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## Research Grants and Leadership Opportunities

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### Important Information and Opportunities from FCNI Leadership

Please take a few minutes to read the following update describing important information and opportunities for faith community nurses and FCNI members. First, thanks to all of our current and returning leaders. We are growing quickly and you can look forward to an increased number of articles and research reported in the next few editions of IJFCN. New sections will be added including book reviews and FCNI news.

#### **Research Grant Opportunity**

In May, 2015 I had the privilege of speaking at the gala celebration of the Faith Community Nurse Network of the Greater Twin Cities (FCNNTC) in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The event marked the ten year anniversary of FCNN. More than 500 members strong the organization is a private, nonprofit service agency founded in 2004 by and for faith community nurses to champion faith community nursing through education, research, program development, advocacy, and leadership. There are active faith community nursing programs in more than 250 Christian, Jewish and Muslim congregations in the Twin Cities Metro area. FCNNTC has provided more than \$65,000 in program grants to faith community nurses, they have established a faith community nursing collection in the Hennepin County Library system, and they provide scholarships to one-third of the students attending our *Foundations of Faith Community Nursing* courses. FCNNTC also provides continuing education symposiums every year for FCNs, each valued at 3.6 contact hours.

To promote research in faith community nursing, FCNNTC began offering \$1,500 research grants to nursing scholars in 2014. Nursing scholars currently enrolled in PhD or DNP programs are eligible for the grants. A successful proposal will demonstrate the potential to advance the work of faith community nursing by focusing directly on faith community nursing practice, its effectiveness, and its impact.

Additional details regarding the application process and FCNN can be found on our website at [www.fcnn.org](http://www.fcnn.org). If you have additional questions you may contact Wanda Alexander, RN, MPH, the agency's Treasurer & Operating Officer at [wanda.alexander@hennepin.us](mailto:wanda.alexander@hennepin.us) or 612/280-3155.

#### **FCNI Leadership Opportunity**

The members of Faith Community Nurses International (FCNI) recently ratified the organization bylaws. As the first professional specialty organization this is exciting news. Currently we are identifying FCNI members interested in serving the organization through representation on the executive board. This group will support the executive committee. According to the bylaws we need a nine member Board of Directors and five members who will serve as the leadership succession committee. An email was previously sent to all members. If you are interested in providing leadership to our group as we grow please contact Andy West ([amwestrn@yahoo.com](mailto:amwestrn@yahoo.com)) and pull up the approved bylaws sent via email to review the board roles.

If you are not a member, please consider joining our organization. We have membership in the majority of the states in the U.S. and in several countries abroad. The membership brochure can be accessed at the journal home page. You may also contact me for further information.