

NurseTRUST



2024  
EMERGING  
LEADER  
FELLOWS

[www.nursetrust.org](http://www.nursetrust.org)

## **Congratulations to our 2024 Emerging Leader Fellows!**

**Samantha Ault**, PhD, APRN-CNP, PMHNP-BC - The Ohio State University

**Amie Bedgood**, PhD, MSN, RN - Ascension Texas

**Bette Bogdan**, PhD, RN-BC, CCM, PHN - American College of Education

**Maya Clark-Cutaia**, PhD, ACNP-BC, RN - Hunter College School of Nursing

**Gena Cooper**, RN, MSN - Washington State Hospital Association

**Alice Ferguson**, DNP, RN - MultiCare Health System

**Juan Carlos Flores**, MBA, BSN - University Health

**Natalie Fortson**, BA, BSN, MSN - University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital

**Kelly Henrichs**, DNP, RN, GNP-BC - University of CO

**Colette Jones**, MN - WA Health Care Authority

**Kathleen Juco-Purdy**, MSN, RN - French Hospital Medical Center

**Kendra Kamp**, PhD, RN - University of Washington

**Elizabeth Kinard**, RN, BSN - South Carolina Dept. of Health and Environmental Control

**Christine Lee**, PhD, RN, MPH - Kaiser Permanente

**Alyssa Lubbers**, MSN, RN - Corewell Health

**Natalie Norem**, MSN, FNP-BC - TMCOne Wyatt

**Yolaine Nozile**, MSN - HANA-I

**Jill Reed**, PhD - University of Nebraska Medical Center

**Michele Rodriguez**, BSN - Dignity Home Health Hospice and Infusion

**Rebecca Swanson**, DNP, APRN, CPNP-AC/PC - University of Nebraska Medical Center

**Janet Terry**, DNP, MSN, BSN - Idaho State University, School of Nursing

**Jennifer Walsh**, DNP, CPNP-PC, CNE - The George Washington University School of Nursing

**Holli West**, BSN - South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

**Allie Wildenstein**, MSN, RN, RNC-NIC - Intermountain Health- Saint Joseph Hospital

Dr. Samantha Ault's program of research focuses on interventions and support for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families residing in rural and underserved areas. She is currently funded through a Path to K grant from the Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) to study a web-delivered parent training intervention for parents of children with ASD living in rural areas.

As an Assistant Clinical Professor at the Ohio State University College of Nursing, Dr. Ault teaches a variety of courses in the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) program. Dr. Ault is a member on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging committee at the Ohio State University College of Nursing where she is working on increasing education and resources to improve inclusivity for students, nurses, faculty, and patients with disabilities. In addition, Dr. Ault is a practicing Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner at Mid-Ohio Behavioral Health as a community mental health outpatient provider and SUN Columbus as an inpatient pediatric provider. Her clinical practice focuses on young children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, and mood disorders.

Dr. Ault obtained her PhD in Nursing in 2021 from the Ohio State University where she was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Future of Nursing Scholar. Dr. Ault also obtained her Master of Science in Nursing degree from the Ohio State University in 2017. Dr. Ault is interested in becoming more engaged in health care policy work and looks forward to the skills and mentorship she will gain in the NurseTRUST Emerging Nurse Leaders Fellowship to accomplish this goal. During her free time, Dr. Ault enjoys traveling with her family including her three young children which inspired her picture choice of the most recent trip they took to Arizona.



Dr. Amie Bedgood has been an RN for 27 years. She is a proud native Texan, earning all her academic degrees within the great state. Dr. Bedgood received her BSN from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX. She later went on to earn her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Texas at Tyler and her Ph.D. in Nursing Science from Texas Woman's University in 2020 at the height of the Covid 19 pandemic. Her research focused on the intersection of culture of safety and education. Dr. Bedgood has spent most of her career caring for women and educating future nurses. Amie has strong curriculum development and leadership skills which she has put into action during her time in higher education. She has served as a faculty member in both ADN and BSN programs as well as the Director of Nursing at Texas Lutheran University where she was instrumental in opening two remote nursing campuses. She has several publications and has presented at multiple conferences on topics related to nursing education. Of note, Dr. Bedgood had the unique opportunity in 2017 to spend ten days in Beijing, China exploring women's health care and presented her work on the comparison of maternal mortality in the U.S.A and China at an international academic conference. Most recently, she decided to expand her experience and branched into hospital leadership, taking a professional leap of faith with Ascension Texas, where she currently serves as the Market Director for Clinical Professional Development.





