



Where would you like to see gerontological nursing education to be at in 5 years?

In 5 years I hope to see gerontological nursing truly thriving and be an independent focus of study throughout all curriculum's since it truly is a specialty and the number of this population is increasing daily.

Favorite experience as a gerontological nurse expert educator?

My favorite experience was taking a group of students to Montgomery Alabama to lobby for the Silver alert bill. The bill was passed shortly after our visit and since signed into effect by the governor. This advocacy day was so powerful for students and they quoted "we will always remember we were part of something so beneficial to senior adults."

Key words of wisdom for those nurses interested in becoming a distinguished educator in gerontological nursing education?

As a distinguished educator and member of the Expert Panel for Development of Gerontological Nurse Educator Competencies, it is crucial to prepare the workforce to care for our aging population. The recognition identifies individuals qualified to teach gerontological nursing content and application at all educational levels and in clinical settings. I hope others will jump in, apply, and obtain recognition as a distinguished educator

Who is a key person who supported you in becoming a gerontological nurse educator?

I had two key influences in choosing my path as a gerontological nurse educator and I am thankful for them both. Dr. Karen Frith whom was my DNP chair and associate Dean of Undergraduate studies at The University of Alabama in Huntsville. Dr. Frith was always supportive and encouraging and believed in me and gave me opportunity.



Amy Hunter
DNP, CRNP-BC, BSN, RN
University of Alabama in Huntsville

My collaborative physician, Dr. Zaheer Khan, a geriatric specialist and a collaborative partner at the University also always supported me and encouraged me to educate and advocate for the future of geriatric nursing.

What motivated you to become a gerontological nurse educator?

I was motivated to become a Gerontological nurse educator due to my love for the geriatric population. I wanted to ensure that future nurses had the passion, experience, and skills to care for this special population. It is my hope that my spirit and passion for geriatrics could possibly affect students and in turn lead to better care for older adults.

About Amy

When I first decided to be a nurse, I wanted to specialize in gerontological nursing. Advanced preparation influences care of older adults, research, policy, and the education of the next generation. I am a Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner and my passion is gerontology. I finished my Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) degree in December of 2015 with a scholarly project focus of "Exercise and Fall Prevention in Older Adults" in collaboration with Dr. Zaheer Khan. I am a full time faculty member at The University of Alabama in Huntsville and teach in the undergraduate nursing program specializing in Gerontological nursing care also in collaboration with Dr. Zaheer Khan and the Center for Elder Care.

I am current in practice and work at The Center for Elder Care in Huntsville. The Center for Elder Care focuses on geriatrics and all patients are over the age of 65. The clinic is a patient centered medical home (PCMH) for geriatrics and the providers were nationally recognized by NCQA in 2017.

My mission is to bring passion and positivity to the future nursing workforce for the geriatric population.