



Fall 2022



Christian Science Nursing
COLLABORATIVE

“The right way wins the right of way, even the way of Truth and Love...”
(Miscellany 232:6)

UPDATES ON PROGRESS

Collaborative Coordinating Committee (C3):

The members of the Collaborative Coordinating Committee (C3) are extremely grateful and inspired by the good witnessed when working together in prayerful collaboration. The Christian Science Nursing Collaborative (CSNC) has accomplished much this year. As you can see from Working Group (WG) reports, there has been a lot of progress since our last newsletter!

The C3 has focused on exploring ways we can support our active WGs and identify next steps for WGs that have fulfilled their initial purpose.

We reviewed and updated the five key priorities of the Collaborative and how each member of the Collaborative can support them. The priorities are listed in the next section of this newsletter, and can also be found on the CSNC website: csncollaborative.org.

The C3 has also initiated several new projects to support the overall purpose and function of the Collaborative. Two of these are:

- the development of a communication and video initiative, which will inform and spread awareness of Christian Science nursing and the ongoing efforts of the CSNC WGs.
- the formation of a special committee, which will explore how Christian Science nurses and Christian Science nursing organizations can better address the claims of mental impositions, including developmental impositions, mental health/substance abuse impositions, and memory loss impositions.

Specifically, the committee will identify what challenges are being faced and what resources are readily available to people. They will also identify gap areas and share ideas on why this is and how to move forward. From their report, the C3 will have an opportunity to respond in a number of ways. This might be through the formation of one or more WGs, targeting specific needs, or working with Collaborative members to provide additional support or resources.

If you are inspired by what is shared in this newsletter and would like to learn more about joining a WG or finding other ways to support our activities, please contact us at:

info@csncollaborative.org



Christian Science Nursing Activities Department at The Mother Church:

The Five Priorities of the Collaborative:*

- I. A sufficient number of trained and qualified Christian Science nurses to meet the need.
- II. A consistently high standard of Christian Science nursing demonstrated throughout the field.
- III. The *Manual* by-law “Christian Science nurse” understood and appreciated by all church members.
- IV. Church members inspired by a natural desire to care for one another.
- V. Individuals and organizations discovering and developing better ways for working collaboratively to accomplish these priorities.

*Revised March 2022

These five priorities are posted on the wall just above my desk. I have shared them with the Christian Science Board of Directors, when discussing our department’s activities and goals. Recently I shared them with The Mother

Church’s Promotion and Design Service Group when they asked us “What would success look like to you?” I consider these to also be the priorities of the Christian Science Nursing Activities department at The Mother Church.

...we are loving our neighbors, and living consistently with our prayers

These priorities offer an invitation and opportunity to pray. I believe they meet Mrs. Eddy’s “test of all prayer”: “Do we love our neighbor better because of this asking?” Do we give “... evidence of the sincerity of our requests by living consistently with our prayers?” (See *Science and Health* 9:3-11)

I am grateful to see every day, through the earnest and conscientious activities of the Collaborative, that we are loving our neighbors, and living consistently with our prayers. Ultimately this all comes down to the sacred activity that takes place when one Christian Science nurse and one patient quietly turn to divine Love to witness Her healing presence and care, one case at a time, one moment

at a time. To cherish and support this holy activity is our individual and collective privilege.

Since the last Collaborative newsletter, Vanessa Campbell has joined the Christian Science Nursing Activities Department of The Mother Church as Assistant Manager, enabling us to participate more fully in the Collaborative working groups. Together we have been engaging with The Mother Church’s Promotion and Design Service Group to more fully utilize The Mother Church’s web presence and periodicals to further accomplish these five priorities. We have also been telephoning each *Journal*-listed Christian Science nurse, individually, to encourage regular continuing education.

On November 1, Audrey Senitnella will come on board as Manager of Christian Science Nursing Activities. I know that she and Vanessa look forward to “discovering and developing better ways for working collaboratively” with each of you, loving our neighbors, living consistently with our prayers, and accomplishing these five important priorities together.

-Linda Kohler Williams
Manager, Christian Science Nursing Activities

Steering Committee of the Philanthropy Forum for Christian Science Nursing (STC)

The Philanthropy Forum came together for an enlightening and productive conference in April. Christian Science nurses training emerged as a focus. As a result, the Philanthropy Forum Steering Committee (STC) has begun coordinating with other areas of the Collaborative to improve training via three aspects:

- Increased numbers of applicants through better recruitment,
- Better affordability through coordination between the field and donors,
- And robust training infrastructure ready to accept more candidates.

The STC has reworked our roles and responsibilities for 2022, and this revisioning informed our planning for the



conference as well. We defined our group's role in part as facilitating improved relationships and communication between donors and with the Collaborative, promoting a higher sense of philanthropy, and encouraging more involvement with the Collaborative, especially the working groups. We are grateful for a conference that succeeded in making progress along these lines, and are encouraged and eager to continue this work going forward.