**IF YOU ARE AFRAID TO FAIL,  
YOU WILL NEVER DO THE  
THINGS YOU ARE CAPABLE OF  
DOING**

**JOHN WOODEN**



**Bette Bogdan PhD, RN-BC, CCM, PHN**



I am a Black woman, wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend, and Air Force veteran. I am a proud (adult acute) nurse (practitioner). I am a health equity researcher focusing on the syndemic aspects of chronic illness. I am interested in the impact of racism and social determinants of health on the increase the risk of high symptom burden and adverse clinical outcomes in minoritized individuals living with chronic kidney disease (CKD). I have developed an interdisciplinary program of research focused on disparate outcomes in CKD. I have expertise in bioethics of studying vulnerable populations; renal physiology including fluid and electrolyte balance, physiology and mechanics of hemodialysis therapy and body composition, nutrition, and dietary management of ESKD, feeding intervention studies, randomized controlled trials, physiologic and biomarker focused trials. I am the Inaugural Evelyn Lauder Associate Dean for Nurse Practitioner Programs and Professor at Hunter Bellevue College of Nursing. I am a *sewciopath* and lover of all things *crafty*. Nothing makes me happier than clean lines, systematic organization, and order. Except maybe travel, and all things German.



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## Gena Cooper, RN, MSN, CIC, MHP, CPHQ

Ms. Cooper works with the Washington State Hospital Association (WSHA) as Director of Safety & Quality Workforce. Her 20+ years of leadership experience includes serving as a chief nursing officer and behavioral health clinical educator. She draws from behavioral crisis intervention, violence prevention, and collaborative problem-solving strategies to guide hospital leaders in addressing complex workforce challenges.

Outside of work, Gena enjoys spending time with her family and pets, traveling, crocheting, reading, & binge watching NCIS.

Alice Ferguson, Accidental RN

Looked for a job and found a calling (no one was more surprised than me)

Caring for patients, caring for those who care for patients

(Married a teacher, surprised again by the force of motherhood)

Balance

A combination of math, asking why and (more importantly) why not  
try

Saying You got this and I've got you even (especially) when you make a mistake and at the end

Making it better (doing, not trying) together

Plus cats. Cats make it better



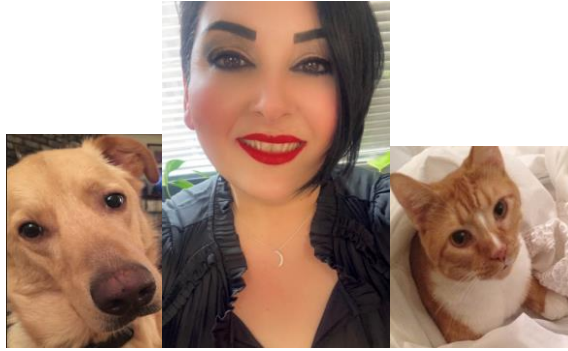




Carlos Flores, MBA, BSN, RN, CCRN, CEN



NurseTRUST holds profound importance to me as it mirrors my journey as a first-generation American and the first in my family to graduate from college, showcasing the power of advancing oneself while contributing to society. My six years of service in the U.S. military instilled in me the value of leadership, resilience, and teamwork, qualities that NurseTRUST emphasizes to improve healthcare outcomes. As someone who deeply values service, I see NurseTRUST as a continuation of my commitment to making a difference. My family has always been my greatest source of inspiration to continue to grow professionally and personally.



**Natalie Fortson, University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital**

I live in Birmingham, AL, with my husband, our 11 year old cat, and our eight year old dog.

In my spare time, I enjoy music, reading, shopping, and baking. I even took a cake decorating class recently! My favorite place to travel is England, and I can't wait to visit there again!

My first degree was in music and I spent several years pursuing a career as an opera singer. I loved music, but I'd always thought if I had the opportunity to go back to school, I would like to be a nurse like my mother. When that opportunity came, I took it. It has been the best decision I've ever made!

