



August 14, 2012

University of Central Florida
Executive DNP Program
Millican Hall 230
PO Box 160112
Orlando, FL 32816-0112

Re: Pamela G. Sanders

Dear Members of the Admissions Committee:

Please accept this letter as my hearty endorsement for Ms. Pam Sanders, RNC-NIC, MSN, as she seeks entry into the DNP program at the University of Central Florida.

I have known Pam for over 12 years in her role as the Nurse Manager of our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. At the time Pam was recruited, she was charged with creating a true team and ensuring excellent clinical practice in a unit that had suffered from lack of strong leadership for several years. I must say that Pam has done all of that and then some! She has created multiple shared governance councils, including the NICU Best Practice Team, and has significantly raised the standard of nursing care for our neonatal patients.

Over the past few years, Pam was highly involved in leading the efforts to design and open a new state-of-the-art Neonatal ICU at Tampa General Hospital (TGH). She organized site visits to several nationally renowned NICUs, and with her nursing and medical colleagues, brought back the best ideas and built them into our new 82-bed unit, which opened last year. I must say it is an amazing unit and the care these small patients receive is second to none.

Pam also focuses on continuing to ensure that she is current in her practice from both a clinical and management standpoint. She completed her master's degree in nursing last year, was just recently awarded the prestigious TGH "President's Award" for her work at TGH. She is an active member of several committees at TGH as well as professional associations in her area of practice, and is a certified neonatal ICU nurse.

I am completely certain that Pam will excel in a DNP program and equally certain that you would find her to be not only an excellent student, but a bright and articulate nursing leader.

If I can provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me at (813)-844-7135.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deana", written in black ink.

Deana Nelson, RN, MHA, CNA, FACHE
Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer