

Brigit VanGraafeiland, DNP, CPNP-PC, CNE, FAAN, FAANP



Maryland Chesapeake Chapter

Candidate for Member-at-large

PERSONAL STATEMENT

I have been a member of NAPNAP since 1992, a PNP for 34 years, and a nurse educator for 25 years. I am an associate professor at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and the director of the DNP program. I have practiced in rural-urban primary care and urgent care. My experience and expertise are working with vulnerable and underserved populations. My scholarship focuses on improving outcomes for children in foster care, screening for Acute Children Experiences (ACEs), and child maltreatment. For the past five years, I have been the chair of the Alliance for Children in Foster Care.

My vision as a member-at-large aligns with NAPNAP's vision as experts in pediatrics and advocates for children. My work as the previous chair of the CMN SIG and Alliance for Children in Foster Care are examples of my commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. My practice and scholarship have been to address social determinants of health among our children and families. I aim to support our members, chapters and SIGs in advancing DEI and SDOH.

With my clinical experience and leadership roles, I have had the opportunity to mentor newer faculty, scholars and PNP's. I would expand that to be available and collaborate with members, board members and organization volunteers to support NAPNAP's mission, vision and values. My mentoring experience is a natural fit for recruiting and onboarding new members, leaders and SIG chairs throughout the organization.

My clinical and scholarship align with NAPNAP's strategic plan of promoting pediatric health equity and quality of care through evidence-based national and international education and advocacy. My work as a court-appointed special advocate has increased my advocacy work with youth in foster care. I advance and support a diverse NP workforce as a program director and educator.

As an Executive Board member, I would begin by understanding the strategic plan and long-term goals and use this as a benchmark to evaluate decisions, candidate selections and potential board members. It is essential to consider scenarios NAPNAP may face in the next 3-5 years and seek board members with expertise relevant to anticipated growth areas.

NAPNAP INVOLVEMENT

2021-Present: NAPNAP Partners for Vulnerable Youth Alliance for Children in Foster Care, Chair
2020-2024: Child Maltreatment and Neglect SIG, Chair
2018-2020: NAPNAP Chesapeake Chapter, President
2016-2018: NAPNAP Chesapeake Chapter, President-elect

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021-2025: Associate Director for DNP Exec, MBA, MPH - Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing
2021-2024: Chair of the All School Curriculum Commit
2024-Present: DNP Program Director - Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing
2023-Present: Court Appointed Special Advocate - MidShore CASA
2021-Present: Associate Professor - Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing
2020-2024: CO-Chair Sub Committee DNP Curriculum - Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing
2013-Present: Assistant Professor - Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

2008: DNP - University of Maryland School of Nursing
2005: Certificate, Nursing Education - University of Maryland School of Nursing
1990: MS - University of Rochester
1987: BSN - University of Rochester