I began my nursing career at UAB Hospital eleven years ago. My clinical experience is in cardiology, CV and thoracic surgery, oncology, and solid organ transplant. I was eventually promoted to the role of Assistant Nurse Manager of the Cardiothoracic Surgery Unit and remained in that position for three years. I adored bedside nursing (and still miss caring for patients), but I have a true passion for teaching and decided to work toward a master's degree in nursing education. Upon my graduation, I became a program educator for UAB. It was a dream job. I taught classes and coordinated many programs for all of nursing services (including nursing orientation, the preceptor program, the clinical ladder program, the solid organ transplant education program, the professional nursing certification program, and many others). The chance to meet and mentor so many nurses throughout my organization was extremely rewarding, and I even won an award for mentorship from the Alabama State Nurses Association. It was an honor that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

A year ago, I accepted a position as a nurse manager, and I manage the RN Interns, Nursing Student Graduate Aids, and Student Nurse Apprentices. This new role has been a joy to me, as I have had the privilege of guiding so many nursing students and new graduate nurses in finding their home in the nursing field and at UAB. It is now my focus to work on not only recruiting student nurses and new graduates, but also finding the formula that will retain them. I believe meeting them where they are and creating a healthy culture where they feel supported, appreciated, and safe asking questions is the key to keeping the newest generation of nurses engaged and satisfied. It's my goal to work toward a process that can be used across the board in my organization to bring them into UAB as students and grow and support them as new nurses. The NurseTRUST fellowship is such a gift, as I believe it will provide me with new and unique perspectives, the ability to network with others, and the tools to develop my project to its fullest potential.

I'm looking forward to meeting everyone!





Kelly Henrichs is an associate professor at the University of Colorado, where she has taught for almost 10 years. She teaches in both the undergraduate and graduate program, with a focus on the older adult population. She was recently appointed the Specialty Director of the Adult/Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program, and is excited about the professional and personal growth this opportunity affords her.

She is passionate about improving the care and outcomes for the older adult population, and her research is focused on that. Specifically, she has been investigating how to positively shift nursing student attitudes toward older adults, and what increases

their desire to work with this population after graduation, with multiple publications related to this important work. She currently practices one day a week in a Senior's Clinic as a nurse practitioner, seeing patients 75 years old and older (the oldest is 107!).

She lives in Littleton Colorado with her family, including husband, Matt, and 4 children, Owen (10), Sorelle (7), Weston (5) and Julia (2.5). She enjoys reading, playing sports, and spending time with family and friends. Family and work keep her very busy, but she loves the life she leads and would not have it any other way!

The things she is most excited to learn about from the NurseTRUST Fellowship program are achieving skills on how to listen, speak, and write clearly and consistently for maximum impact and integrating techniques for influencing others effectively to gain cooperation and get things done.

### Who I Am...

- I am a nurse first. It's who I am and how I think about the world.
- Family and friends are critical connections to keeping me balanced and are the joy in my life. I'm a wife and mother of two fantastic girls, aged 11 and 14.
- I'm proud to be a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation nurse. My grandmother was an army nurse in WWII and high school nurse and, like me, my mother was a pediatric, health policy nurse.



### My Focus...

- Paying for value (in cars and in healthcare!)
- Supporting the lifespan (because developmentally appropriate health care isn't just pediatrics and adults).
- Whole-person care (because we can't carve out parts and expect a healthy person).
- Relationships and community connections (because each person is stronger when they are connected to community supports).



## Colette Jones



*Daughters Mara and Lydia -  
Go OSU Beavers!*



*Favorite family activity in  
Winter*



*Family at the Port of Seattle*

### My "Why"...

- I am a public servant. I believe the community is stronger when we support each other. I strive to be a better leader to serve more effectively.
- I love to work in and lead teams. Strong teams are engaged, encouraged to solve problems, and are passionate about the work they do. Each person brings a unique perspective and makes the whole stronger with their voice.
- I love to solve multi-faceted problems that impact large populations. Solving complex problems fills my need to take care of people, learn about the world, and make it better for the next generation.



### Thoughts to Live By...

- Be open to ideas and opportunities, as you never know where they will come from.
- We are stronger together.
- "In the long run, we shape our lives, and we shape ourselves. The process never ends until we die. And the choices we make are ultimately our own responsibility." *Eleanor Roosevelt*

## Kendra Joy Kamp, PhD, MS, RN

Assistant Professor at the University of Washington, nurse, wife, mother, granddaughter, violinist, fruit tree gardener

