Vanderbilt University Medical Center was all set to host the 9th annual International Patient- and Family-Centered Care (IPFCC) Conference and then the pandemic hit. Instead of canceling the event like most had to do, the conference was moved to a virtual platform in record time. It was a great success!  ► Page 9

Two additional advisory groups joined our cabinet in 2020: Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center and Congenital Heart  ► Page 5

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Leadership

Vanderbilt’s patient- and family-centered engagement is an innovative approach to the planning, delivery, and evaluation of health care. It’s grounded in mutually beneficial partnerships among our patients, their families, and their health care providers.

MONROE CARELL JR. CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AT VANDERBILT

Janet N. Cross, M.Ed., CCLS, CPXP
Administrative Director, Patient- and Family-Centered Care

Rebecca Martinez, 2020 Chair

VANDERBILT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Rhonda Ashley-Dixon, MA
Vice President, Strategic Partnerships and Engagement

Flo Lewis, 2020 Chair

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Terrell Smith, MSN, RN
Senior Director, Patient and Family Engagement

Suzanne Ezell, 2020 Chair
Our history
MONROE CARELL JR. CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AT VANDERBILT (1995)
- Members: 18 parents and guardians whose children receive health care and treatment at Children’s Hospital and clinics
- Meets monthly
- One of the longest-running patient and family advisory councils in the U.S.
- 4 clinical advisory groups: Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Cystic Fibrosis, Primary Care, and Pediatric Bereaved Family
- Participation on hospital committees
- Active participation and problem-solving with Hospital Acquired Condition Quality Work Groups

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (2007)
- Members: 25 patients and their family members who receive health care at Vanderbilt University Hospital or clinics
- Meets monthly
- 12 patients and family members, nominated by their nurses and physicians, were invited to participate
- In addition to the council, there is a Heart Transplant Clinical Advisory Group
- Value of council is recognized by leaders, managers, researchers, faculty, and staff members
- Intelligent, thoughtful, well-informed, candid individuals eager to collaborate to improve Vanderbilt’s quality and service
- Acts as advisors and participants with institution planners

VANDERBILT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (2012)
- Members: 12 patients or family members who received health care from Vanderbilt Behavioral Health
- Meets monthly
- Key leaders recognized a need to more effectively engage patients and families
- Focuses on overall treatment experience and the redesign of programs, services, and facility aspects
- Includes representation from all levels of care including inpatient services, outpatient services, and partial hospitalization programs
- Acts as a resource to behavioral health councils across the country

ADVISE VANDERBILT (2015)
- Members: 5,000 patients who receive care at Vanderbilt University Medical Center
- Medical Center recognized that not all patients and family members could come to a monthly meeting on campus
- Reaches a broader demographic of patients who come to us for treatment
- Participated in over 30 surveys
- Expanded to include Children’s Hospital and LGBTQ patients
- Survey response rate consistently exceeds national average
- Large percentage of advisors are willing to come on campus for special collaboration
Vanderbilt Health

Advisory Council

Structure

Our advisory council cabinet is comprised of our chairs (past, present, and elect) from all three councils, Advise Vanderbilt, and 7 advisory groups.

DR. MEG RUSH, PRESIDENT
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

“I’m so very appreciative of our Family Advisory Council. As we roll out both small and large initiatives, we rely on the input from this group to guide our planning from the perspective of children and families. As we seek continued improvement in safety and quality, their insight and suggestions provide important information. What’s most special to me to experience as I work with this wonderful group is their heartfelt connection to all that we do across the Children’s enterprise. I’m so grateful to have them as true team members.”
COMMITTEES & COUNCILS

Age-Friendly Initiative Committee
Bereaved Family Advisory Group
Bereavement Committee
Cancer Patient Safety Learning Laboratory (CaPSLL) Research Steering Committee
Clinical Pastoral Education Professional Advisory Group
Cystic Fibrosis Advisory Group
Defining Personalized Care Committee
End of Life Steering Committee
Executive Diversity Council
Medication Use Safety Improvement Committee (MUSIC)
Neonatal Intensive Care Advisory Group
Nursing Awards Committee
Nursing Quality Committee
Patient Engagement Steering Committee
Patient Experience Committee
Patient Portal
Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Research Committee
Pediatric Emergency Dept. Patient Experience Committee
Pediatric Patient Education Oversight Committee
Pediatric Primary Care Advisory Group
Pediatric Staff Nurse Council
Strategy Share 2020 Planning Committee
Transplant Advisory Group
Undergraduate Medical Education Committee (UMEC)
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center Advisory Group

