# Office of Nursing Service Community Living Centers Field Advisory Committee

Mary Mather, Clinical Nurse Advisor

Description automatically generatedThe ONS Clinical Practice Program (CPP) was developed by the Office of Nursing Services to support clinical practice through the development of evidence -based products and resources, develop policies in coordination with other VHA program offices, and to disseminate communication to the field. The CPP program is made up of various Field Advisory Committees (FAC), one of which is the Community Living Centers (CLC) FAC. The CLC FAC is led by Mary E. Mather, MSN, RN, CNL, NEA-BC, VHA-CM, Community Living Centers Nurse Advisor, and is composed of a team of CLC field-based nurses. Ms. Mather also collaborates closely with the Geriatric and Extended Care Program Office and Office of Nursing Service to align projects and publications with their strategic plan; the CLC FAC also works with the field and other program offices to develop products that Honor Veterans’ preferences for health, independence, & well-being in the face of aging, disability, or illness by advancing expertise, programs, & partnership.

A Community Living Center (CLC) is a VA Nursing Home. There are over 100 Community Living Centers across the country. Veterans may stay for a short time or, in rare instances, for the rest of their life. It is a place where Veterans can receive nursing home level of care, which includes help with activities of daily living (e.g., bathing and getting dressed) and skilled nursing and medical care. The mission of a Community Living Center is to restore each Veteran to his or her highest level of well-being. It is also to prevent declines in health and to provide comfort at the end of life.

The CLC FAC is committed to promoting professional evidenced based nursing and has produced several products which help to educate and support nurses in the field.

The CLC FAC consists of the following members:

* Alexandria Caley,MN, RN-BC, PHCNS-BC,Clinical Nurse Specialist, Community Living Center Portland VA
* Susan Gresser, MS.RN Division Manager Rehabilitation Extended Community Care, Milwaukee
* Carolyn Latta, MS, RN, CRRN, Community Living Center, Hampton VAMC
* Jennifer Miller, MSN, RN RAC-CT, Resident Assessment Coordinator, Community Living Center
* Jennifer Shanaman, MSN, RN, Chief Nurse Geriatrics and Extended Care
* Raina Rochon, MSN, RN-BC, CNL, NE-BC, James A. Haley VA
* Beth Cutshall, MSN, RN, CNL, Strategic Analysis, Augusta
* Rhonda Toms, MSN, BSN, RN-BC, National Program Manager, CLC Unannounced Surveys GEC
* Mary Ellen Dellefield, PhD, RN, Research Nurse Scientist, San Diego

**Below please find some examples of the wonderful work CLC FAC nurses in the field are doing:**

Carolyn Latta (Hampton VAMC) – conducts Restorative Nursing Program Training twice per year with participation from CLCs across VHA. The purpose of this course is to improve the knowledge base and clinical competencies of the Nursing Assistants and licensed/registered nursing staff to improve resident care. The content of this two-day course focuses on strengthening the role of the Restorative Nursing Assistant and the Restorative Nursing Program Coordinator in demonstrating clinical competencies with facility residents and understanding the keys to implementing a successful Restorative Nursing Program.

Jennifer Miller (BATH VA) – Member of the National Software SME group and a tester for Caribou Software Updates. This group is responsible for educating the Resident Assessment Coordinators on software updates and assist with any software issues/questions. Participated on a team to revise the CLC National Directive.