

## **III. BACKGROUND**

The TriService Nursing Research Program (TSNRP) is central to building military nursing research capacity to improve the military health system. It provides an ever-growing body of military nursing science focused on care of military members and their beneficiaries during times of peace or war or through humanitarian outreach efforts.

Since Congress first funded the program in 1992, TSNRP has supported over 300 basic and applied research projects and involved more than 600 military nurses in the research process. TSNRP researchers disseminate their findings in some 120 peer-reviewed scientific journals and through presentations at nationally and internationally recognized research conferences. TSNRP publishes all study final reports in the National Technical Information Service and in CINAHL and final abstracts on the TSNRP Web site.

TSNRP interacts with university nursing scholars at schools of nursing, enabling the Program to maintain relationships with a large body of nurse scientists who share their expertise with TSNRP and its researchers. These scientists form the scientific review panels, which evaluate proposals for scientific merit, and join military nurse scientists as faculty for TSNRP educational and technical assistance programs. These affiliations foster collaboration among nurse researchers, help train new military nurse researchers, and contribute to the Program's overall effectiveness.

The TriService Nursing Research Program's dedication to military nurse research begins well before and continues after each investigator is funded. TSNRP conducts three research-related workshops annually. The Research Development Course helps novice researchers through the proposal development process. The Grant Writing Workshop offers students the opportunity to work with content experts to refine an existing written proposal into one that is fundable. The goal of the Grant Writing Workshop is to produce a scientifically sound and fundable proposal. The Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Grant Camp supports EBP proposal development for projects at military medical facilities.

Once funded, researchers attend the Post-Award Grant Management Workshop. External and internal Federal Grant Management and Human Subjects Protection experts discuss federal rules and regulations that guide grant activity. The TSNRP staff works with attendees to strengthen their organizational skills, discuss known research problems, and identify TSNRP-specific requirements. A special section is devoted to written reports.

The Publication Workshop promotes publication in peer-reviewed professional journals. Widely published nurse researchers present the course content, which includes using the final report as the basis of a published article, how to identify appropriate journals, professional publication standards, and how to respond to review comments