WORK GROUPS

Behavioral Health Outreach Materials
Behavioral Health Volunteer Services
Council Award
COVID-19 Communication and Visitor Policy
GetWell Planning and Design Session
Support/Education Groups

HOSPITAL ACQUIRED CONDITION QUALITY WORK GROUPS

Adverse Drug Events
Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI)
Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infection (CLABSI)
Falls
Peripheral Intravenous Infiltration Extravasation (PIVIE)
Pressure Injury

TRACY HARPER, COUNCIL MEMBER
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

“One of my personal goals is to be a voice for the voiceless. Serving on the council lets me achieve that goal. Equity and access are important to me, and this board strives to ensure that everything that the medical center does is inclusive and accessible for all.”
Our people

Our councils welcome all patients and families. We strive to include people with diverse backgrounds so that we fully represent the large variety of health care issues, diagnoses, and cultures of VUMC patients.

REBECCA MARTINEZ, COUNCIL CHAIR
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

"Being part of the council allows me to engage in meaningful work where benefiting children and families is the highest priority."
MONROE CARELL JR. CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AT VANDERBILT

Lara Barnhouse  
Alison Bynum  
Jessica Davenport  
Cheryl Fields  
Pam Gaffney  
Josh Graham  

Tonya Graham  
Sara Hanai  
Rhonda Kinslow  
Rebecca Martinez, Chair  
Allison McCoy  
Jama Mohamed  

Chris Roark  
Cristin Roark  
Amy Smith  
Brittany Swanson  
Codosta Thomas  
Susan Waggoner  

VANDERBILT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Rosemary DeWilde  
Cecilia Dodd  
Flo Lewis, Chair  
Miranda Nelson  

Maggie Samuchin  
Anne Sheridan  
Dana Smith  
Ellen Smith  

Renee Thompson-Gill  
Katie Welsh  
Pat Williams  
Kathy Woodard  

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Allison Bailey  
Rob Blackford  
Pam Bryan  
Joel Buckberg  
Harold Davis  
Dianne Denton  
Suzanne Ezell, Chair  
Lynn Ferguson  
Rachelle Franklin  

Scott Gale  
Mark Glessner  
Larry Goldberg  
Tracy Harper  
Debi Hoggatt  
Pam James  
Alex Kelso  
Hannah Lee  
Don McSurley  

Jason Morgan  
Janice Poma  
Janice Savage  
John Stein  
Tayranette Williams  
Jennifer Windh  
Barbara Yudiskas
The 9th annual conference addressed disparities in health and health care, and collaboration among health care professionals, patients, and families. Presenters shared innovations at direct care, organizational, community, regional, and national levels. Educational sessions were co-presented by health care professionals, patients, and families.

VUMC provided leadership support and guidance for all aspects of conference program planning and internal marketing. Beaumont Health provided partnership support. Enthusiastic attendees joined us from 38 states and 16 countries!

COMMENTS FROM ATTENDEES

"It was abundantly clear that a great deal of thought and effort went into the creation of the virtual conference and all involved...went to great lengths to ensure that we, as participants, could not only take part in the conference but feel like we were a part of the conference even though we couldn't be there in person."

"The value of the conference is a 10+. The expertise and coordination to present the conference online was flawless. The content of the presentations are so relevant and the deliveries are engaging."

"Provided great insight into benefits of care by the medical field that is centered around the family and caregivers. What a valuable opportunity for the medical community to be open to listening to the ideas and views of patients and caregivers. What a gift to patients and caregivers that the medical community readily welcomes feedback and suggestions."

"Thanks for all the work you did to continue the tradition of putting on a top quality conference in this new virtual world!"
INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP MODEL FOR INTEGRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A P2P PROGRAM

— Kara Adams, Council member, Director for Family Voices of Tennessee
— Sara Hanai, MSPT, Council member, Senior Patient Experience Consultant, VUMC

THE ROLE OF THE PATIENT AND FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

— Rhonda Ashley-Dixon, MA, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships & Engagement
— Avni Cirpili, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Officer, Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital/Vanderbilt Behavioral Health
— Kathy Woodard, BS, Past chair, Council member

THE FACES OF A FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL: IT’S NOT JUST FILLING BUCKETS

— Sara Hanai, MSPT, Council member, Senior Patient Experience Consultant, VUMC
— Rhonda Kinslow, JD, Council member
— Jama Mohamed, BA, Council member, Youth Program Coordinator for Family Voices of Tennessee
— Susan Waggoner, BA, Council member, Youth Program Coordinator for Family Voices of Tennessee

Behavioral Health
Children’s Hospital
Our pillars and purpose

OUR PILLARS

People
We nurture a caring, culturally sensitive, and professional atmosphere as we continuously invest in the well-being and aspirations of our people.

