

Faith Community Nursing

The Five Finger Response: Elevator Speech Who, What, When, Where, Why

WHO

Registered Nurses (RNs) with specialized education, who focus on the intentional care of the spirit, whose work is based out of a faith community.

WHAT

- Spiritual care
- Health counseling and education
- Advocacy and referral
- Integration of faith and health
- Volunteer coordination

WHEN

- Birth to end of life
- During healthcare challenges and life transitions
- In times of spiritual crises

WHERE

Based out of a faith community, in homes, rehab, care communities and hospitals, domestic violence shelters and homeless shelters.

WHY

Whole-person care that enhances medical, psychological, and spiritual care.

Messaging for Health Care Partners

Who • Faith Community Nursing (FCN) is an RN practice specialty that focuses on the intentional care of the spirit, promotion of an integrative model of health, and prevention and minimization of illness within the context of a faith community. FCNs consider the spiritual, physical, psychological, and social aspects of an individual to create a sense of harmony with self, others, the environment, and a higher power.

- FCNs foster collaboration among a wide array of professional disciplines.

What • FCNs build bridges that serve to prevent illness and injury, optimize health, and alleviate suffering.

When • Whenever people experience health challenges and seek support from their faith community.

Where • Based out of a faith community, in homes, rehab facilities, care communities and hospitals, domestic violence shelters and homeless shelters.

Why • FCNs are knowledgeable and savvy in building trusting relationships among individuals, congregations, health systems and community health agencies.

Messaging for Clergy and Faith Leaders

Who • Faith Community Nurses (FCNs) are RNs who have specialized education in spiritual care and ministry.

What • As part of a faith community's staff, FCNs bring knowledge and skill in the sciences, theology, congregational care, service and worship, and nursing. FCNs assist in transforming the faith community into a place of health and healing.

When • FCNs provide care in all stages of life and its many transitions from adjustments at birth through midlife to end of life.

Where • FCNs interact with the staff, lay leaders, the congregation and the greater community in order to strengthen their capacity to understand and care for one another as part of their faith tradition.

Why • FCNs are called to this ministry from a variety of both nursing and faith-filled backgrounds and are able to meet people where they are, consider all people as sacred, and treat them with respect and dignity.