

## Belmont Abbey College Launches Master of Science in Nursing Leadership Program

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –** Belmont, N.C. (September 1, 2022) – Today Belmont Abbey College announces its new online Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Leadership degree. Healthcare professionals are in high demand, and Belmont Abbey is answering the call to create qualified leaders in healthcare. Belmont Abbey launched a pre-licensure Bachelors of Science in Nursing in 2021 and an RN-BSN program earlier this month. The inaugural MSN in Leadership offers nurses a seamless path to furthering their education and advancing their careers.

"As an academic institution, we're responding to the nursing crisis by implementing programs to develop students into qualified healthcare professionals. We are addressing the need for more healthcare leaders and preparing them for positions as distinct leaders in and out of the boardroom or C-suite. This is where the MSN in Leadership comes in, by allowing registered nurses to become connected to practicing leaders in informatics, health systems, clinical education, or health science and nursing academia and advance their careers and network before graduation," says Dr. Carolyn Harmon, Dean of Nursing at Belmont Abbey. The MSN at Belmont Abbey places a strong focus on leadership with focal pathways in Executive Leadership, Clinical Leadership, Academic Leadership, Clinical Educator Leadership, or Informatics Leadership. Belmont Abbey College MSN in Leadership graduates will display an unparalleled commitment to exceptional patient care and leverage compassion to better the lives of others.

Belmont Abbey College's MSN in Leadership degree explores the connection between faith and healthcare, while providing a solid foundation in ethical leadership, safety science, and healthcare informatics. To be eligible for the program, applicants must have graduated from an accredited nursing program or completed a baccalaureate degree or higher in a related field. Over the course of 8-week semesters, MSN in Leadership candidates will gain the skills and confidence needed to take the next steps in their careers. "We are excited to educate the next group of healthcare leaders," says Dr. David Williams, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at Belmont Abbey College. "The MSN in Leadership is designed with current nursing professionals in mind. We know that many of these individuals balance their education with their work and families, so this online program guided by our skilled faculty provides a quality academic experience along with the flexibility that these students need." The first cohort of MSN Leadership students will begin classes in January of 2023 and the program takes approximately 18 months to complete.

The new MSN in Leadership is part of Belmont Abbey College's focus on healthcare, along with the new hospital that is currently under construction on the college's property in partnership with CaroMont Health. The facility will open in 2023 and will provide MSN in Leadership candidates the opportunity to familiarize themselves with best practices in the industry while preparing for ethical leadership in the healthcare community. For information on the MSN in Leadership, visit <a href="https://bac.edu/academics/majors-degrees/msn/">https://bac.edu/academics/majors-degrees/msn/</a>. Press inquiries can contact Julia Long at 423-827-8727 or julialong@bac.edu.

**About Belmont Abbey College**: Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College is a private, Catholic baccalaureate and liberal arts institution. Our mission is to educate students in the liberal arts and sciences so that in all things, God may be glorified. Guided by the Catholic intellectual tradition and the Benedictine spirit of prayer and learning, we welcome a diverse body of students and provide them with an education that will enable them to lead lives of integrity, to succeed professionally, to become responsible citizens, and to be a blessing to themselves and to others. Our beautiful and historic campus is conveniently located just 10 miles west of Charlotte, N.C., and is currently home to more than 1500 students. For more information, visit https://belmontabbeycollege.edu/.