FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
July 11, 2018

American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) Announces Faculty for the Integrative Healing Arts Program (IHAP) in Holistic Nursing

The American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) announces Marian Long RN MSN AHN-BC CHTP/I HWNC-BC; Colleen Delaney PhD, RN, AHN-BC, HWNC-BC; Mary Shackelford RN, BSN, CHHC, HN-BC; Kathleen J. Bell RN, MSN, CNM, MS1-BC, AHN-BC; Catherine M. Alvarez, RN, MA, BS, CNML, HNB-BC, PCCN and Margaret “Marty” Downey, MS, Ph.D., RN, AHN-BC, CHTP/IT as new faculty in the “Integrative Healing Arts Program in Holistic Nursing” (IHAP).

The Integrative Healing Arts Program in Holistic Nursing (IHAP) is a unique 84-hour continuing nursing education (CNE) program, in a retreat setting, that prepares nurses to take a pivotal role in transforming the healthcare culture using the principles of holistic health, therapeutic presence and person-centered care. IHAP will begin in the September, 2018 and enrollment is open until August 20. The American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) acquired this continuing nursing educational (CNE) program in March 2018 from The BirchTree Center for Healthcare Transformation, which has offered it since 2000.

“It is with great anticipation that we announce this opportunity to provide a continuing education program throughout the U.S. and internationally to our members and future members seeking to become certified in holistic nursing” said Lourdes Lorenz-Miller RN, MSM-IH, AHN-BC, NEA-BC, President of AHNA from Murphy, North Carolina.

This CNE program has a successful seventeen-year history of preparing holistic nurses to sit for the Holistic Nurse Certification Exam. The requests for holistic nursing educational preparation have escalated at AHNA over the past two years, and this program will assist in meeting this demand.

Marie Shanahan, MA, BSN, HN-BC, President/CEO of The BirchTree Center for Healthcare Transformation said “We’re very excited to support the AHNA in expanding IHAP and making it more available to nurses seeking holistic practice education and certification. We’ve seen this program change nurses’ lives and careers - and believe the AHNA is the perfect organization to take the program to a nationwide audience.”
AHNA will offer this three-session program beginning in September, 2018 in Chester, Connecticut. Enrollment is open until August 20. Session 1 is September 20-23, 2018; Session 2 February 7-10, 2019, and Session 3 is June 20-23, 2019.

About Marian Long

Marian Long RN MSN AHN-BC CHTP/I HWNC-BC of Grayling, Michigan is a Holistic RN with a private practice of energy work, coaching, consulting and speaking. She received her BSN through Regis University in Denver, CO and her MSN through Tennessee State University. She has 35 years of experience as a clinician and educator in many traditional and holistic settings, and enjoys empowering people to facilitate high level wellness in all dimensions.

About Colleen Delaney

Colleen Delaney PhD, RN, AHN-BC, HWNC-BC of Woodbury, Connecticut is currently an Associate Research Professor and Founding Director of the Graduate Certificate Program in Holistic Nursing at the University of Connecticut; a Consultant for the Connecticut Association of Healthcare at Home, an Associate Editor Journal of Holistic Nursing, and the AHNA Treasurer. She received her BSN, MSN and PhD at the University of Connecticut and finished her postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Connecticut Health Center in 2008. Colleen received the Virginia Henderson Research Award from the Connecticut Nurses Association in 2015 and has been the author of numerous publications and the recipient of several research grants.

About Mary Shackelford

Mary Shackelford RN, BSN, CHHC, HN-BC of St. Louis, Missouri is currently the owner of Mary Shackelford Wellness Solutions, where she serves as coach, speaker and facilitator in holistic wellness. She also serves as a Quality Improvement Advisor at the Missouri Hospital Association. She received her BSN from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO and is certified as an energy codes facilitator, a holistic health coach, Reiki and a board certified holistic nurse.
About Kathleen Bell

Kathleen J. Bell RN, MSN, CNM, MS1-BC, AHN-BC of Cannon Beach, Oregon is currently an adjunct professor at the Linfield College- Good Samaritan School of Nursing in Portland, OR. She received her BSN from Boston College and her MSN from the University of Utah. Kathleen’s career has focused on maternal–child nursing, nurse-midwifery, women’s health, nursing education, integrative health and holistic nursing. She is certified as an Advanced Holistic Nurse by the American Holistic Nurses Credentialing Corporation Association (AHNCC), and as a Meditation Specialist by the Center for Meditation Science. Kathleen serves as a special advisor to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Nutrition Professionals, and to the Board of Directors of the Oregon Holistic Nurses Association. Her publications are varied.

About Cathy Alvarez

Catherine M. Alvarez, RN, MA, BS, CNML, HNB-BC, PCCN of Orange, Connecticut is currently an Education Specialist at Yale New Haven Hospital in New Haven, CT. Cathy designs and implements nursing education programs that specifically focus on self-care, mindfulness, and resiliency. She received her BSN from Elmira College, in Elmira, NY and obtained her Master of Arts with an emphasis in Health Arts and Sciences from Goddard College in Plainfield, VT.

About Margaret Downey

Margaret "Marty" Downey, MS, Ph.D., RN, AHN-BC, CHTP/IT, of Boise, Idaho is a nurse educator and former critical care nurse with a BSN from Marycrest College in Davenport, IA, an MS in Nursing Education from Idaho State University and a PhD from the University of Idaho. She is Board certified as an Advanced Holistic Nurse and certified as a Healing Touch Practitioner. Marty is currently an Emeritus Associate Professor/Adjunct faculty at Boise State University School of Nursing; an educator for holistic nursing courses and a research nurse mentor contributing to holistic research projects, presentations, and publications at St Luke's Health System Research Fellowship Center for Nursing Excellence. A long-time member of AHNA, recent AHNA-Research Chair, Marty has a private Healing Touch practice and a heart-centered passion for holistic nursing.

About AHNA

The American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) is a non-profit specialty nursing professional membership organization that serves as the definitive voice for registered nurses who practice holistic nursing.
Founded in 1981, AHNA’s primary mission is to advance holistic nursing through Practice, Community Building, Advocacy, Research and Education. The association is dedicated to the continued development of evidence-based holistic research, self-care methods for nurses and non-pharmacological pain management. AHNA offers networking opportunities to its members along with continuing nursing education through webinars, self-study programs, publications, conferences, and scholarship and grant opportunities.

AHNA currently services more than 5,000 members through 146 local chapters in the U.S. and abroad. Holistic nursing is recognized by the American Nurses Association as an official nursing specialty with a defined scope and standards of practice.

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