



Pamlico Community College



Notary course in Bayboro

The next edition of Pamlico Community College's popular Notary course is set for Saturday, June 28, at the Bayboro Center beginning at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$70.55, plus a book. Upon completion of the course with a passing exam grade, individuals are eligible to apply to the N.C. Secretary of State to become a notary. For more information or to register, please call 252-249-1851, ext. 3015, or email lgiles@pamlicocc.edu. Contributed photo

Strengthening Rural Health Through Academic-Public Health Partnerships

Press Release - Duke University school of Nursing

At the June 2025 Association of Community Health Nurse Educators (ACHNE) Annual Institute held in Columbia, South Carolina, a presentation by Lynn Hardison, Director of Nursing, Pamlico County Health Department (PCHD) and Irene Felsman, Associate Professor at the Duke School of Nursing (DUSON) highlighted the innovative partnership between the two organizations, emphasizing the power of collaboration between academic institutions and local health departments and how such alliances can address critical health disparities in rural communities.

The presentation underscored the dual benefits of such partnerships: improving health outcomes for rural residents and preparing the next generation of nurses to work in rural underserved areas. This collaboration serves as a model for how academic-public health collaborations can be a catalyst for sustainable change in rural health care delivery.



Irene Felsman (L), Associate Professor at the Duke School of Nursing and Lynn Hardison (R), Director of Nursing, Pamlico County Health Department

The DUSON/PCHD initiative began in 2022, following a community assessment and mapping project led by the Duke Global Health Institute and PCHD. Recognizing the need for a clinical component, the nursing director worked with faculty from DUSON to develop a rural-focused immersion program for doctorate Nurse Practitioner (DNP)/Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and pre-licensure students. Over the past two years, 34 nursing students (32 ABSN and 2 DNP/FNP) have participated, providing screenings, health education and clinical care to more than 1,100 individuals across the lifespan in Pamlico County.

The impact extends beyond education. Two DNP students completed their preceptorships at PCHD and have since joined the department as part-time employees—demonstrating the program's potential for workforce development and long-term community investment.

Pamlico County Nonprofit Imagine Pamlico receives Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Award of \$50,000

June 9, 2025... Bayboro, NC. The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation (ZSR) Board of Trustees recently announced the award of 35 grants totaling \$1.4 million to organizations working for local progress in rural communities across North Carolina. Imagine Pamlico Inc., a nonprofit operating in Pamlico County, was one of only three eastern North Carolina nonprofits awarded funding as part of ZSR's Community Progress Fund Strategy, which recognizes local organizations in North Carolina's rural counties "doing incredible work to serve their communities."

This \$50,000 award is intended to help Imagine Pamlico take their work to the next level by providing an infusion of short-term funding that allows them to meet direct needs, test new ideas, or expand promising efforts. Since its founding in September 2023, Imagine Pamlico has helped bring nearly \$534,000 in new funding to Pamlico County from the Richmond Community Foundation, The Harold H. Bate Foundation, North Carolina's Office of Rural Health, and Anonymous Trust. Imagine Pamlico's work is currently executed by an all-volunteer board; with the anticipated growth of programs and impact, Imagine Pamlico will use ZSR's award to hire its first paid staff. IP President Tim Taylor expressed the IP board's excitement about this milestone, "In such a short time, Imagine Pamlico has had a positive impact in many areas in Pamlico County; hiring our first executive director is the necessary next step in order for us to continue to pursue our mission effectively."



Imagine Pamlico is a 501(c)(3), founded in Pamlico County, and 100% of its funding remains in Pamlico County to serve all of the residents of Pamlico County. For more information about Imagine Pamlico and donation opportunities, please visit www.ImaginePamlico.org. For more information about the ZSR grant award, please contact areiter@imaginepamlico.org.



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