

Local AANN Chapter (if applicable), Year Joined, and Leadership Roles:

Past officer of the WVAANN (Chapter defunct)

Other Professional Involvement (may include internal committees, professional memberships and/or leadership roles):

Founding member of the Appalachian Stroke Network and currently serve as website coordinator for the group.

*Do you have any means for financial support to recertify your CNRN/SCRN credential? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If Yes, explain and provide estimated US dollar amounts. Example: institution pays \$200 for registration fee.

How did you hear about this grant? E-mail from AANN

*Does your institution reimburse for certification or recertification?

☐ Yes

☒ No

*Are you a current member of AANN?

☒ Yes

☐ No

*Have you received a grant from AMWF, NNF, WFNN, or any other group for your certification or recertification in the last 10 years or travel grant in the last 5 years?

☐ Yes _____

☒ No

*Are you a current Board member of a National or International Leadership Board of Directors?

☐ Yes _____

☒ No

AMWF Recertification Grant – Candidate Recommendation Form #1

Typing of this document is **required**. Completed materials must be sent to grants@amwf.org.

Name of individual completing this form: _____

I worked with this candidate when I was a:

- ☐ Board Member
- ☐ Committee Member
- ☒ Supervisor
- ☐ Co-worker
- ☒ Colleague
- ☐ Other: _____

I worked with the Candidate during the following time period: 2001 - present

and while with _____ (name of organization).

Please give specific examples of this candidate's contributions to neuroscience nursing based on the following criteria:

Leadership

_____ has held a variety of roles in neuroscience nursing during her 32 year career at _____. I have watched her leadership skills develop, as she moved from the role of staff RN on the Neuroscience Unit, to charge nurse, Clinical Manager, and most recently Neuroscience Nurse Specialist and Coordinator of the Stroke Center. _____ played an invaluable role in the achievement of Primary Stroke Center Certification and multiple re-certifications at _____. She has been instrumental in the development and implementation of stroke protocols, staff education, meeting clinical quality indicators, and patient satisfaction. She is an active member of the _____ Stroke Network, and has participated for over ten years in advocacy efforts and quality improvement initiatives in Stroke with the state of _____ Bureau of Public Health and Office of Emergency Medical Services.

Professional Service

_____ is a true Neuroscience nurse who loves her patients and the profession. She has been a member of AANN for many years, and was instrumental in forming a state chapter which was active for several years in _____.

Mentoring/Education

In her current role as Neuroscience Nurse Specialist, _____ has multiple responsibilities. One of her primary goals is to improve the quality of neuroscience nursing at the bedside. Many years ago, she developed an orientation and education program for the Neuroscience nurse that includes twenty (20) self-study modules that are updated annually. Selected modules are reviewed annually by all of the neuroscience staff. She also coordinates multiple neuroscience educational offerings including an annual "Neuroscience and Stroke Symposium." As coordinator of the stroke program, she responds to stroke alerts, educates staff, educates patients, provides community education, monitors quality and implements performance improvement initiatives. She led a team that revised and validated the nursing swallow screen tool which is currently in use throughout the hospital.. She devised a plan for house-wide annual education and implementation of the tool for all patients who are at risk for aspiration.

In addition to educating others, _____ keeps abreast of the latest literature and research advances in stroke care. She participated in the Net Smart Neuroscience fellowship training and successfully achieved SCRn certification.

Staff/Patient Advocacy

She is a strong patient advocate with years of experience and knowledge in Neuroscience Nursing.

AMWF Recertification Grant – Candidate Recommendation Form #2

Typing of this document is required. Completed materials must be sent to grants@amwf.org.

Name of individual completing this form: _____

I worked with this candidate when I was a:

- ☐ Board Member
- ☐ Committee Member
- ☐ Supervisor
- ☒ Co-worker
- ☒ Colleague
- ☐ Employer
- ☐ Other: _____

I worked with this candidate during the following time period: May 2002 - present and while with _____ (name of organization).

Please give specific examples of this candidate's contributions to neuroscience nursing based on the following criteria:

Leadership

During her 32 year career at _____, _____ has worn many hats on the Neuroscience Unit. Beginning as a staff RN, she quickly evolved to Charge Nurse, on up the ladder to Clinical Manager, and ultimately into the Neuroscience Nurse Specialist role that she holds today. _____ indeed, is a leader in her field and her leadership skills have inspired many nurses to follow in her footsteps. _____ also serves as Coordinator of the Stroke Center and was the key player in achieving Primary Stroke Center certification. Her continued dedication to her field has led to multiple re-certifications for _____. Her neuroscience knowledge was invaluable in developing/implementing our stroke protocols and staff education for the Neuro Unit, ICUs and the Emergency Department. _____ rounds on every stroke patient admitted to _____ and ensures that quality indicators are met, while enhancing patient and family satisfaction. _____ was instrumental in developing the telemedicine/robot program for stroke intervention and works closely with Emergency physicians and Interventional Radiology to ensure optimal outcomes.

