

NATIONAL APP WEEK

UVA HEALTH | MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

THE FULL PICTURE

FROM THE ICU TO THE BOARDROOM,
APPS ARE BUILDING THE PROFESSION
FROM EVERY DIRECTION.

THE PULSE OF PROGRESS

**THE CARE IS THE CREDENTIAL.
APPs EARN BOTH EVERY DAY.**

FROM A LIFE-SAVING INTERVENTION IN INFECTIOUS DISEASE TO A FELLOWSHIP REDEFINING APP LEADERSHIP AT STANFORD, THIS ISSUE SHOWS WHAT THE PROFESSION LOOKS LIKE AT ITS BEST.

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From The Desk

A MESSAGE FROM APP LEADERSHIP

As this conversation continues to evolve, one theme remains clear: while the scale and impact of our profession are significant, and while our collective strength drives meaningful progress, it is ultimately the people behind the work who bring that impact to life.

The story of Advanced Practice is not only told through numbers, roles, or even shared challenges. It is experienced through the moments of care, connection, and leadership that happen every day across the country. It is in these moments that the true heartbeat of our profession becomes visible.

In my role as an Advanced Practice leader, I have the privilege of witnessing APPs bring compassionate, expert care to life across nearly every specialty and setting. It is both humbling and inspiring to see the difference our profession makes each day. When I reflect on the lives touched by APPs across our organization and across the nation, I am filled with deep pride and gratitude for the impact of this work.



Britney Broyles

From delivering babies, to leading resuscitations in the ICU, to procuring organs, to caring for patients in schools, psychiatric hospitals, urgent care centers, and beyond, APPs are woven into every corner of healthcare delivery. We are the steady presence, the trusted communicator, and the connector who keeps care moving forward with both excellence and heart. The dedication, versatility, and humanity APPs bring to patients and teams alike deserve to be fully seen and celebrated.

Our profession carries a unique and powerful responsibility, one that is essential to expanding access, transforming care, and meeting the evolving needs of our communities. As we reflect on those who helped shape this path, we recognize how far we have come and the meaningful future we are building together.

During National APP Week, we honor not only the achievements of our profession, but the compassion, commitment, and excellence that define it. Every patient touched, every family supported, and every life changed reflects the extraordinary impact of APPs across the nation. It is a privilege to celebrate this profession and the people who continue to elevate it with every interaction.

Now, in this third issue, we bring the focus to what makes that progress real: the people.

Behind every data point, every advancement, and every story of impact are APPs whose work defines the heart of healthcare. This is where the story becomes more personal, grounded not only in what we achieve, but in how we show up for patients, families, and one another every day.

APP SPOTLIGHT 01

AVNI PATEL

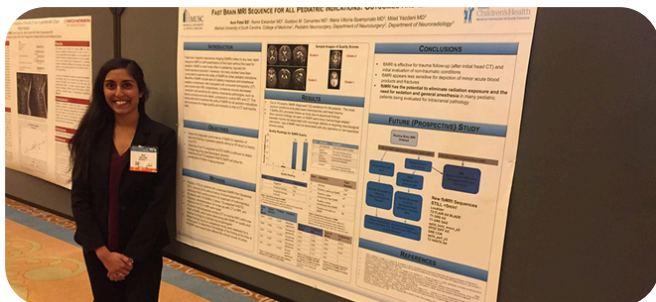
PA-C, Infectious Disease at Ascension Alexian Brothers Medical Center

A post-operative patient was declining. The signs were subtle enough that they could have been missed, documented, and followed up later. Avni Patel caught them, identified a life-threatening complication, and mobilized the right resources immediately. The patient survived.

That moment is one data point in a 22-year record of clinical precision at Ascension Alexian Brothers Medical Center. As a PA-C in infectious disease, Avni carries the kind of foundational knowledge that makes her the person colleagues call when a case stops making sense. She is consistently available, consistently thorough, and consistently right.

But the clinical work is only part of the picture.

Avni is an active member of the hospital's APP committee, committed to the goals of the institution and to the broader work of advancing the profession from within. Last year, she made it her mission to document what her colleagues looked like, collecting photographs of every APP on staff and producing a video that was shared during APP Week. It was not assigned to her. It was not in her job description. She saw something worth doing and did it.



She also organized her APP colleagues to volunteer at Young Hearts 4 Life, a program that screens high school students with ECGs to identify undetected cardiac conditions. The students who walk through that screening do not know Avni's name. They do not know what a PA-C is. They just know someone showed up and checked.

