

STEPHEN A. FERRARA, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, FNAP

Family Nurse Practitioner | Healthcare Executive | AI Leader
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior healthcare executive and national nursing leader with 25+ years of experience in academic leadership, health policy, nonprofit management, and clinical innovation. Demonstrated success scaling organizations, securing federal funding exceeding \$2.6M, and leading cross-sector initiatives. Recognized leader in digital health and artificial intelligence, having directed AI strategy at Columbia University School of Nursing and delivered national keynotes on healthcare's future.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Pace University, New York, NY
2009 to 2011

Master of Science (MS), Family Nurse Practitioner

Pace University, Pleasantville, NY
1999 to 2000

Bachelor of Science (BS), Nursing

Pace University, Pleasantville, NY
1998 to 1999

Bachelor of Science (BS), Biology

Pace University, Pleasantville, NY
1992 to 1996

Certificate, Health Information Technology for Clinician Leaders

The George Washington University, Washington, DC
2012 to 2013

LICENSURE & CERTIFICATION

Licenses

- Professional Registered Nurse, New York State (License No. 508246), Expires 08/31/2028
- Nurse Practitioner in Family Health, New York State (Certificate No. F-333119), Expires 08/31/2026
- Registered Nurse, Connecticut (License No. 237874), Expires 09/30/2026
- Registered Nurse, New Jersey (PENDING)

National Board Certification

- Family Nurse Practitioner, Board Certified (ANCC), Expires 07/31/2026

HONORS & AWARDS

- Fellow, American Academy of Nursing (2020)
- The 2023 New York City Power 100, City & State New York (2023)
- Notable Leaders in Healthcare, Crain's New York Business (2023)
- Distinguished Fellow, National Academies of Practice (2018)

- Fellow, New York Academy of Medicine (2015)
- Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Award, Montefiore Medical Center (2014)
- Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (2013)
- Clinical Excellence Award, Montefiore Medical Center (2013)
- AANP New York State Award for Excellence (2012)
- Dean's Alumni/AE Award for Outstanding Professional Contribution, Pace University (2012)
- Charles J. and Margaret R. Benjamin Scholarship, Pace University (2010)
- Potential in Nursing Award, Pace University (2000)
- Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (1999)

EMPLOYMENT

CEO & Founder

AI + Nurse Academy

October 2025 to Present

- Founded and lead an online on-demand AI literacy platform for nurses
- Build curriculum, partnerships, and go-to-market strategy for the nursing workforce

Principal

Ferrara Consulting Group, LLC

2023 to Present

- Consulting, speaking, and advisory practice focused on healthcare AI, nursing workforce strategy, health policy, and nonprofit leadership
- Available for keynote engagements, organizational consulting, and advisory board roles

Immediate Past President

American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP), Austin, TX

June 2025 to Present

- Serve on Board of Directors providing strategic guidance and leadership continuity for 121,000+ member organization
- Chair ad-hoc committees addressing organizational priorities and policy initiatives
- Collaborate with CEO on biennial reviews of bylaws, policies, and procedures
- Represent AANP at national healthcare forums and stakeholder engagements

Inaugural Associate Dean, Artificial Intelligence

Columbia University School of Nursing, New York, NY

July 2024 to April 2026

- Led strategic planning and integration of AI initiatives across research, education, and practice for 200+ students and 80+ faculty
- Established foundational AI literacy training program reaching 280+ participants in first year
- Created Office of AI and Student Advisory Council to elevate engagement and feedback
- Delivered 15+ national invited lectures and keynotes on AI to 1,000+ nursing faculty

President

American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP), Austin, TX

June 2023 to June 2025

- Served as chief elected officer and public representative for 121,000+ members
- Chaired Board of Directors and provided fiduciary oversight for \$30M annual budget
- Elevated national visibility of nurse practitioners through media engagement and White House representation
- Advocated for Improving Care and Access to Nurses (ICAN) Act to expand NP scope nationwide

Professor

Columbia University School of Nursing, New York, NY

July 2024 to April 2026

- Translated research into practice through publications, presentations, and committee engagement
- Mentored doctoral students and developed innovative curricular materials
- Served as Principal Investigator on HRSA-funded initiatives totaling \$1.6M+
- First non-physician elected to ColumbiaDoctors Board of Governors Executive Committee