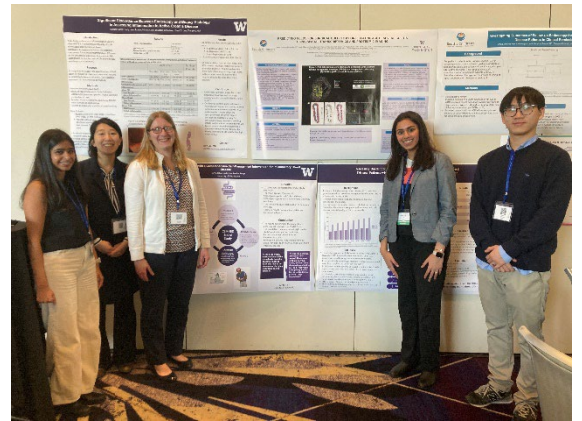


My family: Scott (husband), Josiah (3.5 years old), and Rylee (1.5 years old)



This summer we bought a house with a small orchard and some wooded land. I'm spending my free time learning how to prune and maintain fruit trees.

I am committed to leading the next generation of nurses and gastrointestinal researchers. It brings me great joy to mentor students and become a small part of their career journey. My research lab, the Gastrointestinal Health and Wellness Lab, includes both undergraduate and graduate students.



My leadership goal is to promote change within and outside of my organization and to effectively combat burnout.



Elizabeth B. Kinard BSN RN

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,  
Nothing is going to get better. It's not.”

— Dr. Seuss, The Lorax

Before I was old enough to know what I was doing, I was a caregiver, or at least this is what I have been told. My grandmother told me when I was young, I would make a great nurse, and my father always wanted me to go into health care. When I became a nurse, I felt so accomplished but quickly found the empathy needed for acute care zapped the life out of me. I was filled with worry over the lives of my patients and their outcomes. I needed to find my niche, a place where I could be the best “carer” I could be. The health department opened a door to public health nursing. A place where I could care for my patients, help them to live healthier happier lives, and I could find a work life balance that suited me. I was able to flourish and was nurtured by SCDHEC to become a leader. Now, here I stand at a new chapter in my life. A chance to find out what a leader can be, to shift my care onto a broader scope, and create change on a much bigger level. NurseTrust will be an ally in this process, and I can see new doors beginning to open.