That is the pattern. Across 22 years, in the ICU, in the committee room, and on a Saturday morning with a group of teenagers who needed someone to care, Avni Patel shows up.

APP SPOTLIGHT 02



ALLISON KOCH

PA-C, Administrative Fellow, Center for Advanced Practice at Stanford Health Care

For many APPs, leadership opportunities come later in their careers, often after years of clinical practice and experience. Allison Koch has taken a different path.

As an Administrative Fellow at Stanford Health Care's Center for Advanced Practice, Allison is completing a year-long fellowship designed to prepare APPs for leadership roles within healthcare organizations. Programs like this are still relatively uncommon, and Stanford's fellowship is fully accredited with distinction by the APP Fellowship Accreditation organization.

Before joining the fellowship, Allison worked in Cardiology and Cardio-OB, caring for patients with complex cardiovascular conditions during pregnancy. The role required close collaboration across specialties, careful coordination of care, and the ability to balance multiple priorities at once. Those same skills have proven valuable in her current work.

During the fellowship, Allison partners with APP, clinical, and operational leaders on projects focused on improving workflows, increasing efficiency, and supporting quality patient care across the organization. She is also helping organize Stanford's local APP Week activities, contributing to efforts that recognize and celebrate the work of APPs throughout the institution.

Leadership in healthcare requires a different set of skills than clinical practice alone, which is why programs like this exist. By continuing to build on her clinical experience while gaining exposure to operational and strategic leadership, Allison is preparing for a role that bridges both worlds.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



JENNIFER ALVIS

**MSN, FNP-BC Family Nurse Practitioner
at VCU Health**

WHEN THE WORK COMES HOME

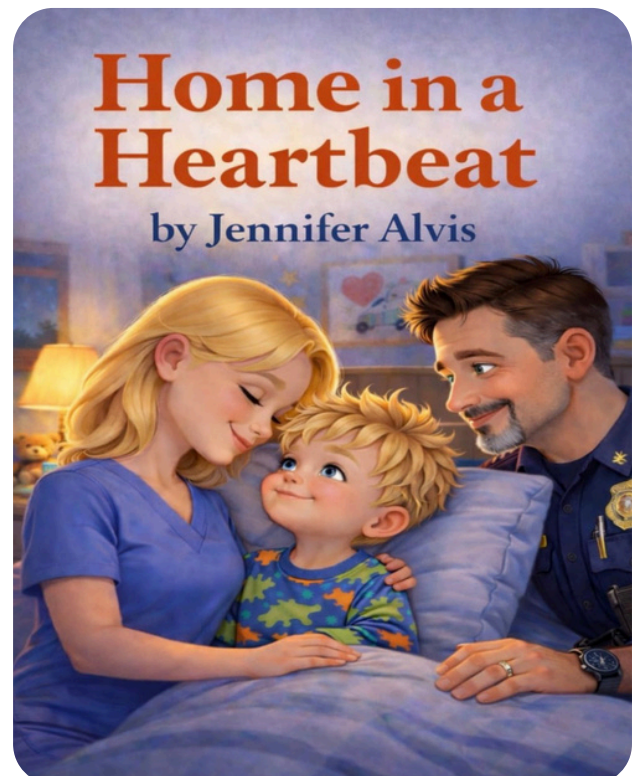
Healthcare workers carry their work home in ways that are hard to explain to anyone who has not lived it. The missed dinners, the mental replays of difficult cases, the particular exhaustion that does not go away with sleep. For the families on the other side of that experience, the children especially, the absence is real, even when the love is not in question.

Jennifer Alvis decided to write about it.

Her children's book, "Home in a Heartbeat," tells the story of a frontline worker's family navigating the emotional reality of long hours and demanding schedules. It is not a clinical text or a professional achievement in the traditional sense. It is something harder to produce: an honest, accessible account of what it actually feels like to wait for someone who is always taking care of someone else.

The book is available on Amazon. It will find its way to children who need to hear that their parent's absence is not indifference. It will find its way to parents who need to hand their child something that says: I know this is hard, and I see you.

Jennifer Alvis is a Family Nurse Practitioner at VCU Health. This is what she does outside of that.



ON THE GROUND

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER MEDICINE ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

Some institutions talk about APP development. The University of Rochester Medical Center has been building the infrastructure for it since 2015.