The conference highlighted for us the needs and perspectives of the donors in our field and also offered them insight and inspiration regarding collaboration in, as well as the metaphysical basis of, philanthropy. We're so grateful for each of our three speakers. Lyon Osborn launched the conference, diving deep into the spiritual qualities of philanthropy; Rob Collier outlined the forms collaboration can take, and the levels it can reach, in our organizations; and Curtis Ogden described a powerful way to work within philanthropy called "network weaving." Some of these talks are still available for replay on the Collaborative's website: csrcollaborative.org/resources/

Christian Science Nursing Network (CSNN):

The CSNN board continues its active participation in the Collaborative Coordinating Committee and various working groups of the Christian Science Nursing Collaborative. It's a joy to be engaged in this work to support Christian Science nursing! We encourage people to regularly check our website (www.csnnnetwork.org) for information regarding ongoing educational opportunities and to subscribe to our News and Notices from CSNN.



Association of Organizations for Christian Science Nursing Executive Committee (EC/AOCSN):

"A Time to Embrace," the 2022 AOCSN conference held in Dublin, Ohio May 2-5, was our first in-person conference in three years.

It was also our first hybrid conference including our special additional participants on Zoom, which allowed for those who couldn't travel and many more trustees than usual to attend. Gratitude was expressed by all for the venue, the agenda, the warm embrace that included breakout sessions, inspiring talks and reports, as well as succession planning support for all organizations. Most importantly we thank the graciousness of Glenmont for hosting this historic event! It was epic and delicious!

We look forward to utilizing the valuable resources that were presented to the attendees for their progress and sustainable future endeavors (*See Leadership and Management WG update, page 4*)

Meanwhile the Executive Committee will begin to plan the next two years, which will bring, through Zoom: networking, supportive opportunities, continuing education for all organizations, and leadership camaraderie. We will build together for our individual, unique, yet unified success!

The next in-person conference will be held in 2024. The Agenda Planning Committee, working with the EC and with input from all of AOCSN, will be developing this conference. The dates and location will be announced when they are established.

Continuing Education Working Group (CEWG):

"The right way wins the right of way, even the way of Truth and Love..." (*My 232:6*).

This statement from our Leader conveys the spirit of the ongoing progress we're seeing with continuing education for Christian Science nurses. Clearly, continuing education is a right way to consistently maintain the high standard expected of those representing themselves as Christian Science nurses, especially those listed in the *Journal*. This



working group continues to be dedicated to fostering ongoing opportunities for refresher classes that are relevant and accessible to Christian Science nurses throughout the world.

New classes are being developed and offered by Christian Science nursing training schools and education programs.

...dedicated to fostering ongoing opportunities for refresher classes throughout the world.

The online webinar format remains the most popular approach, as it readily allows for participation by Christian Science nurses worldwide.

Now that in-person gatherings are widely acceptable, we are also supporting the development of in-person workshops and

classes where topics are better suited to that format. Online webinars are effective for many topics, but not all.

Questions about funding are coming up along with the discussions about in-person refresher classes. In-person classes can mean higher costs for those offering them, as well as those participating in them. The online webinars have been free of charge for participants; but there are significant expenses for those offering them. With in-person classes, costs will likely increase, especially if the classes are given off-site. (Off-site venues in remote areas are an essential element in achieving our goal of having refresher classes readily available and accessible to Christian Science nurses throughout the field.)

We're grateful that funders are acknowledging the importance of continuing education for Christian Science nurses and expressing a willingness to consider grant requests. We are gathering information about actual costs from those actively providing refresher classes so we can provide accurate estimates to funders for their consideration when preparing their budgets.

The CEWG continues to be grateful for the support of the CSNN board in providing a page on their website for information about upcoming continuing education opportunities. Much gratitude is also felt for each participant in this working group, and especially the Manager and Assistant

Manager of Christian Science Nursing Activities at The Mother Church. Their insights and engagement regarding continuing education for Christian Science nurses have been key in the progressive steps being taken.

The Leadership and Management Working Group (L&MWG)

The Leadership and Management Working Group continues to prayerfully listen following the presentation of the [Leadership Checklist](#) at the May 2022 conference. This Checklist, which appeared to be well received, evolved gradually as input was sought from EDs, DCSNs, and others who desired to build upon the ongoing good work currently being done in the field. Yet the Leadership Checklist endeavors to gather helpful resources in one place to illuminate best practices, and to provide a standardized structure for use to better unify leadership and management training going forward.

The foundational work of the committee was to immerse ourselves in a deep study and discussion of the *Church Manual*. This consecrated activity ensured the work remained inspired and solidly based on the principles lived and outlined by our Leader, Mary Baker Eddy.

The Leadership Checklist is an outgrowth of our study of the *Church Manual*, and we recommend that the value of the Checklist may also turn others to undertake this study. The Leadership Checklist, while establishing a useful curriculum, is primarily designed to encourage face-to-face discussions about training and development needs, and one-on-one mentoring.

