

## Eligibility Requirements:

- ◆ United States citizen
- ◆ Graduated from a CCNE or NLNAC accredited program with a MSN, PMHNP applying for a **FIRST APRN role**.
- ◆ Minimum grade point *average*: 3.00
- ◆ Current, unrestricted APRN license (or ANCC scheduled **before July 1**)
- ◆ Must pass pre-employment medical exam, security checks and drug testing
- ◆ Must be able to complete 366 days of training starting **August / September**.

## To Apply:

- ◆ Submit the following:
- ◆ Resume, Cover Letter and Application
- ◆ Personal statement—300 words “I want to be a VA Nurse Practitioner Residency Trainee because...”
- ◆ Official Transcripts-in sealed envelope
- ◆ Three letters of recommendation: **TWO** letters must be from Academic Faculty / clinical preceptors. **ONE** letter from direct supervisor at place of employment. Please ask the individuals writing on your behalf to e-mail or mail letters directly to the program using the address at end of application. All letters of support must be on official college or business letterhead.

**Application Deadline: TBD**

**Interviews / Selection March / April**

**Program Begins: August / September**

**Annual stipend: TBD**

## Facility Spotlight

**VA Connecticut Healthcare System (VACHS)** is an integrated healthcare system with medical campuses in West Haven, CT and Newington, CT and six surrounding community-based outpatient clinics and the Errera Center in Orange, CT. We are a 216-bed facility providing tertiary medical, psychiatric, surgical care, rehabilitation, hospice as well as a full range of outpatient services to America's Veterans. VA Connecticut is also a national site for PTSD and Ketamine research. We are the Mental Illness Research and Education Center (MIRECC) for VISN I. The VACHS Mission is to honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional healthcare that improves their health and well-being. Our vision is to continue to be the benchmark of excellence and value in healthcare as we continue to provide exemplary Veteran Centric and Evidence Based care. Our vision further emphasizes prevention and population health, contributing to the Nation's well-being through education, research, and service in national emergencies. Our Core Values are Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect, Excellence

**Completed application packets are to be emailed to:**

Mr. Christopher Cimino BS, MSN, APRN

Program Director

[christopher.cimino@va.gov](mailto:christopher.cimino@va.gov)

VA Connecticut Healthcare System

Nursing Service (118-A)

950 Campbell Avenue

West Haven, CT 06516



Fairfield  
**EGAN**

Fairfield University Egan School  
of Nursing and Health Studies

## **VA Connecticut Healthcare System**

## **Psychiatric Mental Health**

## **Nurse Practitioner Residency**

## **A VA Nursing Academic Partnership Program**



## Program Mission & Description

The mission of the VACTHCS and Egan SON PMH-NPR program is to support the transition of the entry-level APRN provider to a competent, confident professional APRN, with the goal of preparing the nurse to provide safe, high quality care for our nation's Veterans.

### Program Goals

#### Upon completion of the residency, the RN will :

- ◆ Successfully transition from entry-level Advanced Practice Registered Nurse to competent professional APRN, who provides safe, quality care as defined by Patricia Benner's "Novice to Expert" theory (1984);
- ◆ Demonstrate competency in effective decision-making skills related to clinical judgment and performance;
- ◆ Incorporate research and other scientific evidence into practice;
- ◆ Demonstrate competency in clinical leadership at the point of care;
- ◆ Practice collaboratively as members of the inter-professional healthcare team;
- ◆ Formulate an individual career development plan promoting life-long commitment to professional nursing.



## Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Residency

### Program Structure

All activities related to the program are incorporated throughout the 12-month experience according to the following timeline:

#### Phase I (months 0-1)

- ◆ Hospital and General Nursing Orientation.
- ◆ Introduction to communication and decision making skills, leadership at the point of practice with the focus on improvement of patient outcomes.

#### Phase II (months 1-2)

- ◆ Development of generic and specific competencies unique to each clinical area and Veteran population. Introduction to Inter-professional Team Collaboration. And Evidence-Based Practice.

#### Phase III (months 2-9)

- ◆ Increasing development of leadership skills, improvement of patient outcomes, and APRN development in the professional role, and Startup of Evidenced-Based Project Activities. Ongoing development as an inter-professional team member.

#### Phase IV (months 10-12)

- ◆ Synthesis, Assessment, Completion of Evidenced-Based Project, and Program Evaluation.

PMH Nurse Practitioner Residents are considered trainees receiving a stipend and benefits during this year of advanced training. Successful graduates of the program are well positioned to begin a professional nursing career at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System .

## Contacts

### Program Directors,

#### VA Nursing Academic Partnership PMH-NPR Program Director

**Christopher Cimino BS, MSN, APRN**

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(475) 331-2381

VA Connecticut Healthcare System  
950 Campbell Ave (118A)  
West Haven, CT 06516

### Program Directors,

#### VA Nursing Academic Partnership

**Meredith Wallace Kazer, PhD, APRN,**

**FAAN**

Dean & Professor

AACN-Wharton Executive Leadership  
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