Across a workforce of more than 1,200 APPs, URMC has constructed something that most health systems have not: a full professional lifecycle model. Fellowship programs with an 85% completion rate and 86% retention at two years. A three-tier advancement model that gave 20 APPs a defined path forward this year alone. Dedicated roles in informatics, wellbeing, and leadership development. And in 2025, an attrition rate that dropped from 14.2% to 8.6%.

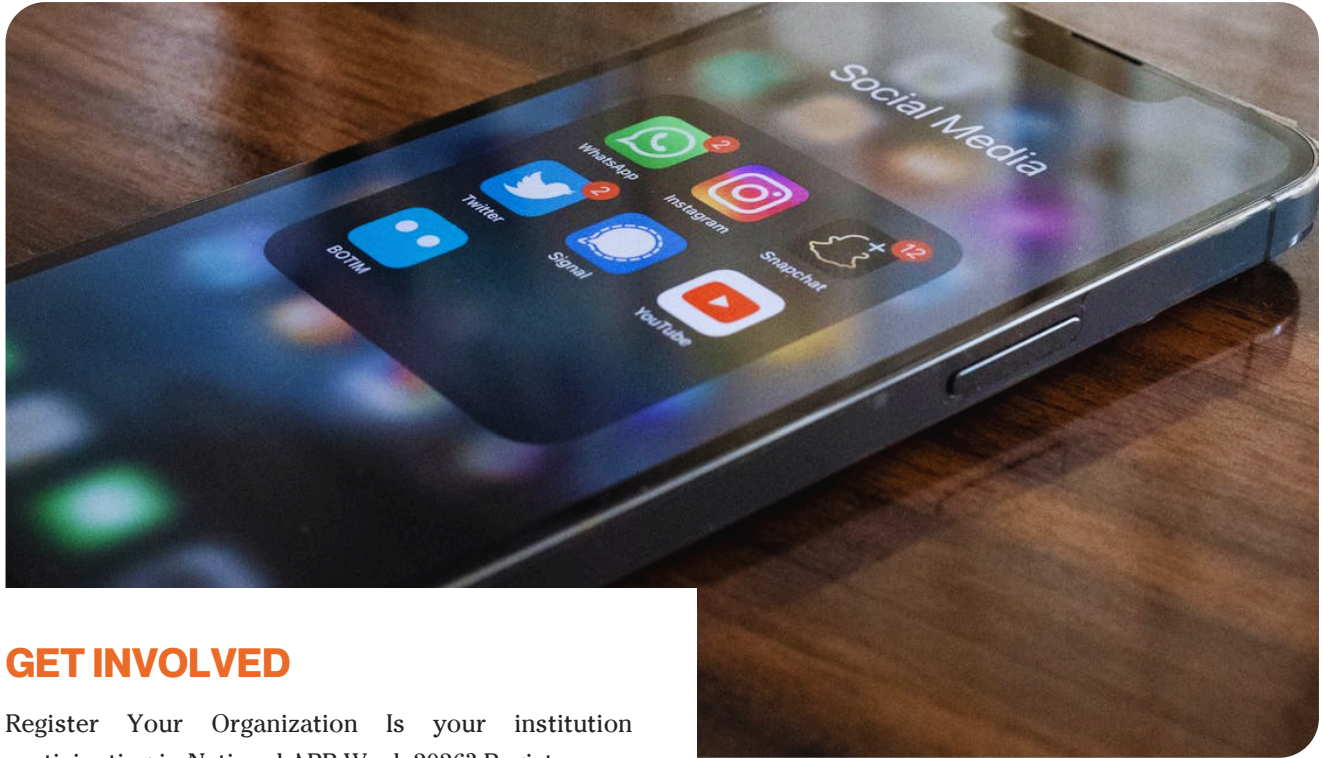
Those numbers do not happen by accident. They happen because someone decided that retaining and developing APPs was worth building systems around.

In the next edition, we go deeper into how URMC is doing it, and what other institutions can learn from a model that has been tested, refined, and producing results for over a decade.



The full story runs in Edition 04, July 2026.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY



GET INVOLVED

Register Your Organization Is your institution participating in National APP Week 2026? Register now to be listed as an official participating organization and have your logo featured on the National APP Week website.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

SHARE YOUR STORY

Every edition of this newsletter features APPs driving measurable impact. If you have a story - a quality improvement initiative, a program you built, an outcome worth documenting - submit it for consideration.