Associate Professor

Columbia University School of Nursing, New York, NY

July 2019 to June 2024

- Delivered 24+ regional and national presentations shaping clinical knowledge and standards
- Integrated simulation technologies and AI coaching to enhance student learning outcomes
- Co-established two HRSA-funded NP residency programs graduating 75+ participants
- Led curriculum development for health policy and advocacy courses serving 50 to 100 DNP students per semester

Assistant Professor

Columbia University School of Nursing, New York, NY

July 2014 to June 2019

- Developed and implemented comprehensive primary care curriculum for nurse practitioner students
- Established clinical partnerships with community health centers serving underserved populations
- Published research on primary care delivery models and workforce development

Associate Dean, Clinical Affairs

Columbia University School of Nursing, New York, NY

July 2014 to June 2024

- Served as Chief Clinical Officer providing strategic oversight of primary care faculty practice operations
- Managed clinical operations for 15+ faculty practitioners serving 5,000+ patients annually
- Developed quality improvement initiatives achieving PCMH recognition
- Led financial planning and budget management for \$2M+ clinical enterprise

Executive Director

Jonas Nursing & Veterans Healthcare, New York, NY

January 2020 to December 2022

- Led national initiatives to develop nursing leaders and enhance healthcare for veterans across 150+ academic institutions
- Redesigned Jonas Nurse Scholars Program to prioritize nurses from underserved communities, achieving 51% BIPOC representation
- Implemented tailored mentorship and leadership development for 50+ scholars annually
- Provided fiscal oversight for \$2M+ operating budget with zero deficit

Executive Director

The Nurse Practitioner Association New York State (NPA NYS), Clifton Park, NY

January 2012 to December 2021

- Provided strategic leadership and operational oversight for statewide professional association
- Led successful passage of Nurse Practitioner Modernization Act 2.0 (2022) granting full practice authority to experienced NPs
- Spearheaded organizational rebranding and restructuring, modernizing operations and member services
- Achieved 45% membership growth through enhanced engagement strategies
- Supervised staff and implemented education, advocacy, and member service programs

Adjunct Faculty

Lienhard School of Nursing, Pace University, Pleasantville & New York, NY

September 2010 to July 2014

- Instructed and mentored graduate students in clinical and didactic settings
- Implemented comprehensive digital question bank in FNP curriculum serving 150+ students
- Contributed to improved NP board pass rates through enhanced test preparation
- Evaluated student performance and upheld academic standards

Senior Clinical Associate, Nurse Practitioner

Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY

October 2009 to July 2014

- Managed clinical care for work-related injuries and led infectious disease surveillance programs
- Streamlined occupational health protocols reducing employee downtime
- Implemented comprehensive diabetes screening program for 1,000 employees at Wakefield campus
- Provided episodic acute care services to healthcare workforce

President

MinuteClinic of NY (d/b/a Ferrara Nurse Practitioner Family Health, P.C.), New York, NY

August 2006 to March 2010

- Established professional corporation for MinuteClinic operations across New York State
- Led workforce of 75 nurse practitioners across seven retail clinic locations
- Navigated complex regulatory frameworks for retail clinic expansion
- Collaborated with CVS Health to integrate clinics into CVS Pharmacy network

Associate Director, Nurse Practitioner

Student Health Services, Fordham University, Bronx, NY

July 2001 to August 2006

- Delivered primary and urgent care to 10,000+ undergraduate students
- Supervised multi-site clinical staff and developed campus health policies
- Led transition to expanded facility doubling capacity for clinical care and wellness programs
- Collaborated with campus partners on emergency protocols and health education initiatives

Staff Nurse

Medical/Surgical Orthopedics Unit, NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital, Bronxville, NY

July 1999 to June 2000

- Provided direct postoperative orthopedic and medical-surgical care
- Managed assessment, medications, wound care, and pain management protocols

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT

Advanced Nursing Education, NP Residency Integration Program (ANE-NPRIP)

Principal Investigator • HRSA • Community Healthcare Network, New York City

September 2020 to April 2026 • HRSA funding: \$1,000,000

Advanced Nursing Education, NP Residency (ANE-NPR), T14HP33198

Principal Investigator • HRSA • Partnership with Bassett Healthcare Network

July 2019 to April 2026 • HRSA funding: \$500,000

Collaborative Access for LGBT Adults (CALA Program)

Principal Investigator • HRSA • ColumbiaDoctors NPG

July 2017 to September 2020 • HRSA funding: \$1,159,201

- Integrated behavioral health services with interprofessional team and CPI training