Youth Action Committee (YAC):

The Christian Science Nursing Youth Service Corps (CS-NYSC) successfully finished their first pilot program in May and will begin the second pilot program starting in September. It will be nine months long, ending in May. The program is sponsored by The Principle Foundation Extended Services. This year we have four participants serving in three facilities. We are already looking ahead to finding applicants for next year. There are six facilities participating in the program this year (Broadview, The Leaves, Chestnut



Hill Benevolent Association, Tenacre, Glenmont, and Peace Haven). Please continue to stay updated through our website (comforterscalling.org). The Youth Action Committee (YAC), which oversees CSNYSC, meets every month and is exploring an international component. Thank you for all of your support!

Valuing Self-Employed Christian Science Nurses (ValCSNSE):

The ValuingCSN:SE working group has been focused on beta testing the new software application for Christian Science nurses. It will provide a mobile app for data entry of hours worked, supplies, travel, reimbursements for all patients including producing invoices, statements, and other financial reports to support their own practice and to coordinate documentation for the National Fund for Christian Science Nursing.

A group of Christian Science nurses are providing sample data to discover bugs and concerns before release to the field.

New mobile app coming online for Christian Science nurses to track the finances of their practice

The software is expected to be ready by the end of 2022.

Communities of Christian Caring (CoCC):

There has been wonderful, steady growth since last Fall.

The mission of the CoCC has remained almost exactly the same since it was first penned in 2018 — *to awaken and support, among Christian Scientists, the natural desire to love and care for one another*. And, not surprisingly, the last two priorities of the CSN Collaborative are at the core of the mission and goals of the CoCC —

- Church members inspired by a natural desire to care for one another;
- Individuals and organizations discovering and developing better ways for working collaboratively to accomplish these priorities.

Two recent major achievements have been —

- the official launch of our website (communitiesofchristiancaring.org) and
- a special presentation by the CoCC at the AOCSN May 2022 Conference.

The website is a beautiful, modest sharing of important concepts and resources. A number of individuals who have visited it have commented on its wonderful, artistic design; so please do check it out.

The special presentation at the AOCSN conference was well received, and resulted in significant interest in the CoCC. Consequently, we have welcomed new committee members.

Looking ahead to the rest of the year, we have plans to further develop the website with additional videos and at least one webinar, complete a series of strategic planning meetings to further define and refine the CoCC, and to follow up with AOCSN member organizations that expressed interest during and after the conference.

As we all look out across the global horizon, we're recognizing, more and more, the need for Christian caring in every community in every land. This makes the work of the CoCC that much more imperative. We would love to hear of the work you're doing in your community — how we can support it, and how we can share your message of hope.

Training Accessibility and Affordability Working Group (TrAAWG):

The Training Accessibility and Affordability Working Group continues to focus on expanding avenues for the availability of and funding for recognized training of Christian Science nurses.

Our recent work has been toward the goal of assisting training candidates with securing funding. We are working with The Mother Church to survey funding organizations, and are compiling a reference document on these funders' requirements and policies to help organizations guide their students through the funding process.



This document is not yet complete, but it will be maintained by the Collaborative Support Team of the Collaborative (CST). This list addresses a need to better coordinate between funders and grant seekers. Since it contains some sensitive financial information about funders, it is intended for limited distribution—the CST will store and update it, but it will be available to educators to help advise students about where and how to apply for financial assistance.

We are also working to support Christian Science nurses' training and mentoring in remote areas. TrAAWG and AOCSN Education Committee members are developing a detailed list of outcomes and expectations for instruction and mentoring in the global Christian Science field.

International Fund for Christian Science Nursing (IFCSN):

Progress continues on the effort to establish a fund for Christian Science nursing benevolence based in Europe.

Fundraising Working Group (FWG)

A lot of progress and changes within the CSN Collaborative have resulted in changes to the function and purpose of the Fundraising Working Group. The FWG is going inactive for the time being as it assesses its future role in the Collaborative and awaits further guidance from the Collaborative Coordinating Committee.

Caring for Christian Scientists:

The Call Center has increased its hours of availability. We also have evening hours!

To advertise this resource for Christian Scientists, we recently sent out refrigerator magnets with the Call Center number and Riper Years website. Since then we've seen an increase in inquiries.

How may we help you?

Visit caringforchristianscientists.org/

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS

CARING for CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS [DOWNLOAD FLIER](#)

 Call Center 800-930-3797 2:00-4:00 pm ET daily (or leave a message) <i>An Information Resource for Christian Scientists</i> <small>Anyone can call this phone number to get help, information, and ideas regarding housing, care, and assistance options that are consistent with the practice of Christian Science. Experienced Christian Scientists (including Christian Science nurses) answer the phone a couple of hours each day and respond to messages within 24 hours.</small>	 RiperYears www.RiperYears.org available 24 hours <i>Resources for Senior Christian Scientists</i> <small>Focused on the needs of senior Christian Scientists, this site is also for family and friends who may be helping them. It's a central place to explore practical information about Christian Science care, housing, insurance, and more. You'll find each topic framed with spiritual insights and relevant Christian Science articles to inspire.</small>
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