President’s Column

Why Scholarships?

Terese Anderson, EdD, MSN, RNC-OB, NE-BC

As you are reading this, we are already heading into March! It seems like Convention and our historic House of Delegates just occurred. The Board and Committees have been working diligently since Convention to implement the changes approved in the Bylaw amendments. I wanted to discuss a different change that the BOD adopted at our October 31st retreat – the NNA Scholarship Policy.

Scholarships are near and dear to our hearts as nurses. Many of us were able to complete our nursing or graduate education as a result of the generosity of others who donated funds for nursing and other academic scholarships and grants. They are a critical part of the success and vitality of our profession. But should they be a priority for a lobbying association such as the NNA?

In my years as president of NNA, scholarships have come up a number of times, most recently as we distributed funds following District dissolution. Many of our Districts chose to disburse a portion of their funds to support scholarships, and we are doing everything we can to support their wishes. But that raises the question. How do scholarships benefit NNA members as a group and add to member value for all?

Historically, we have provided approximately 10 scholarships each year through the NNA or its Districts. Those scholarships have been awarded to pre-licensure students and RN members seeking higher degrees. With an average of $500 each and 10 scholarships per year, that is approximately $5,000 each year. These funds provided a benefit to only a handful of members, and pre-licensure students, most who did not join the Association later as members. Could those funds have been a greater benefit elsewhere?

For example, five thousand dollars would fund one of the following:

President’s Column continued on page 2

INSIDE THE NNA

Why Scholarships?

Terese Anderson

Reprinted with permission from the Creative Health Care Management and the DAISY Foundation, with gratitude to the extraordinary nurses of Nebraska for the patient care you provide every day.

Bonnie Barnes, FAAN, Mary Koloroutis, MSN, RN, and Cynthia Sweeney MSN, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC

The DAISY Foundation and Creative Health Care Management came together because of a shared love of the work of nurses and a keen sense of the importance of nursing care to patient wellbeing. At the DAISY Foundation, we have long wondered why nurses have such a hard time seeing the full value of their work. Creative Health Care Management, a consulting firm staffed almost entirely by nurses, has been able to provide us with some eye-opening answers.

What the DAISY Foundation/CHCM partnership has brought to light is that nominations for the DAISY Award are stories about nurses who are proficient in the relational aspects of nursing. These nurses demonstrate a depth of understanding of what it means to tune in to the highly variable needs of people who are vulnerable and suffering. These nurses are technically proficient, of course, but it is their relational proficiency that moves the patient/family experience into the realm of the extraordinary.

This partnership has been a growth experience for both the DAISY Foundation and CHCM. Together we have reflected on the perplexing question of why nurses, when offered recognition for having done extraordinary work, will so often claim that they were “just doing their jobs.” And perhaps more importantly, we’ve learned that there is a huge opportunity lost when nurses don’t recognize the value of their own work. When nurses fail to notice relational proficiency in themselves and others, this important aspect of caring is far less likely to flourish in a culture. When therapeutic care is noticed, lifted up, and talked about, it provides an invaluable developmental opportunity for everyone in a unit or organization—a developmental opportunity that facilitates the best possible care. Every DAISY story, no matter what the details happen to be, is a story in which a nurse tuned in to the patient and family, saw their need, and found a way to really connect and make a difference.

It is our hope that what we’ve learned through our partnership will change the way that you as a nurse see your practice and the way that you will influence fellow nurses to think and talk about care. We have put our finger on exactly what you’re doing that’s causing your patients and their families to feel so completely safe in your care, and it is our distinct privilege to share an examination of that extraordinary and compassionate care with you in this article.

Inspirng Nurses continued on page 3

Inspiring Nurses to See the Extraordinary in their Ordinary

Teresa Anderson, EdD, MSN, RNC-OB, NE-BC

Reprinted with permission from the Creative Health Care Management and the DAISY Foundation.
The mission of the Nebraska Nurses Association is advancing our profession to improve health for all. The vision of the Nebraska Nurses Association is to be a proactive voice for nurses and an advocate for improved health for all.

C – Collaboration  
A – Advocacy  
R – Respect  
E – Education

The Nebraska Nurse is the official publication of the Nebraska Nurses Association (NNA) (a constituent member of the American Nurses Association), published quarterly every March, June, September and December. The NNA provides education, networking opportunities, publications and other products and services to its members and extends its mission to all nurses in Nebraska.

Phone: (888) 885–7025  
You can leave a message at any time!  
Email: Director@NebraskaNurses.org  
Web site: www.NebraskaNurses.org  
Mail: PO Box 3107  
Kearney NE 68848–3107

Questions about your nursing license?  
Contact the Nebraska Board of Nursing at:  
(402) 471–4376. The NBON is part of the Nebraska Health and Human Services System Regulation and Licensure.

