

# NURSE-MANAGED HEALTH CENTER



## College of Nursing provides primary care to meet community need

When the Nurse-Managed Health Center opened on the Augusta University Health Sciences Campus in April 2019, it marked the culmination of 15 years of dedicated planning and hard work of visionary Lucy Marion, PhD, a longtime dean of the College of Nursing. Responding to a growing demand for primary care services throughout Georgia, Marion envisioned a health center led by advanced practice registered nurses, also known as nurse practitioners.

Conveniently housed inside the university's Health Sciences Building alongside the College of Nursing's administrative and academic offices and classrooms, the Nurse-Managed Health Center is the only clinic of its kind in the state to reside in an academic health care setting. It is open weekdays and offers same-day appointments and telehealth services. The nurse practitioners at the Nurse-Managed Health Center collaborate with physicians in the area, many of whom are associated with Wellstar MCG Health's Department of Family and Community Medicine.

**Since university leaders cut the ribbon at the center, one goal remains:  
To improve community access to coordinated, compassionate primary care.**



AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY  
**COLLEGE OF NURSING**

Nurse-Managed Health Center







## Support the Nurse-Managed Health Center

Both adults and children are treated at the center, with many patients continuing as established patients. A part-time social worker, funded through a grant, also works closely with care providers and patients to achieve optimal outcomes.

With five dedicated treatment rooms and a full-time manager, current services being offered are wellness exams, sports physicals, and the treatment of chronic conditions, such as asthma and diabetes. Care providers include College of Nursing faculty members and graduate students who are registered nurses and, in most cases, working on their Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees.

As more resources become available, a broader range of services, such as behavioral health, could be added. Additionally, handling overflow patients – those who have been discharged and need follow up, for example – would enhance the overall patient care experience. Nursing leaders expect the center could evolve into a hub-and-spoke model that will eventually be able to provide care in satellite locations, including areas designated as rural and underserved.

Marion, who passed away in April 2023, would be pleased to know that her ideas for the center are moving the clinic forward and increasing patient access. Additionally, the new School of Public Health could prove an invaluable partner for additional patient care services going forward.

**You can help ensure a bright future for  
the Nurse-Managed Health Center.**



## Name the Center for founder Lucy Marion

*Of great importance to Augusta University and the College of Nursing is the recognition of the center's visionary leader and founder Lucy Marion, PhD.*

**Lucy N. Marion**, PhD, RN, FAAN, FAANP, was a pioneer in nursing, as well as a dedicated educator, researcher and advocate who touched the lives of countless people throughout her more than 50-year career.

Marion received her BSN and MN from the University of South Carolina and a PhD from University of Illinois in 1990. She taught at USC from 1968-1993 and moved back to the University of Illinois to continue her career as a professor. Then, in 2004, she was named the dean of the College of Nursing at the Medical College of Georgia (now Augusta University), where she remained until her retirement in 2020.

At Augusta University, Marion led the creation of the Nurse Scientist Incubator for novice investigators, the first Doctor of Nursing Practice and Clinical Nurse Leader Programs in Georgia, a three-year BSN program, and the first APRN nurse-managed clinic on campus. She also founded the Greater Augusta Health Care Network to expand primary care for vulnerable people and continued NIH-funded behavior change research to prevent diabetes among African American church parishioners.

Marion received numerous national honors for her work prioritizing advocacy for access to quality, affordable health care for all and was published frequently throughout her career, including co-authorship of the book *Contemporary Pediatric Nursing: A Conceptual Approach*.

She was president of the South Carolina Nurses Association from 1982-1986 and a member of President of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty. She was also a Fellow of both the American Academy of Nursing and the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

Marion was inducted into the Georgia Nursing Hall of Fame in 2022.



**A \$1 million gift will ensure that Marion's name and legacy live on at the Nurse-Managed Care Center.**



# Additional Naming Opportunities

With your support, the College of Nursing will continue to build and grow this critically needed Nurse-Managed Health Center.

Opportunities	Gift Amount
Student Lounge	\$25,000
Faculty/Employee Lounge	\$25,000
Conference Room	\$50,000
Dean's Administrative Suite	\$100,000
Endowed Professorship	\$200,000
Endowed Chair	\$500,000

To support the Nurse-Managed Health Center or the College of Nursing, please contact Sarah Akins, associate director of Philanthropy at [saakins@augusta.edu](mailto:saakins@augusta.edu) or 706-829-4911.



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