



Articles & Features

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MVAMC Teams Up with Academia during Annual Affiliation Tea

By Aggie Llewellyn, RN,MSN, CS, CWOCN-Chief Education and Learning Resource Section

Education Learning Resources hosted the Annual Affiliation Tea on March 26 to provide an opportunity for affiliated university faculty and deans to meet with Martinsburg VA Medical Center (MVAMC) clinical preceptors, leadership, and coordinators.

The MVAMC is affiliated with nearly 60 universities nationwide and hosts an average of 550 clinical trainees and students annually. This year, over 30 professionals participated in the program, sharing feedback on clinical trainee internships and clinical rotations.

During the event, faculty were updated on initiatives for clinical trainee orientation to the facility, computer security and access, and safety guidelines.

An update on Martinsburg's Nursing Service progress toward achieving national recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center Pathway to Excellence designation was presented by Nursing Workforce Development Coordinator Anna Riegle.

The first phase toward achieving this award has been completed and results of the April staff survey must be finalized before confirmation. If earned, the MVAMC would be the first VAMC nationally to proudly achieve this honor.

Staff recognition for exemplary performance was also another highlight of the Affiliation Tea where Affiliation Coordinator Barbara Falcone was recognized for her work during the past seven years in creating a program for associated health clinical trainees.



On March 26 the MVAMC teamed up with partners during the Annual Affiliation Tea event. From left to right: Maria Applewood, 5a Unit Based Educator ; Kathy Dilley, Shepherd University faculty; Anne Smith, ICU Nurse Manager ; Joy Phillips, 6a Nurse Manager; Kathy Graham, Clinical Instructor; and Anna Riegle, Workforce Development Coordinator. *Photo: VA / Jim Roberston*

At the tea, Falcone was recognized for increasing the numbers of trainees, enhancing the quality of their experience, and improving the number of affiliated schools and programs.

Another very positive outcome of the event was exceptional participant feedback regarding the clinical trainee program, as well as the image of the medical center within the community. This feedback included the processing of clinical trainees, willingness of staff to learn and share expertise, variety of experiences, the library, and patient education resources.

For further information on clinical trainee and internships programs, contact Barbara Falcone at ext. 4243 or visit the [Education Spotlight](#) under Student/Scholarship information on the web.