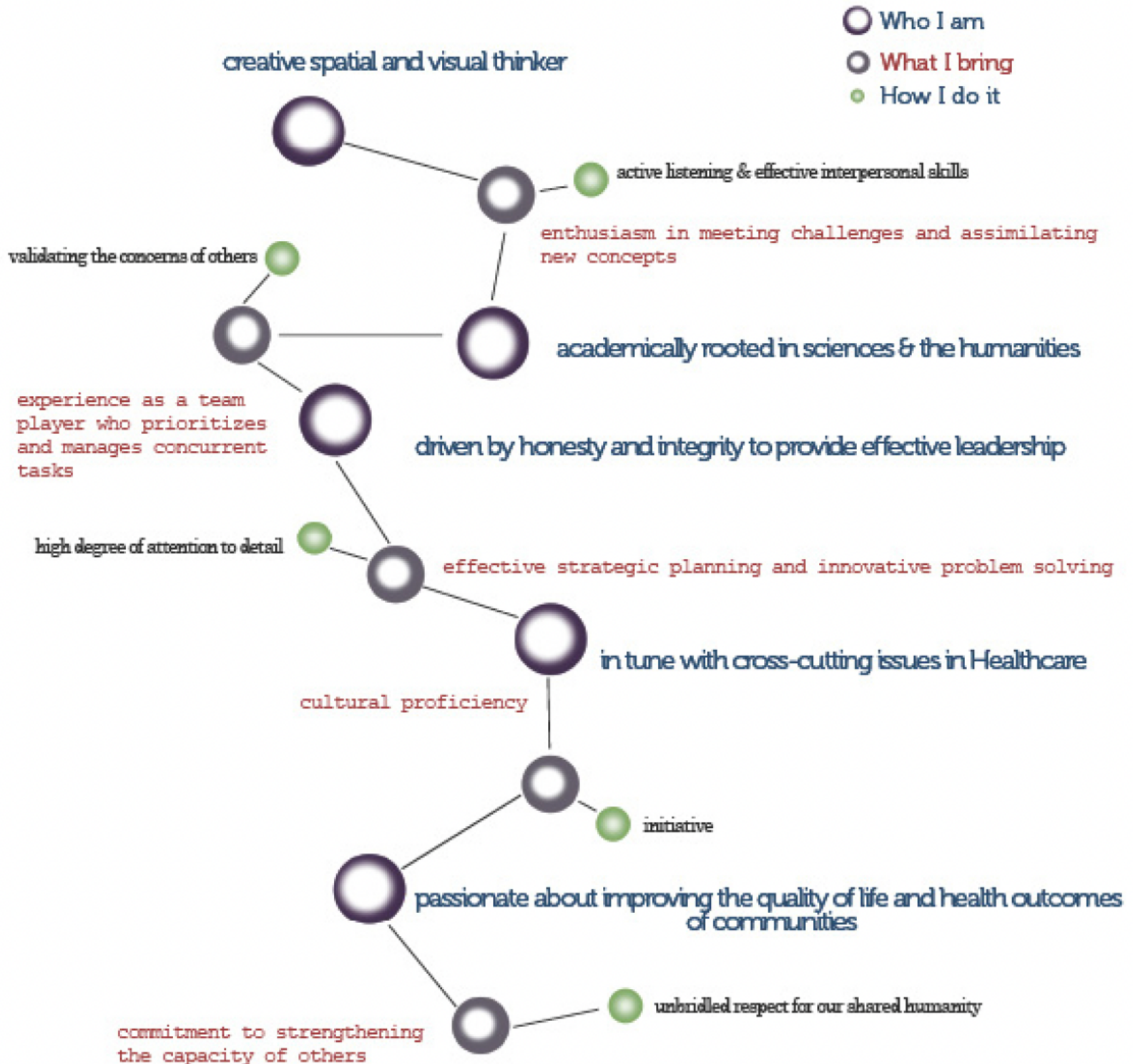




# Christine Lee

PHD, RN, MPH

Nurse Scientist. Effective Change Agent.



\* a visual representation of my professional DNA

Alyssa Lubbers, MSN, RN, PCCN  
Nurse Manager – Advanced Cardiopulmonary Care Unit  
Corewell Health West, Grand Rapids, MI



I am a relatively new operational leader on the Advanced Cardiopulmonary Care Unit at Corewell Health. I have been the manager of this space since May of 2022. I manage a unit where we care for individuals pre- and post- heart transplant, lung transplant, and LVAD implantation. I have previous experience of about 8 years as a bedside RN and charge RN on the Advanced Cardiopulmonary Care Unit as well as the Burn Unit at Corewell Health. I also worked as an outpatient nursing supervisor for a home healthcare agency for just under 4 years.



If I had never delved into the evolving aspects of my unit, I would never have recognized the love I have for leadership. I recognize the importance of a positive mindset and the way that outlook can shape a unit during challenging times. This job demands flexibility, transparency, and an open mind in order to succeed and avoid burnout. Thus far, I have not regretted a single chance I have taken, nor the outlook required to be successful in those aspirations. I never shy away from hard work and welcome opportunity for advancement, growth, and change. I value relationships with people, retention, wellness, helping staff to achieve their goals, and exceptional outcomes. I put serious emphasis on being present and relational as an objective to build strong bonds among the team, improve communication, strengthen collaboration, and ultimately improve outcomes. I involve myself in projects, committees, and workgroups centered around recruitment, retention, and wellness. I take every opportunity to try to be innovative and curious. I recognize the importance of being a lifelong learner in this line of work.

Personally, I am an avid hiker, kayaker, traveler, and runner. My husband and I love to stay busy. We are new parents to an adorable baby boy, who is approaching 1 year old now. I strive to have new experiences, challenge myself, and am always looking for ways to get engaged in areas I feel passionate. I had my son in April 2023, graduated with my MSN in May 2023, and was looking for another opportunity to advance personally and professionally in 2024 when this opportunity presented itself! Thus, I applied for a scholarship, was chosen as the recipient, and pursued this fellowship.



I have many goals for the NurseTRUST Fellowship program. 1) A heightened self-awareness and more developed emotional intelligence. I want to walk away with tools to better communicate with those who are different than me in order to collaborate more effectively. 2) A leadership project which exemplifies an initiative I am passionate about while also aligning with a Corewell Health West objective. 3) Networking with other leaders across the country. I have not had many opportunities to “pick the brains” of other leaders at other institutions. Forming relationships with driven leaders from across the country will offer new perspectives and career-long relationships. 4) A mentor-relationship with an experienced leader who appreciates the value of mentorship. They can offer advice, perspective, and growth opportunities for me personally which I can then bring back to my role to better serve my team. 5) More formal leadership training through collaborating with a cohort, ongoing mentor support, and online course instruction. 6) Extraordinary curiosity. The healthcare environment is always changing and the leader’s ability to remain curious and change-oriented throughout their career is a dynamic skill. I hope this opportunity strengthens a curious mindset and inspires innovative concepts.



