

Meet Our VA Leadership



Sandy Stenger MSN Chief Nurse of Professional Staff Development

15 years with the VA

Degree Master of Science in Nursing University of Phoenix

Areas of interest: Human Resources, Nursing Recruitment and Retention, Nursing Administration, Staffing and Operations



Sara M. Krzykowski-Mohn EdD, MSN, FNP-BC Director Nurse Residency Programs

15 years with the VA

Degree Doctorate in Urban Educational Leadership University of Cincinnati College of Education

Areas of Interest: Health Disparities, Food Insecurity and Higher Nursing Educational Training



Angela Combs DNP Nursing Excellence Coordinator

7 Years at the VA

Degree Doctorate in Nursing Practice Chamberland College

Areas of Interest: Evidence Based Practice, Shared Governance and Nurse Residency Programs



Cindy Childress MS, MSN Post Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Program

6.5 Years at the VA

Degree Master of Science Nutritional Immunity and Masters of Education Xavier University College of Nursing

Areas of Interest: Microbiology, Infection Control, Childhood Burns and Immunity and Adult Education



Brian Thesing MSN Coordinator Post Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Program

1 years at the VA

Degree MSN Mount St. Joseph University

Areas of Interest: Evaluation, Health and Wellness and Pharmacology.



Jeanne Burns BSN Transition to Practice Program Coordinator

14 Years at the VA

Degree BSN Indiana Wesleyan University

Areas of Interest: Clinical staff Development and Education; Cardiology; Health and Wellness and Health Promotion .

Primary Care Leadership:



Anna Maxey MD Chief of Primary Care

7 Years with the VA

Degree MD The Ohio State University College of Medicine

Areas of Interest: Primary Care, Geriatrics, Adult Education



Dena Rattermann MSN, BSN Chief Nurse of Primary Care

30+ Years with the VA

Degree MSN University of Phoenix

Areas of Interest: Nursing Administration

Meet Our Preceptors:



Eleonor Glass MD Physician Primary Care

6 Years at the VA

Degree MD University of Cincinnati

Areas of interest: Women's Health, Procedures, Social Determinants of Health, Integrative Health, and Mental Health.



Bryan Truong MD Deputy Chief of Primary Care

7 Years at the VA

Degree MD University of Texas

Areas of Interest: Medication Reconciliation, Lung Cancer Screening, and Hospital Discharge Follow-up



Dawn Van Rafelghem MSN, FNP-BC

5 years with the VA

Degree MSN Xavier University

Areas of Interest: Cardiovascular Health, Primary Prevention, Bladder and Colon Health. Women's Health Disparities



Susan Honkomp MSN APRN-BC Home Based Primary Care

33 + Years with the VA

Degree MSN Northern Kentucky University

Area of Interests: Long Term Care, high risk Veteran care and rural care



Rachelle Richardson MSN, APRN-BC Homeless Clinic Nurse Practitioner

8 Years at the VA

Degree MSN University of Cincinnati College of Nursing

Area of Interests: Homelessness and Primary Care.

Maren McDonald MSN, Domiciliary Inpatient Program Nurse Practitioner

6 Years at the VA

Degree MSN University of Cincinnati College of Nursing

Area of Interests: Homelessness and Substance Recovery

Meet Our Residents:



Name: Margo Alexander MSN, APRN-BC

Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio

Education: MSN University of Cincinnati 2022

Why the VA? I am so excited to be able to participate in the Cincinnati VA Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program. I took a non-traditional pathway into a career in nursing. First, I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, then obtained my MSN degree at Xavier University, and post-MSN FNP certificate from University of Cincinnati. I am very grateful for those who have served our country and feel blessed to be able to participate in the Cincinnati VA PC NP program and have the opportunity to care for Veterans and their families in my local community.

Areas of Interest: Primary Care, HBPC, Geriatrics, Food Insecurity and Evidence Based Practice.



Name: Lenai Austin DNP, AGPCNP-BC, AGNP-C Primary Care Resident

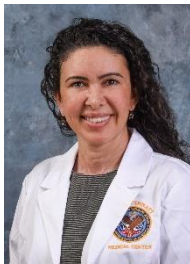
Hometown: Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Education: Doctor of Nursing Practice from Temple University, May 2023

Why the VA?: As an individual who has always been committed to providing care to Veterans and other vulnerable populations, having the opportunity to strengthen my foundation to better serve the population that served this country is a dream come true. I am a Caribbean-American female whose upbringing and experiences have given me the ability to understand the impact that trauma can have on the mind and body. Accordingly, I have always had a

passion for working with Veterans and other vulnerable communities. The Cincinnati VA Primary Care Residency Program affords many hands-on clinical and didactic opportunities that will allow me to gain the necessary skills needed to be a competent, confident, and well-rounded primary care provider. I am beyond grateful and honored to have been selected to participate in this residency program.

Areas of interest: Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Geriatrics



Name: Sylvia Barros-Mise

Hometown: I live in Omaha NE---- but from Salvador Bahia, Brazil

Education: MSN Walden University

Why the Cincinnati VA? I moved to Cincinnati Ohio from Omaha Nebraska to be part of the VA NP residency program. I feel BLESSED and privileged to have been selected to this HIGHLY competitive program. I am a Veteran, and it's my PLEASURE and HONOR to take care of one of our own, at a place where I get my own medical care. I took a pay cut to get an extra year of training, and I can testify that my decision to come to Cincinnati VA for a year has been worth any financial sacrifice I endured.



Areas of Interest: Urology and Cardiology and Homeless Populations

Name: Trisha Nguyen, MSN, FNP-BC Primary Care Resident

Hometown: Columbus, Ohio

Education: Family Nurse Practitioner from Cedarville University, August 2022

Why the Cincinnati VA? As a Vietnamese-American and an immigrant to the country at nine years of age, I understand the challenges associated with health care. My experience has taught me the importance of providing culturally sensitive care and advocating for vulnerable populations. As a healthcare advocate, I believe in empowering others to be able to make informed decisions about their health through resources and guidance. My goal in the Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Residency Program is to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to incorporate evidence-based practices into my practice, thus improving my effectiveness, confidence, and efficiency. Providing the best care and support to our Veterans, in honor of their service and contributions, is something I commit to with pride.

Areas of interest: Oncology, Palliative Care, General Surgery, Forensic Psychiatry, Integrative Health, Bariatrics, Sleep Medicine, and Internal Medicine

Graduated and employed full time at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center as Nurse Practitioners



Laura Carlton MSN, FNP-BC Nurse Practitioner Virtual Pain Clinic



Retha Strickland MSN, GNP-BC Nurse Practitioner Pain Clinic



Rita Bykov, MSN, FNP-BC Nurse Practitioner Internal Medicine



Heather Shultz MSN, AGPC-C Nurse Practitioner Primary Care