

How does a parish nurse become part of the Advocate Parish Nurse Support Network?

Registered professional nurses currently serving as a parish nurse within the service areas/regions of Advocate Health Care can request inclusion into the Parish Nurse Support Network. The request may be from the parish nurse and/or clergy leader seeking the guidance, support and resources of Advocate Health Care and Parish Nurse Ministry. The congregation is encouraged to sustain the parish nurse program through budget, physical space allocation and support of the ministry through the formation of a health cabinet and support of clergy leadership.

The parish nurse requests and completes an application form and returns it to Advocate Parish Nurse Ministry. Upon meeting the requirements for inclusion and completion of a successful interview process, then, with mutual consent of both the parish nurse and Advocate Parish Nurse Ministry, participation in the Parish Nurse Support Network will be initiated.

For further information or to request an application contact:

Parish Nurse Support Network
205 W. Touhy Avenue, Suite 127
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Phone: 847.384.3749

Fax: 847.696.0239

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Parish Nurse Ministry

Parish Nurse Support Network

The Parish Nurse Support Network Participation Information

Advocate Parish Nurse Ministry promotes and supports the wholistic practice of parish nursing in the greater Chicago land area and within the surrounding regions of Advocate Health Care sites of care.

What is the Parish Nurse Support Network?

Committed to delivering quality parish nursing within all of the Advocate service areas/regions, Advocate's Parish Nurse Ministry, in 2002, established a Parish Nurse Network to link congregationally based paid/unpaid parish nurses within those identified communities with the resources and support of the Parish Nurse Ministry and all related services of Advocate Health Care. In October of 2010, the Network officially changed its name to the Parish Nurse Support Network. The purpose of the Parish Nurse Support Network is to provide supportive services and parish nurse expertise, on-going education and spiritual support, materials and resources and networking opportunities to non-associate parish nurses strategically located within the Advocate service areas/regions. Through the expansion of Parish Nursing, Advocate's Parish Nurse Ministry honors its commitment to nurture the human spirit through health education, spiritual support and linking the needs of the whole person to resources within the congregation, community, and the health system.

Benefits of Participation:

- Offer resources of Advocate Mission and Spiritual Care/ Parish Nurse Ministry which include: The Director of Parish Nurse Ministry/Parish Nurse Support Network, the Office Coordinator of Parish Nurse Ministry/Mission & Spiritual Care, the network of Advocate Health Care Parish Nurses/Support Network, the Parish Nurse Ministry Educational Support Team, Advocate Congregational Health Partners, the Office of Mission and Spiritual Care, and all additional resources of Advocate Health Care
- Provide dedicated support staff of Parish Nurse Ministry to the Parish Nurse Support Network members for such services as individual consultation, case review, community and general resource sharing, health and wellness program development and mentoring
- Organize meetings and workshops for resource sharing, education, networking opportunities and theological reflection
- Offer Day of Reflection for Parish Nurse Support Network members sponsored by Advocate Parish Nurse Ministry and supported by Advocate Mission and Spiritual Care
- Provide the use of Advocate Health Care Parish Nurse Ministry forms for documenting screenings and client information.
- Provide the use of a Monthly Activity Summary that gathers specific information regarding the focus of monthly activities
- Offer option of printed monthly summary reports
- Connect parish nurses with resources and information through e-newsletters and e-mailings regarding whole-person health and use of our resource lending library
- Offer educational programming for parish nurses and clergy leadership around the development of collaborative working relationships and health and healing within a congregational setting.
- Offer discounts on Advocate sponsored conferences and programs

Fees Associated with Participation:

- \$250.00 entry fee (One time only fee, 1st year of participation) - This fee covers the application and support network interview process, initial materials and resources, forms, and e-mailings. Additionally, the fee provides for the 1:1 supportive/consultative services of the Parish Nurse Ministry and networking meetings and workshops. **An additional fee of \$75.00 will be charged for those who select the option of a monthly summary report**
- \$100.00 (Annual fee) - This fee provides for on-going receipt of materials and resources, meetings, e-mailings and consul-

tative services/mentoring and annual day of reflection. **An additional fee of \$50.00 will be charged for those who select the option of a monthly summary report**

Qualifications for Participation in the Parish Nurse Support Network:

- Current Professional Registered Nurse licensed in the State of Illinois
- Current CPR/AED certification
- Yearly TB Immunization strongly recommended
- Yearly Seasonal Flu Immunization strongly recommended
- Minimum of 5-7 years **recent** clinical nursing experience
- Participation in an interview process with Advocate Health Care Parish Nurse Ministry leadership, demonstrating a clear understanding of the function and roles of the parish nurse and the parish nurse ministry within the faith community.
- Demonstration of a practice that is compatible with the Scope and Standards established for Parish Nursing (the nursing specialty practice of Faith Community Nursing) and the Nurse Practice Act of Illinois
- Willingness and ability to provide the time required to accomplish the responsibilities of this role
- Agreement to participate in educational and/or networking sessions offered during the calendar year **or** demonstration of continuing education that support the parish nurse ministry role
- Letter of support from Congregational Leadership regarding their support of both the parish nurse and the parish nurse ministry
- Participation in a Basic Preparation Course in Parish Nursing is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** within the first year of participation in the Parish Nurse Support Network
- Recommendation of Professional Liability Coverage

Congregational Support:

- Letter of support from Congregational Leadership regarding their support of both the parish nurse and the parish nurse ministry
- Commission or charge the parish nurse in a manner consistent with the faith tradition
- Establish resources for the initial and ongoing support of the parish nurse ministry
- Strongly recommend designated office space, use of a phone and computer, a locked file cabinet for confidential records and an operating budget for on-going educational and spiritual development