EDITORIAL LEADERSHIP

Editor-in-Chief

Journal of Doctoral Nursing Practice (formerly Clinical Scholars Review)

2015 to Present

- Indexed in PubMed, Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science Core Collection), Ovid, and Scopus
- JDNP articles cited by Nursing Outlook, Journal of Professional Nursing, Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing, Nurse Educator, and Issues in Mental Health Nursing

Editor-in-Chief

Journal of the Nurse Practitioner Association New York State

September 2012 to July 2022

- Official quarterly publication with circulation of 3,800 per issue

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Ferrara, S. A., & Topaz, M. (2025). Artificial intelligence in pediatric practice: Controversies, policy, and practical pointers for nurse practitioners. *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*.
- Reading Turchioe, M., Pepingco, C., Ronquillo, C., Ferrara, S. A., Topaz, M., Austin, R., & Lytle, K. (2025). Education, empowerment, and elevating nursing voices: Nursing informatics leaders' perspectives on the path forward with artificial intelligence in nursing. *Nursing Outlook*, 73, 102484.
- Brin, M., Kay, E. S., Radix, A., Belkind, U., Batey, D. S., Ferrara, S., Tanner, M., Galindo, C., Fontalvo, S., Kenniff, J., & Schnall, R. (2025). Use of cognitive interviews to develop PrEP education for men in New York and Alabama. *Patient Education and Counseling*, 138, 109221.
- Kay, E. S., Shourya, S., Brin, M., Batey, D. S., Radix, A., Belkind, U., Tanner, M., Galindo, C., Ferrara, S., Ott, C., & Schnall, R. (2025). Pre-exposure prophylaxis providers in Birmingham, Alabama, and New York City identify critical barriers to newer pre-exposure prophylaxis strategies: A mixed methods study. *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*, 36(3), 284-296.
- Ferrara, S. A. (2025). Loretta Ford: A "Guiding Light" for Nursing Education and Practice. *American Journal of Nursing*, 125(5), 9.
- D'Avanzo, P., Shourya, S., Brin, M., Kaw, S., Kay, E., Batey, D. S., Radix, A., Belkind, U., Tanner, M., Galindo, C. A., Ferrara, S., Ott, C., Ozoria Ramirez, S., & Schnall, R. (2024). Identifying key factors to PrEP initiation and persistence among YMSM. *AIDS Education and Prevention*, 36(1), 33-47.
- Naqvi, I. A., Strobino, K., Li, H., Schmitt, K., Barratt, Y., Ferrara, S. A., Hasni, A., Cato, K. D., Weiner, M. G., Elkind, M. S. V., Kronish, I. M., & Arcia, A. (2023). Improving patient-reported outcomes in stroke care using remote blood pressure monitoring and telehealth. *Applied Clinical Informatics*, 14(5), 883-891.
- Martsolf, G., Kandrack, R., Ferrara, S., & Poghosyan, L. (2023). The impact of the New York Nurse Practitioner Modernization Act on employment of nurse practitioners in primary care. *Inquiry*, 60, 469580231171333.
- Naqvi, I. A., Strobino, K., Kuen Cheung, Y., Li, H., Schmitt, K., Ferrara, S., Tom, S. E., Arcia, A., Williams, O. A., Kronish, I. M., & Elkind, M. S. V. (2022). Telehealth After Stroke Care pilot randomized trial of home blood pressure telemonitoring in an underserved setting. *Stroke*, 53(12), 3538-3547.
- O'Donnell, M. R., Grinsztejn, B., Cummings, M. J., Justman, J. E., Lamb, M. R., Eckhardt, C. M., et al. (2021). A randomized double-blind controlled trial of convalescent plasma in adults with severe COVID-19. *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, 131(13).
- Ferrara, S. (2021). Now, More Than Ever, Let's Listen To and Support Our Nurses. *Health Affairs Blog*.
- Wei, S., Suryawanshi, H., Djandji, A., Kohl, E., Morgan, S., Hod, E. A., et al. (2021). Field-deployable, rapid diagnostic testing of saliva for SARS-CoV-2. *Scientific Reports*, 11(1), 1-9.
- Weisberg, S. P., Connors, T. J., Zhu, Y., et al. (2021). Distinct antibody responses to SARS-CoV-2 in children and adults across the COVID-19 clinical spectrum. *Nature Immunology*, 22(1), 25-30.

