

Application Overview:

If you are interested in applying for membership on the Regional Opioid Task Force, please complete the application below. If you have any questions related to the Task Force or the application process, please email administrative.services@clarkcountynv.gov.

(Note: This document and accompanying materials become public record once it is received by Clark County.)

Please select the position you are apply for: Emergency Medical Services in Clark County

Full name (First, Middle Initial, Last): Geoconda S. Hughes

Home Street Address: 1254 Campbell Drive

Home Address City/State/Zip Code: Las Vegas, NV 89102

Mailing Address: 1254 Campbell Drive

Mailing Address City/State/Zip Code: Las Vegas, NV 89102

Employer: Dignity Health and Sound Physicians

Occupation: Critical Care Nurse Practitioner and Cardiovascular and Thoracic Nurse Practitioner

Email Address:

Cell Phone:

Best Daytime Contact Phone:

Relevant Affiliations: Please list below any other committees you are currently serving on. Please list, if applicable, the jurisdiction and term of appointment. If you were appointed by an individual and not by a local jurisdiction, please include that information. If you need additional space, please attach an additional sheet of paper.

I am an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner at the St. Rose Hospital Siena Campus Intensive Care Units. While I currently do not serve on a committee, I have witnessed the devastating effects, including overdoses, of opioid addiction and the abuses of other controlled substances. I provide treatment to those in withdrawal and help prevent serious physiological damage, such as seizures or brain damage while in delirium tremens. After the acute withdrawal phase, I navigate the mental health/addiction support networks to ensure patients are discharged safely to the appropriate setting.

Previously, I served on ICU Length of Stay Committee, COVID Task Force Committee, Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infection Prevention Committee, Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection Prevention Committee, California Nurses Association Union ICU Representative – due to my transition to a non-bargaining unit position, I relinquished my membership/chairpersonship of said committees.

Skills and Experience: Please provide a brief description of your qualifications for the seat; include any special skills, interests, experience, or training which you possess or have completed that would benefit the work of the Regional Opioid Task Force. If you need additional space, please attach an additional sheet of paper.

As an ICU provider, I am required to maintain a current Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) license for Schedule II through V drugs, Nevada Registered Nurse (RN) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) licenses, as well as, national board certification through American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), which all require constant training and continuing medical education in substance abuse disorders. My continuing education includes, pharmaceutical options, medical treatment for mental health illnesses and the related impact on substance abuse disorders.

I am frequently consulted to the Emergency Room to the care for the most critical of overdosed or withdrawing patients; I have seen the young and old lose their battle to addiction, and in the worst cases, cause brain damage with the resultant dependence on life support. I have also witnessed success stories of overdose survival, without long term damage. Too frequently though, we then see these same survivors at some point later, suffering the same fate, as their struggle is too great and our community resources too scarce. As a result of these experiences, I have a keen understanding of the dire need in



Resume



Letter of Interest

A resume and letter of interest is REQUIRED. Please attach it to this application.

I certify that the information provided in this application and supporting documentation is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Geoconda Hughes, MSN, ACNP-BC

Geoconda Hughes, MSN, ACNP-BC (Oct 10, 2023 11:38 PDT)

Signature

Geoconda Hughes

Printed Name

Oct 10, 2023

Date

You may submit this application and supporting documentation via:

Hand Deliver or Mail Application to:

Clark County

500 S. Grand Central Pkwy.

Las Vegas, NV 89106

Attn: Opioid Task Force

Lobby Hours: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Email Scanned Copy to:

administrative.services@clarkcountynv.gov

GEOCONDA HUGHES, MSN, ACNP

Las Vegas, NV 89102

[linkedin.com/in/geo-hughes-NP2012](https://www.linkedin.com/in/geo-hughes-NP2012)

Committee Member Clark County Regional Opioid Task Force

- Compassionate, ethical provider with 11 years of demonstrated success in patient-centered care making a positive difference in the lives of others.
- Agile and responsive to dynamic patient needs and changing environmental factors.
- Highly effective in establishing strong relationships and partnerships with healthcare colleagues fostering a supportive and efficient work environment.
- Highly analytical with expert healthcare knowledge and sound clinical judgement.
- Possess a warm, positive demeanor and enthusiasm to work collaboratively, ensuring high-quality outcomes despite challenging circumstances.
- Bilingual; English and Spanish

Areas of expertise:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| – Leadership | – Patient management |
| – Relationship management | – Direct patient care |
| – Organizational management | – Synthesis and strategy development |
| – Problem-solving | – Verbal and written communication |

EXPERIENCE

SOUND PHYSICIANS CRITICAL CARE, Henderson/Las Vegas, NV

(2021 – Present)

Intensive Care Nurse Practitioner

Advance practice in a high acuity, fast paced, Intensive Care Unit (ICU) supporting patient population that includes stroke, cardiac, level 3 traumas, medical – septic shock, hemorrhagic shock, critical overdose, alcohol and substance withdrawal.

