

# Project BEYOND-2

Newsletter Spring 2019

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*"Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction."*

*John Crosby*

## Project BEYOND-2 Team:

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It is May again, a bitter and sweet month for Project BEYOND-2 (PB-2) team as we celebrate another group of senior graduates and say goodbye to them! In this newsletter, we want to thank a special group of nurses that have served as mentors for our PB-2 students. There are over 40 nurses from various healthcare settings mentoring our students. They provide guidance, professional development, and career exploration. We thank them for the dedication and commitment they have provided for the nurses of tomorrow!

*Thank you,  
PB-2 Nurse mentors*

**mentoring**  
mentor creative transformative  
advice support trust  
invaluable expert benefits  
growth

**Michael Potnek**  
Doctor of Nursing Practice  
Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

I have had the pleasure of serving as a nurse mentor in Project BEYOND-2 since my first semester at Marquette University, when I arrived as a Doctor of Nursing Practice student in the Fall of 2015.

Since then, I have had the opportunity to build relationships with four undergraduate nursing students, getting to know them, watching them grow as individuals, students and future nurses, and ultimately seeing them graduate and leave Marquette to make their mark on our world. The relationships that are built through Project BEYOND-2 are a wonderful resource and support, not only for the mentee, but the mentor as well. Yes, as a nurse mentor I am able to give tips for studying for boards, tricks on how to overcome anxieties about clinical, or guidance in crafting a resume and cover letter; perhaps most importantly however, I am able to provide individualized support, and be an encouraging and sympathetic ear for those times when life and school seem overwhelming.

I am proud to have been a part of Project BEYOND-2, and am thankful for being given the opportunity to get to know and be a part of the development of these nurses of tomorrow. It has been an experience that has shaped me and I am honored to continue my role as a nurse mentor for BP-2.

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## Congratulations! Project BEYOND-2 Graduates



Marquette provided me with opportunities, connections, and an education that inspired me to flourish into a passionate, driven, and dedicated future nurse. I am so thankful for my education, my professors, and the Project BEYOND-2 program and mentorship. I can't wait to use my skills and resources to care for individuals and communities.

**Alexandria Zielinski**



My experience at Marquette has not only given me the ability to provide the best patient centered care but it has greatly shaped me into the person I am today. As you learn how to provide for others, you learn how to provide for yourself and become the best YOU

**John Villanueva**



Marquette College of Nursing makes me proud to be a Marquette nurse. I've been supported and inspired by our students and faculty and cannot wait to bring that energy into health care.

**Michelle Vuong**



Marquette has rooted my nursing education in passion, empathy and respect for the care of the whole person. I am so grateful for my time at Marquette and cannot wait to translate my Jesuit nursing experience to my career as a cardiac nurse!

**Alexandra Wiskes**

# You Did It!



The most memorable part about Marquette for me has been my professors, especially my nursing ones. They are always willing to be of help in any way that they can, and go out of their way to make sure that we understand the information. In this past year especially, the professors have been supportive and a listening ear while trying to figure out where we will spread our wings after graduation.

**Margaret Riley**



Marquette's College of Nursing has always been a place where I know I can seek guidance from. Every faculty member I've encountered has made certain that we, as students, know that they are more than happy for us to lean on them for support. From professors to advisors, they want to see everyone succeed to be the Marquette nurse we all aim to be.

**Ann Hui**

Looking back at my last four years at Marquette, I was lucky to be surrounded by faculty, advisors, and friends that supported me through this rigorous program and prepared me to be a compassionate nurse.

**Gabby  
Majcher**



As a senior nursing student, there are many memories I can look back on when thinking of my education here at Marquette. I have been blessed to receive so much support for Project BEYOND-2 throughout this time, and I feel truly prepared for the transition into professional nursing. I am confident that I will be the difference, and I thank Marquette for that.

**Sara Diaz**



## Nyree Khamo —2015

My name is Nyree Khamo and I graduated from Marquette’s nursing program in December of 2015. Directly after nursing school, I worked at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Milwaukee on the cardiac-medical unit for 3 years. I recently got married in October of 2018 to my college sweetheart, and moved to Chicago! I now work at Rush University Medical Center in the cardiac ICU.



## Matt Vatanatunyakum—2014



During my time at Marquette University, I was provided with an opportunity to participate in Project BEYOND-2. Project BEYOND-2 provided me with resources and support to help foster my development as a nursing student. Also, I was given the opportunity to mentor nursing students during my junior and senior year. This opportunity helped to strengthen my leadership skills, which have helped me immensely during my career as a nurse.

I currently work at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital on the Surgical Telemetry Unit and I am currently in my first year of the Family Nurse Practitioner Doctorate of Nursing Practice Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. All in all, I cannot thank Project BEYOND-2 enough for giving me confidence in my abilities as a student and nurse.

My name is Miah! After graduation in 2014, I started my career on a medicine unit at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee. This unit was unique by specializing in cystic fibrosis patients. I am very glad that I was able to start out in medicine—you get a chance to see just about everything!

I believe that the medicine population gave me a very strong nursing background. About 2 years into working, I decided to go back to graduate school for my Doctor of Nursing Practice degree, in order to be a clinical nurse specialist. If you decide to go back to school, I recommend that you do not work full time and do school full time! Balancing school and work wasn’t hard at first but the program has definitely gotten much harder and more time consuming! I will be graduating in May.

Currently, I work in the cancer center day hospital, where I administer chemotherapy, bio therapy, and other drugs to cancer patients. Leaving medicine for oncology was unexpected and a big risk—however, I absolutely love it! Don’t be afraid to step outside of your comfort zone!

## Tamiah McCoy —2014