- Weisberg, S. P., Connors, T. J., Zhu, Y., et al. (2020). Antibody responses to SARS-CoV-2 are distinct in children with MIS-C compared to adults with COVID-19. *medRxiv*.
- Ferrara, S. A., & Burke, R. E. (2015). Latent tuberculosis infection and treatment in a healthcare worker. *The Nurse Practitioner*, 40(7), 10-15.
- Gardenier, D., Elwell, J., Ferrara, S. A. (2015). Should supervision be required for early-career nurse practitioners? *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 11(2), 168-169.
- Elwell, J., & Ferrara, S. (2014). The elimination of practice barriers for nurse practitioners in New York: A historical perspective. *The Journal of The Nurse Practitioner Association NYS*, 4(2), 7-8.
- Burke, R. E., Ferrara, S. A., Fuller, A., Kelderhouse, J., & Ferrara, L. (2011). The effectiveness of group medical visits on Type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM2) specific outcomes in adults: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *JBI Library of Systematic Reviews*, 9(23), 833-885.

Selected Editorials

- The original value providers: How NPs set the standard. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 21(4) (2025)
- Nurse Practitioners: The Power of Your Story. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 21(4) (2025)
- Nurse Practitioners of the Future. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 20(4) (2024)
- The Future is Bright for Nurse Practitioners. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 20(3) (2024)
- A Call to Action for Nurse Practitioners. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 20(2) (2024)
- A New Year for Nurse Practitioners. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 20(1) (2024)
- A Season of Reflection and Gratitude. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 19(10), 1 (2023)
- National Nurse Practitioner Week is Nearing: Recognizing Heroes in Health Care. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 19(9), 1 (2023)
- AANP Recap and a Look Ahead. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 19(8), 1 (2023)
- Leaving It Better Than You Found It. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 19(7), 1 (2023)
- Letter: Nurse practitioners critical to meeting growing care needs. *Crain's New York Business* (2022)

Book Chapters

- Cumulative Trauma Disorder. In *Primary Care* (2nd ed.), 618-636. Springer (2014)
- Low Back Pain. In *Primary Care* (2nd ed.), 650-655. Springer (2014)
- Eliminating Cost Barriers for Patients and NP Practices. In *Public Health Nursing: Practicing Population-Based Care*, p. 351. Jones & Bartlett (2010)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

2025

- "AI's Transformative Role in Nursing Education," NENIC Webinar (virtual)
- "AI in Healthcare: Future Implications," University of Michigan AI in Health Symposium, Ann Arbor, MI
- "Considerations in Publishing Nursing Research," Eastern Nursing Research Society Conference, Philadelphia, PA
- "Building Resilient Healthcare Teams," American College of Healthcare Executives Congress, Houston, TX
- "AI in Nursing Education: Current State and Future Directions," AACN Webinar (virtual)

2024

- "AI and the Future of Healthcare Careers," AIMed24 Conference, Orlando, FL
- "What Every NP Needs to Know about Health Policy," New Jersey State Nurses Association Conference, Red Bank, NJ
- "Workforce Implications of AI in Health and Medicine," National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC

2023

- "APP Week President Panel," Fourth Annual National APP Week (virtual)

- "Fireside Chat: The Future of Advanced Practice Nursing," Florida NP Network Annual Conference, Orlando, FL
- "Health Policy Updates for Advanced Practice Nurses," Lavender Annual Retreat, Cancun, Mexico
- "Keynote Address," AANP Fellows Meeting, Tucson, AZ

2022

- "Health Policy Keynote: The State of Advanced Practice," Association of Missouri Nurse Practitioners Annual Conference, Lake Ozark, MO
- "What Every Nurse Needs to Know About Health Policy," Jonas Nursing & Veterans Healthcare Webinar (virtual)
- "Testimony on Healthcare Workforce," NY Joint Legislative Budget Committees on Health, New York, NY

2021

- "Evolution of an NP-Led Primary Care Faculty Practice," University of Manchester, UK (virtual)
- "Exemplars of Interprofessional Care & Education," National Academies of Practice Virtual Annual Meeting

2019

- "Health Policy Update," NP Alliance of Alabama Annual Conference
- "Health Policy Update," Tennessee NPA Annual Conference
- "Treating Pain and the Opioid Crisis," Columbia University Interprofessional Education Day of Action, New York, NY
- "NPA NYS Teaching Day," Long Island, NY and Region 1, NY

2018

- "Health Policy and NP Workforce," AANP Regional Meeting, Denver, CO
- "NP Workforce Policy Keynote," NPA NYS Region 2, Waterloo, NY

SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

- "The Evolving Role of Nurse Practitioners with Dr. Stephen Ferrara," Nemours Children's Health Podcast (December 2024)
- National Nurse Practitioner Week Satellite Media Tours (November 2024, November 2023)
- "President's Panel," Fourth Annual National APP Week (September 2024)
- "What you can do to avoid the flu," WNBC Today in New York (January 2019)
- "This Flu Season is the Most Severe Since 2009," PBS NewsHour (January 2018)
- "Columbia Nursing's Stephen Ferrara Discusses Flu Outbreak," WNBC Today in New York (January 2018)
- Guest Interview, The Capitol Pressroom (WCNY) (December 2017)
- "NY Bill Would Allow Nurse Practitioners To Sign DNR Orders," WAMC Northeast Public Radio (March 2017)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Society of Association Executives, Member (2025 to Present)
- American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Immediate Past President (2025 to Present)
- American Organization of Nursing Leadership, Member (2024 to Present)
- American Association of Nurse Practitioners, President (2023 to 2025)
- American Association of Nurse Practitioners, President-elect (2021 to 2022)
- American Association for Men in Nursing, Member (2020 to Present)
- New York Academy of Medicine, Member/Fellow (2015 to Present)
- American Nurses Association, Member (2014 to Present)
- American Association of Nurse Practitioner Fellows, Fellow (2013 to Present)
- Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), Member (2010 to Present)
- American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Member (2008 to Present)

- Nurse Practitioner Association New York State (NPA NYS), Member (2000 to Present)

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP & ACADEMIC SERVICE

Columbia University School of Nursing

- Awards Committee Member (July 2021 to July 2025)
- Search Committee Member (July 2021 to July 2024)
- Center for Health Policy, Committee Member (2017 to April 2026)

American Association of Nurse Practitioners

- Board Liaison (July 2021 to Present)
- Health Policy Conference Committee (July 2022)
- Board Liaison (March 2019 to June 2020)
- Social Media Taskforce Member (June 2020)
- Organizational Structure Committee Member (July 2018 to June 2020)
- Annual Awards Committee Member (July 2017 to July 2019)
- Regional Meeting Committee Member (June 2016 to July 2022)
- State Health Policy Advisory Committee Member (January 2014 to January 2016)

American Academy of Nursing

- Primary Care Expert Panel Member (June 2021 to Present)

Columbia University Irving Medical Center

- COVID Vaccine Committee Member (December 2020 to 2022)
- Committee to Address Structural Racism, Co-Chair, Clinical Care Work Group (June 2020 to 2023)
- FPO Board Member (June 2021 to July 2024), Executive Committee (following Board term)

DNPs of Color

- Board Member (April 2021 to April 2022)
- Advisory Board (April 2022 to Present)

New York State Department of Health

- Primary Care Provider Quality Rating Workgroup Member (April 2019 to April 2020)
- Stakeholder Workgroup Member (2019 to 2020)
- Antibiotic Resistance Task Force Member (2016 to 2020)
- DSRIP Workforce Workgroup Member (June 2015 to December 2016)

New York Governor's Task Force

- "End the HIV Epidemic" Care Committee Member (June 2014 to November 2016)

Community Healthcare Network

- NP Fellowship Advisory Board Member (2015 to Present)

AANP Fellows

- Strategic Planning Think Tank Member (October 2016)

TEACHING

Lead Faculty, NURSN9481: Health Policy and Advocacy

Columbia University School of Nursing

2016 to April 2026

- Taught 50 to 100 DNP students per semester on healthcare policy development, advocacy strategies, and legislative processes

ADVISING & MENTORSHIP

EdD Dissertation Committee Member

Jamie Trexler, Teachers College, Columbia University

Successful oral defense, May 2024

EdD Dissertation Committee Member

Maria Arias, Teachers College, Columbia University

Successful oral defense and manuscript completion, May 2022

DNP Preceptor

Victoria Adams, University of North Florida

Graduated May 2019

DNP Capstone Advisor

Deborah Shreck, University of Connecticut

Graduated May 2018

CLINICAL INNOVATION

Founder & Moderator, #NPChat: The Weekly Chat for Nurse Practitioners

2019 to 2021

- Weekly national Twitter/X chat (Tuesdays, 9 PM EST) for NPs and NP students
- Structured topics on policy, scholarship, LGBTQ+ care, mental health, and full practice authority
- Averaged 100,000+ international impressions weekly