I am confident after this fellowship I will possess the training and perspective to better perform my role. A well-equipped leader in a space has the ability to drastically effect those around them. I truly enjoy working with all members of the healthcare team, using evidence-based practice, and innovation in order to have the most desired outcomes. I am confident that I possess the qualities and readiness needed in a leader. I am driven to be the best version of myself; ever-changing and adapting to the needs of this healthcare community.



problemsolver  
 coach significantother  
 friend daughter sister exerciser  
 woundcare hiker arizona rockford  
 michigan nursepractitioner  
 equestrian mother aunt  
 organizer primarycare traveler dogs  
 leader illinois tucson  
 skier chicago patientcare



**Natalie Norem BSN, MSN, RN, FNP-BC**

To me nursing leadership is a professional duty that requires skill, innovation, and compassion. NurseTrust will help me to build these skills and more importantly create important relationships where these skills will be cultivated. I look forward to connecting with other accomplished nursing leaders.



**Yolaine Nozile**

Meet Yolaine Nozile, a highly motivated individual with an unwavering passion for helping people in need and providing exceptional service. Yolaine is an interventional radiology nurse at Emory University Hospital, bringing her critical care expertise. In addition, Yolaine also serves as a Clinical Instructor at Emory University Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing and Mercer University; Georgia Baptist School of Nursing where she supervises nursing students in their clinical setting and evaluates their clinical performance. Yolaine is a PhD candidate, she has a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) graduate with a concentration in Nursing Education from Grand Canyon University School of Nursing in Phoenix, Arizona

Yolaine is a Nurse Trust fellow 2024-2025. As a registered nurse in the State of Georgia, she holds certificates in Faith Community Nursing, American Heart Association BLS, ACLS and PALS faculty for American Heart Association. She previously served at GA Healthcare Training Centre, where she was a Program Coordinator, overseeing the program in its entirety, developing curriculum.

For 23 years, Yolaine has served as a dedicated Staff Nurse ICU and as a Nurse Educator for 8 years at Emory University Hospital. She also applied her expertise at Citrus Health care network in Miami Florida for 5 years, where she served as a staff nurse, providing holistic care. As a psychiatric nurse, she collaborated with patient providers and facilitated the development of actionable plans for patient care.

Her passion to serve has seen her take part in professional organizations such as Haitian America Nurses Association (HANA) since 1999 where she serve as board member on multiple positions like: president, activity chair and international chair to name a few. She is also a member of the Professional Nurse Educator's group, National Educators Association, Georgia Nurses Association (GNA), American Association of Critical Care Nurse (AACN), ABNA/NBNA, Georgia Association of Nurse Educators (GANE), and Nurse Trust.

Yolaine has coordinated and co-authored multiple publications and presentations such as evidence base nursing (EBN) and poster presentation (skill fair) at Emory Hospital, among others. She participates in various community services such as Atlanta Women in Business and Faith Community Nursing. She has also volunteered in several medical missions such as Mission of Mercy, Mission of Hope and Friends of Haiti.

As a result of her exemplary performance, Yolaine is a proud recipient of many awards, including Nursing Excellence (May 2008), Nursing Excellence (May 2012) and Clinical Ladder Nurse Registered Nurse at Emory University Hospital.



Michele M. Rodriguez, BSN, RN

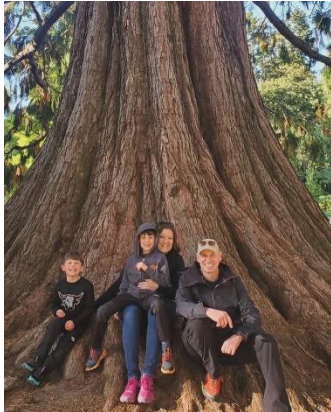
Michele has worked in the health industry for over 25 years in various roles and in different clinical settings. Michele earned her ADN from Allan Hancock College in 2006 and her BSN in 2020 from the University of Arizona Global Campus. Michele has worked as a Registered Nurse for over 18 years at Dignity Health as well as the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall, and a private infusion center.