Professional Service

_____ is the epitome of neuroscience nursing and admired by all staff members for both her knowledge and dedication to the field. For greater than 10 years, _____ has worked with the Office of Emergency Medical Services and the _____ Bureau of Public Health to improve quality initiatives and advocacy for the stroke patient. She is also an active member of the _____ Stroke Network. Not only does _____ fulfill her role of Neuroscience Nurse Specialist within the medical center, she is a true Neuroscience nurse who loves her patients and the profession and often participates in community outreach programs and health fairs. She has been a member of American Association of Neuroscience Nurses for many years, and served on the steering committee to form the first _____ chapter of AANN. While the chapter was active for several years, _____ served terms as President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Mentoring/Education

As one of the most important roles as Neuroscience Nurse Specialist, _____ is responsible for education. Not only does she educate patients and families, one of her primary goals is to improve the quality of neuroscience bedside nursing. _____ has spent most of her career mentoring other RNs and developed orientation and education programs for the Neuroscience nurse. This education includes twenty (20) self-study modules that are updated and reviewed annually by all neuroscience, intermediate care, and critical care staff. _____ also coordinates multiple neuroscience educational offerings including an annual Neuroscience and Stroke Symposium, as well as, Neuro Nursing Grand Rounds. As coordinator of the stroke program, she responds to stroke alerts, educates staff, educates patients, provides community education, monitors quality and implements performance improvement initiatives. _____ led a committee to revise and validate the nursing swallow screen tool which is currently in use throughout the hospital, as well as, some of our partnered facilities. The swallow screen is invaluable for patients with risk for aspiration and _____ planned and implemented annual house wide education for _____ staff. _____ continually reviews the latest literature and research advances in stroke care. She participated in the Net Smart Neuroscience fellowship training and to stay on top of current neuroscience best practice, _____ completed both the CNRN and SCRNP certification exams. Truly an inspiration to all staff RNs on the Neuroscience Unit.

Staff/Patient Advocacy

_____ brings her neuroscience experience to the table on many occasions, such as stroke patient transfers from outside facilities. Outlying hospitals without current knowledge of best practice in stroke care often receive education from _____ to promote optimal outcomes for the patient. There have been times when a MD wrote orders that did not meet hospital protocols and stroke policies and _____ stepped up as an advocate for staff members who were following hospital protocols and stroke policies. _____ knowledge and experience in Neuroscience nursing is the hallmark in staff and patient advocacy.

AMWF Recertification Grant - Essay #1

Credentials: _____, MSN, RN, CNRN, SCR N

Employer/Title: _____

Please describe your primary job role and its relation to neuroscience or stroke nursing. Include any key work accomplishments within the past five (5) years. (500 word maximum)

I work in a 393-bed teaching hospital as the Neuroscience Nurse Specialist / Stroke Program Coordinator. My responsibilities include providing expert, integrated supportive consultation services for the promotion of cost-effective, quality patient care across the continuum through direct patient care, education, research, and clinical leadership. A major focus of my practice includes the care of the stroke patient as we serve as the hub of a regional stroke network and have been certified as a primary stroke center since 2004.

Our stroke center has received the Get with the Guidelines Stroke Gold Plus achievement award from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association every year since 2011 with a volume of nearly 1000 stroke patients annually. A key accomplishment this year was finally achieving Target Stroke: Honor Roll status for improving the door-to-needle times for stroke patients treated with IV thrombolytic. I am now leading efforts to improve our door-to-needle times even further with a goal of administration of IV thrombolytic ≤ 45 minutes of hospital arrival.

I am also continually involved in incorporating the latest research and clinical practice guidelines into our policies, protocols, and order sets to ensure evidenced-based practice at the bedside. This involves constant education for all members of the health care team from EMS through rehabilitation. Stroke is included in the discussion during quarterly EMS forums held at our organization as well as neuroscience nursing grand rounds.

AMWF Recertification Grant - Essay #2

Credentials: _____, MSN, RN, CNRN, SCR N

Employer/Title: _____

Please describe reasons for seeking recertification. Also describe perceived benefits for career advancement. (500 word maximum)

As the Neuroscience Nurse Specialist / Stroke Program Coordinator, I am continually networking, consulting, and educating across the continuum – from pre-hospital through discharge. Advanced certification is evidence of my commitment to provide the best care possible for my patients. It serves as a symbol to my peers that I am dedicated in my efforts to provide expert, integrated support. My CNRN and SCR N certifications distinguish that I am committed to my profession and to lifelong learning. Most importantly, at least in my mind, is the fact that advanced certification instills in me a sense of pride and professional accomplishment.

I was the first CNRN in not only my hospital, but in the entire region and then successfully encouraged others to follow suit. I was in one of the first groups nationally to seek SCR N distinction and felt it was important to demonstrate professional credibility and validate my clinical expertise in my role as stroke coordinator. Despite no financial support from my employer, recertification is of great importance to me. Unfortunately, after achieving my last certification, I became aware that both re-certifications (CNR N and SCR N) were going to be due the same year. Receiving a grant to help cover the costs associated with this would be extremely helpful.