Service
Collegiality is a central characteristic of our culture and defines how we serve our patients, those we teach, and the local and worldwide community.

OUR PURPOSE

The councils contribute to the education of patients, families, and health care providers.

The councils partner with health care teams to promote core concepts of patient- and family-centered care.
The five Pillars of Excellence are the Vanderbilt framework for setting organizational goals and direction. They provide a balanced approach to our goals, evaluations, and communication. Together our pillars and our purpose support mutual partnerships.

**Quality**

We relentlessly pursue and measure ourselves against the highest quality performance in all areas, from patient care to scholarship.

*The councils collaborate with staff and faculty to improve quality.*

**Growth & Finance**

We invest our resources in a manner that supports our long-term obligation to society: to achieve local, national, and worldwide impact in improving health.

*The councils promote positive relationships between the health care system and the community.*

**Innovation**

We seek excellence and leadership as we advance our systems of care, educational practices, and our commitment to discovery.

*The councils offer input to leadership in planning and evaluating services and programs.*
People

TAYRANETTE WILLIAMS, COUNCIL MEMBER
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

"Being a member of the council means an opportunity to serve those in our community. I’ve watched Vanderbilt’s network expand across county lines reaching those living in my military community. Our connectivity facilitates unlimited access across the state and across state lines."

DANA SMITH, COUNCIL MEMBER
VANDERBILT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

"When I first joined, I wasn’t sure what to expect. It didn’t take long for me to realize the positive vision of the council and see that vision turn into reality for the patients, their families, and friends. It’s been an honor to be a part of a group comprised of caring individuals and Vanderbilt leaders all working together to help others."
**FEEDBACK**

- Revised pediatric menu to include healthy choices
- Provided feedback on the Mental Health Specialist role converting to a Behavioral Health Specialist role
- Provided feedback on existing outreach materials

**WORK GROUPS & COMMITTEES**

- Heart Transplant Advisory Group published first newsletter
- Provided mental health in the pandemic discussion during combined councils meeting (May)

**PARTNERSHIPS**

- Marketing: COVID-19 videos
- Hosted representatives from Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital
- Provided feedback to Dr. Rosenbloom about Access to Patient Information

**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT**

- "Surgery Passport" for Autism spectrum patients
- Primary Care Advisory Group newsletter
- End of life resources for families

**TRAINING**

- 556 new Children’s Hospital employees
- 5929 new VUMC employees
- 110 new Behavioral Health employees

**EVENTS**

- Beryl Institute Conference presenters
- IPFCC conference presenters

**RENOVATION/EXPANSION**

- COVID-19 screening signage
Service

ANNE SHERIDAN, COUNCIL MEMBER
VANDERBILT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

"The invitation to work with members of the council arrived at a perfect moment for me. After a difficult path to find a way of life for our loved one, I’m grateful to contribute and experience the council’s quest for excellence. When I hear thoughtful and intelligent suggestions from compassionate council members, my sense of hope for the future is renewed."

ALISON BYNUM, COUNCIL MEMBER
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

"Serving on the council shows me through data and relationships with hospital leaders, providers, and staff that my children receive high quality care at Children’s Hospital. And I feel heard when I have a concern. I appreciate the mindset that, while we are already doing a great job, we can always make it better. The patient and family perspective is valued in this place."
PARTNERSHIPS

- Partnered with Family Voices to recruit and train families for Parent 2 Parent (P2P) Network
- Hosted reps from MHA Mid-South to discuss community resources

TRAINING

- Trained Meharry Medical students through family faculty program
- Volunteer Services Trainings for council members to participate in targeted activities within the hospital

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- End of life educational resources for nursing staff to bolster their ability to care for patients

WORK GROUPS & COMMITTEES

- Heart Transplant Advisory Group published first newsletter
- Outreach materials update

VOLUNTEERING

- 759 Children's Hospital volunteer hours
- 236 Behavioral Health volunteer hours
- 695 VUMC volunteer hours

FEEDBACK

- Telehealth COVID-19 survey
- Feedback on prescription information in E-Star demo
- Feedback on technology use on the inpatient units
- Spiritual support survey (input and suggestions)
Quality

SUSAN WAGGONER, COUNCIL MEMBER
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

"It’s an honor and privilege to be a member of the Children’s Hospital Council. Representing patients and families at council meetings, work groups, and even an international conference is a remarkable accomplishment, especially during a world pandemic. Patient and family-centered care continues to be a priority and the Council is that voice."

