



# FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF NURSING

## College of Nursing *Highlights*

- Save the Date: Join us for the CoN White Coat Ceremony for entering students on Sept. 16, 10 a.m., CoN Auditorium.
- Save the Date: Faculty are welcome to join us on Sept. 12, Noon - 1:30 p.m., CoN Bldg., Room 205, for "Tips: Writing and Submitting to Journals for Publication" by Dr. Rose Sherman.
- Drs. Lynne Dunphy, Deborah D'Avolio, Christine Williams and Dean Marlaine Smith completed their integrative nurse coaching program.
- Dr. Maria Ordóñez graduated from the John Hopkins School of Nursing Psych NP program.
- Ten FNP students joined Drs. Palma and Opalinski to provide Back-to-School physicals for patients at the Light of the World Clinic in Fort Lauderdale.
- Several members of FAU's faculty presented at the 21st IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in San Francisco.



## FAU Researcher Develops Nursing Home Guide that Could Save the U.S. Millions of Dollars

Dr. Ruth Tappen, Christine E. Lynn Eminent Scholar in Nursing, developed an innovative, simple and inexpensive tool to help nursing home residents and their family members engage in informed discussions on a number of important and challenging topics

related to their care. The guide could have a dramatic impact on health care savings, morbidity and quality of life in nursing homes across the country.

Hospital readmissions cost the U.S. health care system up to \$14 billion year, even though it is estimated that almost half of them can be avoided. With the support of a \$677,000 grant from The Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute, Dr. Tappen and her team developed "Go to the Hospital or Stay Here? A Decision Guide for Patients and Families," which provides residents and families with vital information to help them make informed decisions about whether or not a transfer to the hospital is necessary.

FAU's College of Nursing, Barry University, and The Larkin Health System have joined forces to launch a pilot program in seven South Florida nursing homes for a much-needed initiative to help avoid unnecessary hospital readmissions.

The guide is available for free at <http://decisionguide.org>. For more information on this research, visit [here](#).



## Nursing Students Help Kids with Type 1 Diabetes Enjoy Summer Camp

Eleven children with Type 1 Diabetes enjoyed an exciting camp experience, made new friends and learned valuable information about managing their diabetes at the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Camp Gene at the Levi Jewish Community Center in Boca Raton.

Dr. Lynne Palma, ADA Camp Gene Nursing Director and FAU Associate Professor, and 10 nurse practitioner students provided medical supervision to help campers adjust to their camp environment. This "lived" experience taught graduate nursing students about the resilience of children as campers engaged in typical camp activities, including swimming, arts and crafts, yoga, magic, science and more. The camp experience empowered the children to feel more independent and self-confident. They were introduced to Heart Math to help articulate emotions and utilize methods to calm emotions. Learn more about their experience [here](#).



*Caring is a Science, and we study it. Caring is an Art, and we practice. Caring is a Way of Being, and we live it.*



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