How could a nurse contribute to your faith community?

WHAT DOES A FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE DO?

Health Promotion and Education Activities to help people to understand the relationships between lifestyle, attitude, faith and well-being.

Group and Personal Health Advice to provide advocacy and support.

Client Referral and Liaison to connect clients with appropriate health professionals, community resources, programs and services.

Care Management Services to assist clients with existing illness or disability to manage their condition and prevent, or limit complications.

Prayer and Pastoral Support as requested, aiming to sustain spiritual growth and healing. All FCN activities seek to nurture, and integrate faith to help people move towards holistic health and wellbeing.

For more information:
Check our website www.faithcommunitynursing.nz
or email admin@faithcommunitynursing.nz

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT WAYS THAT FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES ARE WORKING WITHIN FAITH COMMUNITIES IN NEW ZEALAND?

- Working within a pastoral care team.
- Speaking on topics of health interest e.g. managing dementia, intergenerational communication
- Running workshops on health issues e.g. diet, exercise
- Providing clinics e.g. monthly foot clinic; blood pressure clinics
- Visiting members of the community re health concerns
- Usually working part-time in either paid or unpaid capacity; depending on available funding
FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING IS A MINISTRY OF FAITH THAT

• Has a Biblical basis
• Fits with existing ministries
• Is adaptable to fit different community settings

WHO IS THE FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE?

• A registered nurse with a current practising certificate
• A health professional trained to promote holistic health of body, soul and spirit.

“He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.”
Luke 9:2

WHY HAVE A FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE OR HEALTH MINISTRY?

The root cause of much illness is linked to dysfunctional relationships with God, others and creation. This missing link in our health system has thus become the work of the church, an area of concern for communities of faith, an area the church is equipped to address.

Congregations are being called to recognize that the underlying cause of disease is often social, economic and spiritual in nature as well as biophysical.

Health and healing are enhanced in a supportive community that sustains social networks, provides physical resources, assists emotional wellbeing, and promotes spiritual harmony.

It is an important outreach ministry to many who need a faith community in times of a health crisis.

It facilitates a loving and healing community that cares and shares with each other.

“Faith by itself, if not accompanied by action is dead.” James 2:17

WHAT SUPPORT DOES THE FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE NEED FROM THE FAITH COMMUNITY?

• Being part of a ministry team
• Acceptance of the role
• Access to administration resources
• Pastoral supervision
• Funding as negotiated (some nurses offer their time as a gift)
• Prayer support