Franklin A. Shaffer, EdD, RN, FAAN, FFNMRCSI is President and Chief Executive Officer Emeritus of CGFNS International, Inc. (CGFNS, formerly known as the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools), the world's leading standards-setting and credentials evaluation organization for nursing and allied health professions. During his tenure at CGFNS, Dr. Shaffer has advanced the organization beyond the United States into six countries and expanded the professions encompassed from six to fifteen. For 60 years, Dr. Shaffer has led a varied and progressive nursing career that has seamlessly interconnected clinical practice, administration, education, research and consultation, regulation, credentialing, standards and quality, and global collaboration.

Dr. Shaffer drives effective global and national policy on migration, human resources for health, and ethical recruitment via advocacy, research, and consultation. He is an international authority on nursing education, standards, migration, and credentials evaluation and is a frequent speaker at meetings and conferences globally. As an author, Dr. Shaffer has extensively researched and published on international topics such as global nurse migration trends, sustainable development, global health, and ethical recruitment. He has authored and co-authored eight books and over 200 publications. Dr. Shaffer serves on several leading professional journals and editorial boards.

After completing a three-year nursing diploma program at Mercer Hospital School of Nursing in 1965 as its first male graduate (and a first-generation student), Dr. Shaffer was a trailblazer who went on to earn a baccalaureate degree in nursing from East Stroudsburg University in 1975, as well as two masters' and a doctoral degree in nursing education and administration from Teachers College, Columbia University in 1978, 1979, and 1983, respectively. He reached the rank of 1st Lieutenant and Head Nurse with the U.S. Army. Dr. Shaffer was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2002 and inducted as Living Legend in 2022, the highest recognition bestowed by the American Academy of Nursing.