

Faces of FRONTIER: *FOCUSED ON THE MISSION*



William T. Miller, MSN, FNP, ARNP, NP-C
FNU Bridge Class 62 Graduate

As a family nurse practitioner, William Miller seeks to change lives one by one. "I am looking for the 'one' – someone whom I haven't met, but needs me to touch their life in some way."

That desire to make a difference has led William, a 2011 graduate of Frontier Nursing University, to open the Lighthouse Family Clinic in Ocean Shores, Wash., to provide care to a community that is rural and underserved. Lighthouse is a same-day appointment clinic and chronic care location for people of the Ocean Shores and the north beach.

"My community and surrounding area of 12,000 has very limited health care options," William says. "There is a community health center that provides care to about 40 people a day. Many more are turned away and forced to rely on the emergency room 40 miles away. The closest urgent care is 75 miles away. There are no private clinics or medical offices for 40 miles."

William points out that while two male OB-GYNs – who are 40 miles away – serve his community, there is no midwifery care for 70 miles. So he is partnering with Sylvia Swanson, who will graduate from Frontier's CFNP program in the months ahead, to offer a women's clinic twice a month at Lighthouse. He said Sylvia's plans are to provide a Woman for Woman Clinic and midwifery service in Ocean Shores.

"In an era where health care should be available to all, here there is little," he says. "We will put the care back in health care."

William is a Class 62 graduate of Frontier's ADN-MSN Bridge option, which allows associate degree nurses to complete their Master of Science in Nursing with some coursework to "bridge" them into the specialty track of their graduate program.

He is grateful to Frontier for nurturing him along this path of helping others. "Thank you for helping me make my dream come alive."

"Frontier knows how to teach the online course material," William says. Having recently passed his national boards, William says he knows other FNP students from campus-based programs who were not as well-prepared as he was. "I know and love all my sisters in my class. My wife recently graduated with an MSN (from another distance-education school) – she has yet to meet or form relationships with her cohorts. I find this sad.

Frontier and its faculty know what education is."

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**- William T.
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