the website and allow FASN members to get to know their other fellow school nurses from around Florida better. This will hopefully be a great networking tool as well and lead to closer connections with school nurses all over Florida.

Look for the Member spotlight after the first of the year.

Establishing Uniformity in Children's Vision Care: From Screening to Follow Up

Karen Snyder, RN, MSN, NCSN

Objectives of the program:

1. Describe the importance of a standardized approach to preschool vision screening, follow up and surveillance.
2. Understand the role of school nurse and other key stakeholders in the continuum of children's vision assessment and care.

Background information:

Approximately five to ten percent of preschool-age children have vision problems, with between one and four percent of these having amblyopia. In 2009, Prevent Blindness America in collaboration with the Maternal and Child Health Bureau established the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health (NCCVEH). One of their main goals is to ensure early identification and follow up for children's vision issues.

The center's focus includes three elements:

1. To provide leadership in the development of best practices and guidelines for a public health infrastructure, and statewide strategies that ensure a continuum of vision care for children;
2. To determine mechanisms for advancing state-based performance improvement systems, screening guidelines and uniform data collection and reporting; and
3. To work in collaboration with state pilot programs to develop and implement a state-based best practices for vision care for young children.

This session outlined the work of the NCCVEH.

Vision screening prevalence in the preschool age population is difficult to determine. The screening could occur in a childcare setting, school setting or a pediatrician's office. However, no entity really knows if the screening was done, how it was done or if any follow up was needed and completed. Preschool vision screening is part of the Healthy

People 2020 recommendations. The cost benefit to the United States for standardized screening and follow up is estimated to be over 12 billion dollars based on early detection and treatment. The NCCVEH used an expert panel, including nurses and specifically a school nurse.

This session was only able to give us general information on what has been looked at by the NCCVEH. The speakers were not able to provide any actual recommendations. These recommendations should be released in early 2013. I chose to attend this session because I think vision screening of the pre-school population is very important in keeping children healthy. Had my vision problems been diagnosed in my preschool years the treatment would likely have been more effective.

School nurses play a big role in these recommendations. Having the information on preschool screening can guide our care of the student. If a child already has an identified concern, we can remind the teacher that he should be wearing his glasses. If they get broken we are one step ahead of getting them replaced. School nurses can continue a treatment at school, such as seating arrangements or patching, if we are aware of the vision treatment plan. Remember, making school nurses aware of vision screening and the treatment plan is one of the main goals of the NCCVEH.

I look forward to the recommendations from the NCCVEH. The recommendations will help to guide the school nurse in the care of the student in the school setting as well as the way our data is collected and reported. For further information go to <http://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/> Once the recommendations are made available, the website will have this information.

June 2012 NASN Conference San Francisco, CA

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE WEB SITE LATELY?

Kathleen Rose, R.N., M.H.A., N.C.S.N., Communications Chair

Our web site has a new look about it and it is the Board's hope that it will serve you even better. Instead of the tabs being across the top, they are now on the Left side of the screen. The Communications Committee, who has been working with the new web master, has asked that the user friendly portions of former web site become part of the new web site.

After a recent conversation with Nursing Network, our new web administrator, we hope to have our photos (and we have hundreds of them!) put into a format that you can just click on and see by "turning the pages" instead of scrolling done the page. And check out President-elect, Beth Wipf's article about the Member Spotlight. The idea born of Barbara Roufa, a committee member, lets us highlight 12 nurses a year, not just one!

Although we have given Nursing Network all the info (for you computer gurus, the code) from the former web site, it is still being put into our new site. When we are ready to go, an e-blast will go out to all our members from President Shirley Gordon inviting you to view and then to join the new FASN Web Site! Be on the Lookout for an exciting new site!