Questions about stories in the Nebraska Nurse?  
Contact: NNA.

This newsletter is a service of the Nebraska Nurses Association and your receipt of it does not mean you are automatically a member. Your membership in support of this work is encouraged; please visit www.nebraskanurses.org.

Any topic related to nursing will be considered for publication in the Nebraska Nurse. Although authors are not required to be members of NNA, when space is limited, preference will be given to NNA members.

Photos are welcomed, digital is preferred. The NNA assumes no responsibility for lost or damaged photos. Submitted material is due by the 12th of the month in January, April, July and October of each year. You may submit your material in the following ways:

Prepare as a Word document and attach it to an e-mail sent to anna@nebraskanurses.org.

For advertising rates and information, please contact Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, Inc., 517 Washington Street, PO Box 216, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613, (800) 626–4081, sales@aldpub.com. NNA and the Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, Inc. reserve the right to reject any advertisement. Responsibility for errors in advertising is limited to corrections in the next issue or refund of price of advertisement. Acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsement or approval by the Nebraska Nurses Association of products advertised, the advertisers, or the claims made. Rejection of an advertisement does not imply a product offered for advertising is without merit, or that the manufacturer lacks integrity, or that this association disapproves of the product or its use. NNA and the Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, Inc. shall not be held liable for any consequences resulting from purchase or use of an advertiser’s product. Articles appearing in this publication express the opinions of the authors; they do not necessarily reflect views of the staff, board, or membership of NNA or those of the national or local associations.

This newsletter is a service of the Nebraska Nurses Association and your receipt of it does not mean you are automatically a member. Your membership in support of this work is encouraged; please visit www.nebraskanurses.org.
Inspiring Nurses continued from page 1

Bonnie Barnes on the Origins of the DAISY Award

In 1999, our family started The DAISY Award™ for Extraordinary Nurses as a way to honor what nurses do every day that makes such a difference in the experience of their patients and families. Having experienced incredible nursing skill, compassion, and sensitivity at the hands of nurses, we needed to say Thank You to the nurses who cared for our Patrick. Patrick died at age 33 from complications of the auto-immune disease ITP, following an 8-week hospitalization. We thought, when we designed the concept for this ongoing recognition program, that nurses would nominate each other for the DAISY Award. After all, nurses work so closely with each other; how could they not see the wonderful work they do? Who better to observe and describe the incredible things nurses do for patients and families?

We launched the program at the hospital that took care of Patrick in the last weeks of his life, telling nurses that The DAISY Award was their opportunity to share their stories about each other’s outstanding patient care. This turned out to be the proverbial “having a party and nobody came.” Nominations were few and far between. We were very puzzled about the reason: Too busy to take a few minutes to write the story? Maybe. Not interested in celebrating each other? This would prove to be completely untrue. Don’t care about recognition? Again, when done in a meaningful way, we later found the opposite to be true. When we asked nurses about why they were not nominating each other, the reply was practically universal: Nurses don’t see in themselves, or in each other, how their care profoundly affects their patients and families. When we described the impact of a nurse, the reaction was typically, “I didn’t do anything special. I was just doing my job.” Nurses view their own work as ordinary, so it doesn’t occur to them that the work of their colleagues is all that extraordinary. We didn’t realize we would need to teach nurses to appreciate their own unique contribution.

Determined to find a way to celebrate nurses, we tried a different approach. We asked patients and families to nominate their nurses and share their stories. The floodgates of nominations opened up. The people nurses care for cannot wait to tell their stories of how nurses made them feel during their most vulnerable times. Patients and families keep their nurses in their hearts and may wait to tell their stories of how nurses made them feel during their most vulnerable times. Patients and families keep their nurses in their hearts and may nominate them many months and even years following their time together. Today, all these years later, over 425,000 stories have been written about nurses via DAISY Award nominations. Many are written by patients and families, and many are written by physicians and other health care team members who have opened their eyes to the beauty and impact of a nurse’s artful care.

About the Authors

Bonnie Barnes, FAAN

In 1999, Bonnie and Mark Barnes established The DAISY Foundation immediately following the death of Mark’s son Patrick from complications of the auto-immune disease ITP. Their goal was to express their gratitude for the extraordinary compassion they experienced from Pat’s nurses when he was hospitalized by honoring nurses through an on-going recognition program, The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses. The powerful impact of this program on nurses and their organizations is well documented, in terms of organizational culture, inspiration of extraordinary nursing, enhanced teamwork, and the promotion of the professional image of nursing. Bonnie and Mark are recipients of AACN’s Pioneering Spirit Award, Honorary Fellows of the American Academy of Nursing, and in 2015, will be inducted as Honorary Members of Sigma Theta Tau International.