Michele currently works at Dignity Home Health, Hospice and Infusion as a Clinical Supervisor. Michele's primary passion has been providing direction, support and motivation to employees to reach common goals. She recently implemented a process to increase CMS 5 star ratings for Timely and Effective care which resulted in ratings to increase to 4.5 stars. She continues to work toward improving patient access to quality home health services and coach staff members to achieve positive patient experiences and reach key performance indicators.

As a member of Infusion Nurse Society; she coaches staff in the implementation of providing quality infusions to patients while abiding stringent Standards of Practice. Michele was awarded the Humankindness Award in 2006 which honors people whose extraordinary kindness has made a life-changing difference in the life of a patient, coworker, or a member of her community. Michele has participated in the "Day of Hope" fundraiser as a team leader for the last 10 years. This community fundraiser annual event benefits local cancer patients during their treatment journey.

Michele spends her free time with her husband, two daughters, extended family and friends. In her free time she enjoys camping, diy projects and reading. Michele is committed to grow as a leader and make a difference in the lives of the patients and community in which she serves.





## ABOUT ME:

- Wife to James
- Mother to Rowan (7) & Pierce (5)
- Adventure-seeker, loves to travel
- Early-adopter, thrives on change
- Problem solver
- Innovator



## NURSE:

- 17 years in pediatric hematology/oncology & stem cell transplant
- BSN (2007), MSN (2011), PGC (2016), DNP (2018)
- CPNP at Nebraska Medicine since 2012
- Passionate about implementing evidence-based practice & improving pediatric patient care delivery in a large, adult-focused academic medical center
- Project focus: reducing sedation for MRI & radiation therapy, implementing ambulatory chemotherapy protocols for children, & palliative care screening



## EDUCATOR:

- Clinical Assistant Professor
- Joined UNMC faculty in August, 2022
- Program Coordinator: Pediatric Primary Care & Dual PNP
- Engaged in faculty practice committee and the promotion of dual academic/practice partnerships

## STRENGTHS:

- Relator
- Achiever
- Focus
- Self-assurance
- Significance

### NurseTRUST Goals

1. Build relationship with mentor and connect/network with E<sup>3</sup> cohort.
2. Prioritize and actively engage in the Emerging Leaders curriculum.
3. Apply program competencies of communication, influencing outcomes, and motivating others to KLC.



You only fail when you stop trying.



My first ABSN graduates in 2023

Never discourage anyone who continually makes progress, no matter how slow.

—Plato

You are worthy. You are important. You are loved. Believe in your worth.



My love, Monkie and Me

Janet D. Terry, DNP, MSN, RN  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Idaho State University

During my last two years in the ISU Nursing Program, I've observed a concerning pattern: a significant number of nursing students are struggling with mental health challenges. This issue has been highlighted by the tragic suicide of one student and the emotional turmoil faced by others. Such events raise an urgent question: Why are our students experiencing such high levels of emotional and mental distress? It is crucial to examine if the current lack of comprehensive mental health support and strategies to manage the demanding nature of nursing education contributes to potential failures.

Although all students are given equal opportunity to succeed—symbolized by having the same “seat at the table”—not everyone has the same resources or “playing cards” to do so, which speaks to the issue of equity.

As a leader, I aim to improve mental health awareness among our university's nursing students. To address this, starting in Fall 2024, I am developing a wellness course that will be part of the curriculum for all nursing students.



“People will forget what you said; people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

Maya Angelou

My current home in Idaho

In a world where you can be anything... be kind.

“Strength grows in the moments when you think you can't go on but you keep going anyway.”

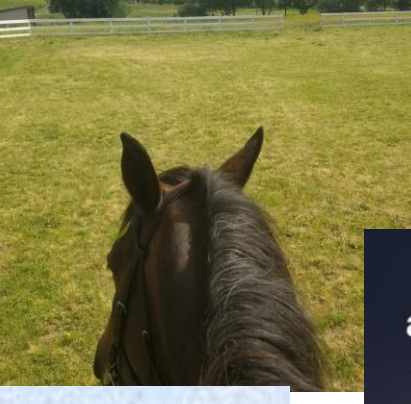
As a nurse educator, I strive to be a role model and teach the next generation of nurses the values of integrity, diversity, empathy, and safe clinical decision-making while maintaining human dignity for all.



