

**Andrew, Devonia L.**

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**From:** Dinah Welch [dinahwelch@gru.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2002 6:36 PM  
**To:** clerks  
**Subject:** Advisory Board Application

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**Name:** Dinah P. Welch  
**Address1:** 223 NW 28 Street  
**Address2:**  
Gainesville, FL 32607  
**Phone (H):** (352)378-9624  
**(W):** (352)846-1795  
**Email:** dinahwelch@gru.net  
**Misc Info:**

**Occupation:** Research Assistant @ UF College of Nursing and grad student

**Boards Applying For:**  
Human Rights Board

**Training/Experience:** (see resume)

I have been a registered nurse for over 20 years and my experiences in various clinical settings have taught me a great deal about how human rights are affected in many ways.

For the past three years I have volunteered with the Gainesville Interfaith Hospitality Network and coordinated with Westminster Presbyterian Church to house homeless families four times a year. This experience keeps me well grounded in issues facing those who live in poverty and are homeless and at risk for homelessness. I have investigated the concept of social justice as it relates to health of individuals and communities. This is a particular area of interest for me and I have given a speech regarding homelessness and social justice at Westminster Presbyterian Church. As a graduate nursing student, I am investigating the health of homeless mothers. I am working with a professor as a research assistant and we plan to investigate the health of women leaving welfare to work looking at daily stressors, and health outcomes as they relate to changes in the 1996 welfare policy reform.

I am extremely interested in looking at how neighborhoods, housing and policies within different types of housing areas such as section 8 and public housing

and low-income rental housing may affect the health of the community and the individuals that live within those areas.

You may be wondering what all of this has to do with human rights. I believe that every person has the right to live in safe neighborhoods, to have access to quality health care, to earn a living wage, and to be treated with dignity and respect. The policies made by government as well as other authoritative agencies such as housing authorities, landlords, and employers affect peoples lives in many ways and can possibly impinge on their rights. Serving as an advocate to protect those rights is a privilege and I would work hard to protect the rights of all persons living in Gainesville.

Education:

College: See Resume

Degree: (to be earned) Masters of Science in Nursing

Professional Organizations:

See Resume

Convictions: NO

Resident of Gainesville: YES

Relative of Commissioner: NO

## Curriculum Vitae

**Biographical Data:** Dinah Welch, RN  
Address: 223 NW 28 Street, Gainesville, Florida 32607-2510  
Home Phone: (352) 378-9624 Fax: (352) 367-8440  
E-mail address: [dinahwelch@gru.net](mailto:dinahwelch@gru.net)

**Professional Strengths:** Excellent organizational skills, flexible to change as needed based on client and organizational needs, quick learner and conscientious, good listener

**Area(s) of expertise:** women's health, vulnerable populations specifically low-income families

**Current Position:** 1999 to present Research Assistant at the University of Florida  
1999 to present Undergraduate student and family nurse practitioner  
graduate student at the University of Florida  
Expected date of matriculation May, 5 2002

**Licensure:** Registered Nurse  
Florida License #: 2698592

**Certification:** I will sit for Family Nurse Practitioner certification given by the American Nurses Credentialing Center during the summer of 2002.

<b>Education:</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Degree</b>
	2002	University of Florida, Gainesville, Fl	BSN & MSN
	1999	Santa Fe Community College, Gainesville, FL	AA
	1985	Sandhills Community College, Carthage, NC	AS in Nursing
	1981	Montgomery Community College, Troy, NC	LPN

**Work Experience:** 1997-2000 Staff RN in ER, Shands Hospital at Alachua General Hospital, Gainesville, Fl  
1996-1997 Staff RN in CICU, Shands Hospital at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Fl  
1993-1996 Staff Nurse, Staff Education Coordinator and Assistant Nursing Supervisor in SICU/PACU Shands Hospital at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Fl  
1989-1993 Staff RN in SICU, Moses Cone Hospital, Greensboro, NC  
1982-1989 Staff LPN and RN in ER and ICU, Montgomery Memorial Hospital, Troy, NC  
1981-1982 LPN in ICU, Randolph Hospital Asheboro, NC

**Honors** 1984 The Dr. Mary Elizabeth McCallum Memorial Award.

**Research**                      2000-2001      Master's Thesis, "Investigating Sleep and Health in Homeless Mothers: A Pilot Study." Supported by the Florida Nurses Foundation (\$500).

**Professional Memberships:** Florida Nurses Association  
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners  
American Public Health Association  
Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

**Community Service:** a) Key Coordinator for the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Gainesville, coordinate shelter, meals and transportation for homeless families for Westminster Presbyterian Church.  
b) Member of Gainesville Health Ministry Vision Group, which is working towards developing a parish nurse program in Gainesville for interested congregations.  
c) Parish Nurse at Westminster Presbyterian Church – developing a health ministry for parishioners, chair of the Westminster Health Ministry Team Writing a proposal to receive funding for development of a parish nurse based health ministry at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**Presentations:** a) Refereed Poster: Kneipp, S. M. Sheffeld, D., & Welch, D. (2001, June 8-9). Studying the consequences of welfare reform for women's health: examining the relationships between environmental stressors, neuroendocrine responses to stress, and psychologic and physiologic outcomes. The Status of Women: Facing the Facts, Forging the Future, 2001 Women's Policy Research Conference. Institute for Women's Policy Research. Washington D.C.  
b) Welch, D. (2001, July). The homeless are crying for justice. Presented at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, Fl. Presentation of ethical and policy issues surrounding homelessness.

Gainesville City Commission

Dear Commissioners:

This is a letter of support for Mrs. Dinah Welch, who would like to serve on the Human Rights Advisory Board.

I have known Mrs. Welch for a number of years. She is outstanding. Her character is impeccable. She is eminently dependable. She is upbeat and positive. She has the personal relationship skills that enable her to relate effectively to people of all races and socio-economic classes. She is one of the leaders of the Interfaith Hospitality Network's ministry to homeless families. She is a Registered Nurse and in her hospital work at AGH has worked with a wide variety of persons.

In other words, because of her skills and experience, she will be an outstanding member of this Board.

Sincerely,

Dr. Glenn Dickson  
Minister: Westminster Presbyterian Church