The mission of Camp Boggy Creek is to enrich the lives of seriously ill children and their families by creating a life-enhancing camp experience that is exciting, empowering, memorable, safe and medically-sound, at no cost to them.

in beautiful Lake County (Eustis), Florida (45 minutes north of Orlando). A proud member of the SeriousFun Children's Network that began with the extraordinary vision and generosity of actor and philanthropist, Paul Newman, Boggy Creek is Florida's only multi-disease, year-round, therapeutic camp program.

in attending camp must complete the camper application and have approval from their pediatrician (medical sections of the application should be completed by the pediatrician, too). To speak with a Camper Recruiter, please call 866- 462 6449, ext 4250 or email mparrish@boggycreek.org.

Camp Boggy Creek serves only the most seriously ill children from across Florida. The diverse population of boys and girls who attend camp (ages 7 – 16 years) includes almost every ethnic, racial, and socio-economic background conceivable. Children and their families are

In many ways, Boggy Creek is like thousands of other camps for kids. Activities include fishing, swimming, archery, arts and crafts, miniature golf, and horseback riding. However, what differentiates Camp Boggy Creek is our campers are children suffering with chronic or life-threatening illnesses such as HIV/AIDS, Asthma, Kidney Disease, Heart Disease, Spina Bifida, Sickle Cell, Epilepsy, Cancer, Hemophilia, Arthritis, Diabetes, Craniofacial Anomalies, and Kids on Ventilator Assisted Care (KOVAC).



Since opening in 1996, Camp Boggy Creek has welcomed over 53,000 seriously ill children and family members. We are centrally located

never charged fees to participate in the therapeutic camp programs at Boggy Creek. Children interested

Summer Camp Sessions

During the summer there are eight weeklong sessions when campers with the same illness come together. The campers range in age from 7 through 16 and each session accommodates up to 150 children (depending on the illness group). Summer sessions also provide a needed break for parents while giving them the peace of mind of knowing that their child is receiving the best care available. For the children, it's a chance to be with other kids "just like themselves."

Family Retreat Weekends

From September through April, there are 17 disease-specific family retreat weekends scheduled where up to 32 campers will bring their families along for a three-, four-, or five-day retreat. These sessions allow the campers' siblings to join in on the fun, while providing the opportunity for parents to gather with other parents who are dealing with the serious situations of having a child with a chronic or life-threatening illness.

Volunteers

Camp Boggy Creek would not exist without the dedication of our volunteers who donate thousands of hours each and every year. Volunteer opportunities include cabin counselors, family pals, dining hall assistants, office support and more! Our medical center (The Patch) welcomes volunteer nurses, doctors, therapists, and pharmacists. Volunteers must be at least 19 years of age and all meals and lodging are provided. For information on volunteering, please call 866- 462 6449, ext. 4293 or visit www.BoggyCreek.org.



June Clark, President & CEO

Connecticut Tragedy Affects All School Nurses

Many nurses have grieved over the deaths in Newtown, Connecticut, knowing that tragedy could so easily come to any of us. Communications have gone from the Florida Association of School Nurses to the nurses of Connecticut through their State Director, Joan Cagginello, expressing our deep sorrow over the events that have so tragically affected their lives. Joan has sent a response to us:

Thank you for your messages of caring in the wake of the horrible school tragedy in Newtown, CT. Your kind words of support, caring and offers of help are so heartwarming. I will share them with the nurses of CT.

I heard from one of the nurses from Newtown, who reported that the school nurse from Sandy Hook Elementary School was present at school during the shooting and thankfully she was uninjured.

I am at a loss for words, but the tears come easily for those of us that love children and strive to provide a safe and nurturing environment for our children every day. Tears come again as we continuously see & hear about the beautiful children and their families on our TV's, newspapers and in discussions in our homes, stores, restaurants - everywhere. In such a small state as we are, the connections are inevitable.

The Association of School Nurses of CT (ASNC) has placed a dedication page on our website <http://ctschoollnurses.org/index.html> where you are invited to post your messages of support. I will try to post all of your lovely messages so that CT nurses know that school nurses from all over the country support them.

Warmest regards,
Joan Cagginello
CT Director

FASN Board of Directors

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