[SUBMIT HERE](#)

SUBMIT YOUR CONTENT

Photos and videos from your institution celebrating National APP Week are welcome. Share what your team is doing.

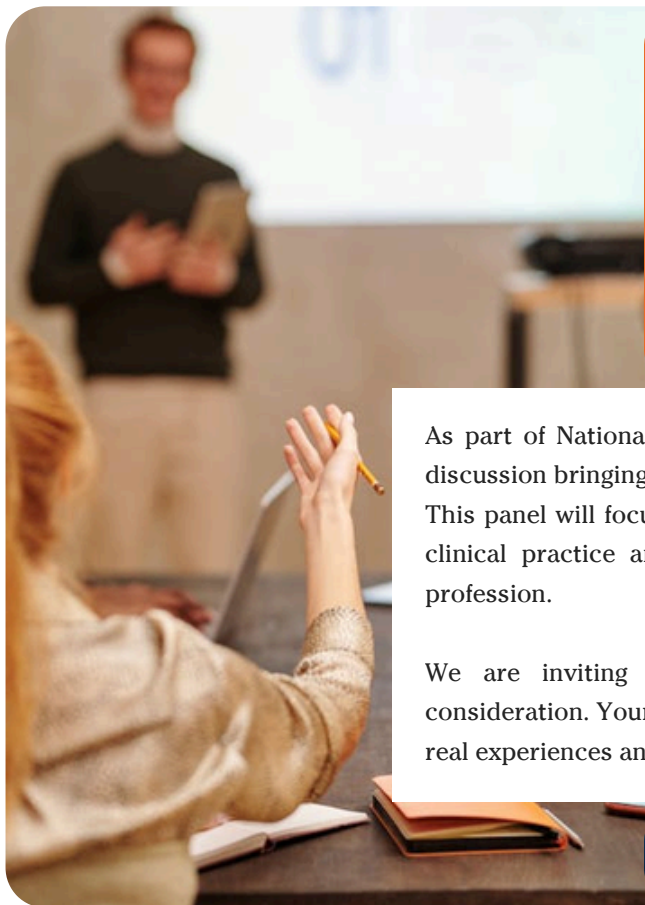
[SUBMIT HERE](#)

STAY CONNECTED

Stay Connected Follow National APP Week on social media and share your participation using the official hashtags. Tag your institution, your team, and your stories.



MEET THE PRESIDENT'S PANEL



Submit your questions to help shape the National APP Week 2026 President's Panel.

As part of National APP Week 2026, we will be hosting a President's Panel discussion bringing together national leaders across Advanced Practice. This panel will focus on the questions that matter most to APPs today, from clinical practice and workforce challenges to the future direction of the profession.

We are inviting APPs across organizations to submit questions for consideration. Your input will help shape the discussion and ensure it reflects real experiences and priorities from across the field.

[**SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION**](#)

Bringing together leaders from across national Advanced Practice organizations, the President's Panel reflects a collective voice shaping the direction of the profession. Each panelist represents a distinct perspective within the APP landscape, contributing insight, experience, and leadership at both the clinical and system level.

PANEL

VALERIE FULLER

American Association of Nurse Practitioners

JACKELINE ISELER

National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists

DAVID BUNNELL

American Academy of Physician Associates

TRACY YOUNG

American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology

EMILY MYCYK

American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants

PETER JOHNSON

American College of Nurse Midwives

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

NOMINATION WINDOW: JULY 1 - JULY 31, 2026

National APP Week 2026 recognizes Advanced Practice Providers whose work has made a measurable difference in their teams, their institutions, and the profession. Nominations open July 1. Six categories, one window, one month to submit.



AWARD CATEGORIES

RISING STAR AWARD	→	0-5 YEARS
EMERGING LEADER AWARD	→	6-12 YEARS
APP OF THE YEAR AWARD	→	13+ YEARS
APP TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD	→	MINIMUM 3 APPS, EXECUTIVE ENDORSEMENT REQUIRED
APP MENTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD	→	MINIMUM 10 YEARS
APP LEGACY BUILDER AWARD	→	MINIMUM 10 YEARS

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Contact Questions, story submissions, or newsletter feedback: CUK7UB@uvahealth.org

For any sponsorship-related inquiries, please contact: BTT6JH@uvahealth.org

www.nationalappweek.com