

SIGMA FOUNDATION FOR NURSING

# Newsletter

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## Message From Foundation Board Chair, Dr. Patrick Palmieri

As a Sigma Foundation for Nursing donor, you are making a difference to nurses around the world. It is thanks to you that our colleagues featured in this newsletter received funding to conduct research and grow as nurse leaders. These opportunities help them advance in their careers and ensure global nursing excellence.

Thank you for being a Sigma Foundation for Nursing donor and making this possible.



Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Palmieri'.

**Dr. Patrick Palmieri**  
Sigma Foundation for Nursing  
Board Chair

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## **Dr. Constance M. Baker continues advancing nursing in Africa through philanthropy**

Dr. Connie Baker, a member of the Alpha Zeta chapter, has donated to Sigma Foundation for Nursing to establish a permanent fund benefiting nurse researchers in Africa 18 years after her first visit to the continent. The Dr. Constance M. Baker Leadership and Research Permanent Fund will provide grants to nurses conducting research in Africa beginning in 2021.



Dr. Baker's generous donation continues the work she undertook in the continent through mentoring nursing students, assisting with curriculum development, and underwriting Past Sigma President May Wykle's trip to Malawi in 2006 to be the keynote speaker at the African Sigma chapter conference. "During my 18 years of 'on the ground' experience with professional nurses in several African countries, I have been so very impressed with their creativity and commitment. I want to enhance their efforts to conduct research on nursing and health issues through this new permanent fund." The Foundation is grateful to Dr. Baker for continuing to advance nursing research and leadership in Africa through her generous donation.

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## **FUTURE**

*Donations to the 21st Century Permanent Fund support emerging Sigma initiatives.*

### ***Growing Global Nursing Excellence through Emerging Leaders***

Learning opportunities for emerging leaders in the global arena are essential for global nursing excellence. To this end, Sigma held the Emerging Global Healthcare Leadership Symposium outside of North America for the first time this year. And we are honored to share that you made this possible with your donations to Sigma Foundation for Nursing's Future Fund.

[Read more about the 2018 Emerging Global Healthcare Leadership Symposium.](#)



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## **LEADERSHIP**

*Donations to the Leadership Fund provide leadership education grants and membership subsidies.*

***Developing new chapter leaders to make Sigma strong***



You helped new chapter leaders attend Sigma's Leadership Connections conference earlier this year. For Jennifer Kowalkowski, one of the leadership education grant recipients, this gave her the opportunity to represent Beta Eta at-Large Chapter.

"The most beneficial experience of the meeting was networking with other Sigma members from across the globe. I was able to establish relationships with both Sigma members and staff, people to whom I am able to turn for support and guidance both in my professional development and as an emerging leader in Sigma."

### ***Delta Theta Chapter Giving Circle donors continue supporting member development***

Earlier this year, Carielle Joy Rio was awarded a grant to attend Sigma's 2018 International Nursing Research Congress. Carielle relocated from the Philippines to Indonesia to serve as a faculty member at Universitas Pelita Harapan. Her knowledge working as a nurse educator in a foreign country made her a valuable addition to Sigma's event, where she shared with other attendees her knowledge of global perspectives of childbirth.

To date, the Delta Theta Chapter Giving Circle donors have funded grants for eleven nurses from developing countries to attend Sigma events.

[Read more about Carielle online](#)



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## RESEARCH

*Donations to the Research Permanent Fund provide small and collaborative research grants.*

### ***You are helping Sunny improve care for individuals with mental illnesses***

As Sunny Chieh Cheng, a recent Sigma research grant recipient, will tell you, mental illness has a big impact not just on the individual diagnosed but also on the caregivers. “Caregiving of an individual with mental illness, which is a chronic illness across life span, is physically, emotionally, and mentally draining.”

Because of you, Sunny received a grant this year to expand her research on Psychosis Risk Syndrome that aims to find solutions and coping strategies for caregivers.

[Read more about Sunny and how her research is impacting a field that has global implications.](#)



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## **Thank you 2017-2018 Sigma Foundation donors!**

Almost 3,500 members, friends of nursing, and chapters donated during the fiscal year ending 30 June 2018. Combined, you donated over US \$1,500,000 (including receipt of major bequests) this year to provide grants and programs for nurse to advance world health.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of nurses!

[2017-2018 Sigma Foundation donors](#)

[Sigma Foundation for Nursing fiscal year ending 30 June 2018 financials](#)

## ***Thank you to our 2018 Founders' Day and Giving Tuesday donors!***

[2018 Founders' Day donors](#)

[2018 Giving Tuesday donors](#)

If you missed these campaigns and want to donate before the end of the calendar year, be sure to call us at +1.317.634.8171 by 21 December or donate online at [SigmaNursing.org/Donate](http://SigmaNursing.org/Donate) by 31 December. Please note, Sigma's offices are closed from 22 December 2018 – 1 January 2019.

## ***Is an IRA disbursement an option for you?***



Just about a year ago, I learned it is possible to make charitable contributions to any nonprofit organization, such as the Sigma Foundation for Nursing, church, or school, directly from my traditional IRA. The only requirement is being at least 70.5 years old. The process is easy. I instructed my plan administrator to make the transfer directly to charities of my choice as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). The major benefit is the gifts are not reported as taxable income and count toward my required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.

This year, I designated the Sigma Foundation as one of my gifts. If you haven't taken your 2018 RMD yet, do consider the Sigma Foundation. Otherwise, there is 2019!

To learn more about donating from your IRA, contact Lynn Lambuth at the Foundation, +1.317.917.4905 or [lynn@sigmanursing.org](mailto:lynn@sigmanursing.org)

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[Make more of these opportunities available for nurses.](#)

[Donate Today »](#)

**Get social!**



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