- Create and direct complex patient plan of care for patient's post-operative and medical patients requiring complex hemodynamic support, ventilator support, and resuscitative measures.
- Perform procedures including central line and arterial line placement, intubation, and chest tube placement.
- Acquire and incorporate patient medical histories.
- Administer and interpret diagnostic tests, medications, and treatments.

DIGNITY HEALTH- ST. ROSE SIENA, HENDERSON/LAS VEGAS, NV

(2023 - Present)

Cardiovascular and Thoracic Intensivist Nurse Practitioner

Advanced practice in hospital and clinic setting with acute cardiovascular and thoracic surgical patients which includes working up diagnosis, pre and post-surgical support managing vasopressors, inotropes, vasodilators, anticoagulation, Intra-arterial Balloon pumps, Impella, ECMO, and Ventilator support. Large part of the practice focuses on urgent, emergent and elective Coronary Artery Bypass Surgeries, Aortic Aneurysm Repairs, Aortic Dissection Repairs, Valve Replacements, Lung Resections, Pericardial Windows, and Femoral Artery Bypass Surgery.

Intensive Care Registered Nurse, 2012-2020

Administered specialized nursing care to patients facing life-threatening illnesses or conditions, drawing upon expertise, knowledge, and advanced skills.

- Recipient of multiple performance awards through patient advocacy.
- Directed patient care to medical and surgical ICU patients.
- Assessed and monitored patients to recognize change in acuity and level of care.
- Specialized in cardiovascular-such as STEMI, Open Heart and neuro specialty – such as stroke, delirium tremens, and substance withdrawal patients.
- Administration and titration of inotropes and vasopressors.
- Certified and experienced with continuous renal replacement therapy, intra-aortic balloon pump and Impella pump, and therapeutic hypothermia.

Intermediate Care Unit/Medical Surgical Registered Nurse, 2012 – 2014

Supervised the treatment of adult and elderly patients facing significant issues necessitating moderately intricate assessments, intensive therapies, and interventions, along with moderate nursing oversight.

- Monitored, recorded, and reported symptoms and changes in patients' condition.
- Implemented, evaluated, and documented all patient care interventions and responses.
- Administration and titration of inotropes.
- Evaluate for substance withdrawal symptoms, implements safety care plan.
- Treat and develop plan of care for Legal 2000 hold patients; ensure safety while treating patient with respect and adhering to established legal constraints.
- Tracheostomy care and ventilator management troubleshooting.
- Patient care pre- and post-cardiac catheterization.
- Documented data related to patient care including assessment results, interventions, medications, patient responses, and treatment changes.
- Assessed the needs of individuals, families or communities, including assessment of individuals' home or work environments t
- Identify potential health or safety problems prior to discharge.
- Educated patients and family members in health maintenance and disease prevention.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY, Phoenix, Arizona

M.S. Nursing, Acute Care Adult Gerontology

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

B.S. Nursing

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, College Park, Maryland

Dual B.A., Management and Computer Studies

CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

- Nevada Board of Nursing Nurse Practitioner License 831729-NP
- Nevada Board of Nursing Registered Nurse License RN-70949
- Current DEA license
- ANCC – Board Certification
- Valley Health System and St Rose Siena -CVCU RN Program Certification
- Valley Health System Critical Care Residency Program
- BLS and First Aid Certified, American Heart Association
- ACLS, American Heart Association
- Mediation Trainer Certified, United States Air Force

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October 10, 2023

Dear County Commissioners,

I am submitting this application to express my sincere interest in The Clark County Regional Opioid Task Force. My interest stems from serious concerns regarding the steady rise of opioid overdose, near deaths, and deaths in our community. We are not alone in this fight. Across the United States the opioid epidemic is a very real crisis. I was in search of avenues to engage in battling this very complex public health problem when I came across Assembly Bill 132. I am proud and excited to see a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach being organized to address the opioid epidemic in our region and find myself eager to serve.

As a Nurse Practitioner in the Intensive Care Unit, our intensivist service is frequently called to the Emergency Room to the care for the most critical of overdosed or withdrawing patients. Being a provider managing the most devastating of cases has truthfully been a huge motivator in my desire to act. Research shows determinants of health impact the incidence and outcomes of opioid involved deaths which translates to opportunities in intervention and prevention by addressing health disparities in our community. Through a multidisciplinary approach I have every confidence we can address health disparities and make progress in combating opioid addiction.

If selected, I would be honored to use my experience, expertise, education and passion in our battle against the Opioid Crisis as part of The Clark County Regional Opioid Task Force.

Sincerely,

Geoconda Hughes, MSN, ACNP-BC