DEBI HOGGATT, COUNCIL MEMBER
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

"When we arrived at VUMC several years ago, we were navigating a confusing maze of choices as my husband grew steadily worse. I believe that the VUMC saved his life, and it’s gratifying to have a way to give back."
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- Participated in developing undergraduate Medical Education Curriculum
- Participated in the development of the patient goal setting process
- Revised Home Medicine Policy (provided to parents before surgery)
- Developed EMU visit preparation tools related to home medications
- Provided input as the Co-Occurring Disorders Intensive Outpatient Program was launched
- Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infection (CLABSI) prevention tool
- Provided input on overall patient experience metrics
- Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) prevention tool

FEEDBACK

- Cares Act (Interoperability and recommendation to upload pictures on My Health at Vanderbilt)
- COVID-19 Vaccination input survey
- Bed management related to clinical issues, medical issues, aggressive or disruptive behaviors, and transgender patients.
- COVID-19 post activity survey (critical insights)
- Vanderbilt Heath Affiliated Network Care Paths: Osteoarthritis (Knee & Hip) feedback
- Vanderbilt Heath Affiliated Network Care Paths: Weight Management

WORK GROUPS & COMMITTEES

- Strategy and development for pressure injury prevention related to equipment

PARTNERSHIPS

- Collaborated with health care team on patient-centered medical homes

DESIGN PROJECTS

- Updated TLC (Touch, Look, Compare) poster to prevent PIVIES (Peripheral Intravenous Infiltration Extravasation)
- Vanderbilt University Hospital Age-Friendly Initiative
- Created TLC (Touch, Look, Compare) business card for parents
Growth & Finance

ROSEMARY DEWILDE, COUNCIL MEMBER
VANDERBILT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
"I’m proud to serve on the council. The work we do helps patients and families who have been impacted by mental health issues. It benefits all of us as we work to help others learn from our experiences. I appreciate that Vanderbilt uses our input and suggestions to bring about positive changes for patients and their families."

LYNN FERGUSON, COUNCIL MEMBER
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
"My participation on the council is important because it allows me to partner with Vanderbilt leadership. I’m able to give insights about the medical center’s strengths and areas where changes may be needed to help patients be active partners in our care."
EVENTS

- 6 family advisors in VUMC 2020 Strategy Share

RENOVATION/EXPANSION

- New units and restacking plan for Medical Center East
- Provided feedback for the renovation of the Vanderbilt Behavioral Health kitchen

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- Converted all in-person council meetings to a virtual platform due to COVID-19
- Provided feedback as Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital launched its new Wellness Services

PARTNERSHIPS

- Listening session with Plain Community (Amish and Mennonite) to identify barriers for their culture in consuming health care

DESIGN PROJECTS

- Collaborated with Meds to Beds initiative (GetWell Network)

WORK GROUPS & COMMITTEES

- New Heart Transplant Advisory Group
- New Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center Advisory Group
Innovation

BRITTANY SWANSON, COUNCIL MEMBER
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

"Serving on the council enables me to advocate not only for my son but for families like ours who deserve a voice when it comes to their care. While serving on the council, I’m apprised of the promises Vanderbilt makes to the families it serves. In turn, I’m being asked to hold them to those promises. It’s a privilege to play a role in improving the care received by thousands of families."

DON MCSURLEY, COUNCIL MEMBER
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

"Open and honest dialog between VUMC leadership and the council has proven time and again that Vanderbilt not only listens, it acts. The end result is a more patient-centered organization that strives daily to bring the very best care to its patients. I’m proud to be a Council member."
Feedback for My Health at Vanderbilt: support of management and Telehealth during COVID-19

Provided feedback for launch of internal Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital Covid Unit

Provided feedback for the development of a Behavioral Health Call Center

__Work Groups & Committees__

Cancer Patient Safety Learning Laboratory (CaPSLL) Research Steering Committee

__Design Projects__

- Virtual memorial service
- Developed 2 grief videos: “Getting Through the Holidays” and “How Spouses Grieve Differently”
- Virtual Time for Remembering bereavement ceremony
- New Patient Promise video

__Partnerships__

- Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care virtual conference (pages 9–10)

__Volunteering__

- Assisted in the development of a Behavioral Health-specific Volunteer Orientation Manual

__Training__

- Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care conference (pages 9–10)

__Quality Improvement__

- Hosted Pharmacy liaison for updated Meds to Beds program