My beautiful mother and me



My happy place spending time with my horse, Rodney



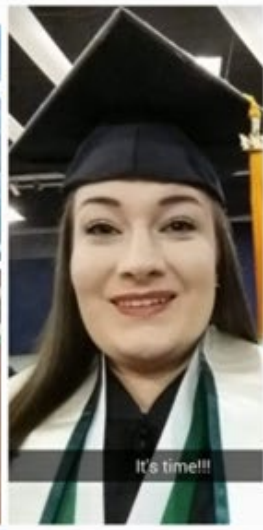
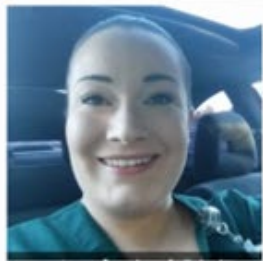
I love hiking, dancing, riding horses, cuddling kittens, meditating, and self-improving.

Every morning is a fresh start. Wake up with a thankful heart.

Kristen Butler

Raised as an ‘army brat’ all over the US and Germany, Jennifer Walsh, DNP, CPNP-PC, CNE, started her nursing career in the NICU and PICU after graduating with her BSN from The Pennsylvania State University. After attending The Catholic University for her MSN, Dr. Walsh became a Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in 1997 and began practicing in pediatric primary care caring for newborns to young adults and their families. Teaching nursing students for the past 10 years for area universities, Dr. Walsh joined the George Washington University School of Nursing eight years ago and primarily teaches Pediatrics and Health Assessment, while also coordinating and teaching various labs and clinicals. She graduated with her DNP from George Washington University in May 2021. Dr Walsh lives in Ashburn, VA (suburb of Washington DC) with her husband. They have three adult children, two still in college, one graduated. Dr Walsh’s professional interests lie in pediatrics, mental health, interdisciplinary collaboration, and nursing assessment and education. Jennifer is thrilled to be a part of NurseTRUST and anxious to give back to the profession which has brought her so much joy and many phenomenal opportunities.





I graduated from The University of South Carolina- Upstate with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in December 2014.



The first 4 years of my career were spent serving as a Charge Nurse in the Intensive Care Unit with these amazing nurses.



I worked as a Preventive Health and Immunization Nurse with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control for 3 years. Then transitioned into the role of the Upstate Region Preventive Health Program Coordinator.



I love my Spartanburg DHEC family and the work that we do in our community.



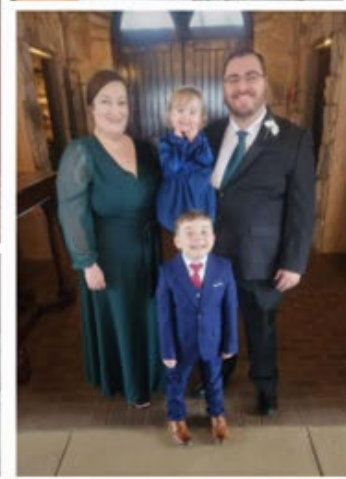
In my free time I love to paint wine bottles to give as gifts, craft, ride four-wheelers in the mountains, and read historical romance novels. :)



I have been serving as the Spartanburg County Health Department Manager with the SC Dept. of Health and Environmental Control for 2 years.



I have been married to my high school sweetheart for 11 years. We have a rambunctious 2 year old daughter, a sweet-as-pie 6 year old son, and a guardian angel. We are blessed to have large families that include loving and supportive parents and siblings .



*Halli West,  
RN, BSN*



*Allie Wildenstein, MSN, RN, RNC-NIC, CNML  
Of Denver, Colorado*

I've been a nurse for 16 years. I started as a new grad in the NICU, which has been my home. I worked my way up through leadership positions and continued to grow. I became the unit manager of a 51 bed Level 3 NICU 6 years ago, with 120 direct reports. I love my work and I show up every day for the staff, the patients, and their families. Our unit is well known for its evidence-based practice and the amazing culture we have. I strive to continue the positive culture with all the changes and demands of healthcare.

As a leader continued growth is necessary to keep up with the times and changes demanded in healthcare. My focus has always been to grow, be the best I can be, hold myself to a high standard and set examples for my team. My passion is continued improvement and looking at how to apply changes from one area to another to ensure all individuals can benefit. A lot of focus has been on work-life balance for caregivers, I relish the opportunity to spread this to our leaders in our organization to ensure we can continue to put our best foot forward for our teams.

I have 3 amazing daughters (13, 10, 6 years old) that keep me very busy with dance! They breathe life into me every day 😊



*Everything in life has its own time. There is time to celebrate and there is time to mourn. This is the time for reflection and transformation. Let us look within and change into what we ought to be. -Aaron Saul*