

MAY 2015



NCFI

connections



Spiritual Care Course Goes Global



The Art and Science of Spiritual Care course is now being presented to nurses around the world in both Hemispheres. Following pilot courses in Europe and USA it was presented to nurses and nursing students in the Pacific and East Asia region last year, and in March this year to Australian nurses.

This educational program developed by NCFI, helps nurses care holistically for their patients, friends, family and staff in a prayerful, practical and powerful way. The training equips them to identify and address spiritual care needs in a variety of settings and from diverse faith traditions.

In Australia, participants in the course ranged in age and experience from students to the retired. They were both pastoral and clinical nurses of different faiths. The combination of these different backgrounds enriched the course with a wide range of experience which enhanced the discussions. At the training course in Fiji most participants also completed the train the trainers program to enable them to train others to use this NCFI material back in their workplaces, national fellowships and other settings. The course was designed by Amy Rex Smith (USA), Tove Gisk (Norway), and Carrie Dameron (USA) and continues to be developed with feedback and collaboration with nurses around the world. For further information please contact your National NCF, or Tove Giske at information@ncfi.org

2016 Congress Update

Planning for the NCFI World Congress and six pre congress events is now intensifying as budgets are finalised, accommodation and registration procedures fine tuned, and publicity turned up with the release of the main publicity brochure and preparation of an online registration form to be released this month. All registrations for Congress and Pre Congress courses will be done through our website, while the planned Nursing Summit in Manila, and Congress day visitors will be booked locally in the Philippines. Keep track of progress through [NCFI Facebook](#) and website [Upcoming Events](#) >International.

Keeping in Touch Across Regions

This email newsletter will keep you up to date with the latest NCF news from around the world. Conference and Congress updates will be featured, as well as news and reports from the NCFI Regions. It will also point you to resources to be found on the websites of NCFI and NCFI Regions.

[Sign up](#) to receive the newsletter by email, or download directly from the Newsletter section of the Resource Menu.

Regional Conferences in 2016

The Africa Region and South Asia and Middle East Region (SAME) are planning to hold conferences in 2016. Watch out for dates and locations in the regional sections of the website.



God's work among nurses in Cuba

SHARE NEWS FROM YOUR NCFI REGION

The NCFI Email Newsletter is an opportunity to share what God is doing in your NCFI Region. Send us news of the outreach and other work being done by your regional committee, and within your member countries.

Contributions should be 500 words or less. Send to : newsletter@ncfi.org

-CUBA VISIT-



Photo1 Cuban nurses meet CIDEC
Photo2 General Meeting of nurses
Photo3 Gladys presents at the meeting

CIDEC-AL, the Latin America Region of NCFI recently visited and held meetings with Cuban nurses that make up the UEMEC - UNION of Nurses. This followed an email from a Cuban nurse who requested CIDEC information, and a visit to assist them in their organization of a similar group. The current President of CIDEC Gladys Altamirano Garrido, from Chile, and Ana Mabel Hulet, from Argentina responded to the invitation in March. They wrote, *"The sisters were waiting for us with a very touching gesture: waiting with a beautiful white rose. They accompanied us to the hostel where we were to stay for the four days that we were in Cuba."*

During that time Gladys and Ana Mabel visited a number of Christian gatherings including one of the Baptists temples of the city: "EL CALVARIO", which has a membership of 2000 people. Here they met with a group of deaf people who were meeting for Bible Study. They also met at the home of Marisela, one of the nurses, and were given the opportunity to visit a health care center. There they shared with a Doctor who is responsible for medical care, and toured the different agencies to learn about Cuba's public health care system.

An important part of the visit was to meet with members of the UEMEC - UNION of Nurses Board to discuss the Constitution and the Strategic Plan of CIDEC, in addition to the statutes of CIDEC. The Board organized a meeting the following day when interested nurses could gather to learn more about NCFI and the CIDEC region. The general meeting with the nurses group was held in the halls of the Baptist Temple, whose Pastor Rev. Roberto Hernandez Aguilar joined them in this important ceremony. The members of the Board were presented and all persons present signed the book of members, and read the purposes and the rules of UEMEC, which were approved unanimously. Some of the nurses shared their personal testimony, in which was revealed the power and love of God that was manifested in their lives. Ana Mabel then presented them with further information about the work in Latin America and showed a video of the CIDEC Conference in Ecuador, August 2014.

They wrote, *"These were moments of enjoyable fellowship with our nurse sisters. We were really surprised at the work they are doing, and their dedication to the work of the Lord, making themselves available to go where needed, healing the sick and sharing the word of God."*

The Cuban nurses group very soon followed up with an official request to join as members of NCFI CIDEC (Latin America). Although they had begun this work in 1992, they had never made the official request to belong to NCFI CIDEC. Please pray for their leaders: President Dargelia Oquendo Abreu, Secretary-Treasurer, Juana Josefina Guerra Quesada, and committee members Maite Orelly, Madera, Maricela Ayala Figueredo, and Moraima Alvarez.

NCFI CIDEC members say, *"we thank God for having been allowed to carry out this work, by the prayers of our sisters, our churches"*. They did this at their own expense as a contribution to the work of God among nurses in Cuba.