Mary Koloroutis, MSN, RN

Mary is the Chief Executive Officer of Creative Health Care Management. As a creator, author, and editor of the Relationship-Based Care series of books and programs, she is known as an innovator, creator, and transformational leader. Her latest book, See Me as a Person, co-authored by psychologist Michael Trout, inspires health care professionals to recognize the sacred trust, discipline, and knowledge inherent in their work of caring for people during times of high vulnerability.

Cynthia D. Sweeney, MSN, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC

Cynthia is the Executive Director of the Daisy Foundation. Previously she held the position of director for the Credentialing Knowledge Center at the American Nurses Credentialing Center. In this role, she was responsible for the development and execution of educational products and services, included the Magnet® and Pathway to Excellence® conferences. In addition she holds the rank of Captain as a retired Navy Nurse Corps Officer.

Links

Link to Webinar: View Extraordinary Nursing Through the See Me as a Person Framework: http://vimeo.com/creativehealthcaremgmt/108842989/7a0e7ab059

SeeMeAsAPerson.com

DAISYFoundation.org

---

Search job listings in all 50 states, and filter by location & credentials

Browse our online database of articles and content

Find events for nursing professionals in your area

Get started now!
Culture of Safety

Melissa Florell, MSN, RN
Director of State Affairs

Well, we did it again! Nurses were ranked the most honest, ethical profession for the 14th straight year according to Gallup’s annual poll. In fact, nursing didn’t just rank first, it ranked a whopping 17 percentage points ahead of number 2. This is a reflection of the compassion and integrity each of you express as you care for your patients, students, and family. The American Nurses Association supported nurses in this endeavor by declaring 2015 “The Year of Ethics” and by releasing a revised edition of its Code of Ethics with Interpretive Statements. For 2016 ANA begins a “Culture of Safety” campaign that will strive to educate nurses and the public about the potential benefits of creating a safer health care system.

The ANA website, www.nursingworld.org contains a wealth of information that can support nurses in advocating for a healthy, safe work environment. Topics addressed in the Health and Safety section include Bullying and Violence Prevention, Chemical and Biohazard Safety, Safe Patient Handling and Mobility, and Safe Staffing. The section also includes the HealthyNurse™ resource. Healthy nurses who are maintaining a balance in their own lives are able to care more effectively for their patients.

ANA/NNA also understand that the transition to professional practice can be a stressful time in the lives of nurses. Stress and fatigue are elements that can undermine a safe, healthy work environment. ANA’s Mentoring Program is a member benefit designed to match new RN’s with more experienced nurses. This program is virtual and can be a meaningful tool for new nurses. The mentoring program is designed to assist new RN’s during the stressful transition from nursing school to practice. Visit www.nursingworld.org for additional information about participating in the ANA Mentoring Program. Another tool created to support entry to practice is the Welcome to the Profession Toolkit. This can be accessed directly at http://nursingworld.org/NewGraduate.

To stay up to date about events and initiatives taking place in Nebraska to support the Culture of Safety campaign visit the Nebraska Nurses Association website at www.nebraskanurses.org and like our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Nebraskanurses. NNA members across the state are working to plan events for National Nurses Week. These events will honor the hard work that you do each and every day to provide ethical, compassionate healthcare and to promote a culture of safety in health care.

NNA’s Director of State Affairs

Hutchinson Regional Healthcare System is changing the face of healthcare.

We’re seeking nurses with a passion for providing exactly what you went into healthcare for originally: to serve patients and their families with a consistent desire for excellence in all you do, a desire to act with respect toward patients and co-workers and, at the heart of it all, compassion for those you care for and with everyday. Come be part of an extraordinary team!

For a complete listing of our open positions visit us at www.hutchinsonregional.com
Join our team

All of your healthcare needs, close to home!
Advocating for Nebraska Nurses

Linda Stones, RN, BSN, MS, CRRN
Chair, NNA Legislative Advocacy and Representation Committee

The first of the year is a flurry with Legislative Activity. The Nebraska Nurses Association (NNA) Legislative Advocacy and Representation Committee (LARC) is busy at work, representing the Nurses of Nebraska at the State Capital. The 10-member, elected committee is responsible for reviewing all bills introduced to the State Legislature, determining which bills impact nurses, and deciding the position and advocacy role NNA will take. The work of the LARC is guided by the Legislative platform approved annually by the NNA membership.

We cannot look back in 2016, without looking back on 2015. In Nebraska, nurses were successful in eliminating barriers to practice for the Nurse Practitioners by eliminating the requirement for an Integrated Practice Agreement (IPA). The Nebraska Nurse Practitioner Association led the charge to remove this barrier and were supported by the Nebraska Nurses Association and many others throughout the state. We were also successful in passing legislation to require criminal background checks for any individual who was applying for a nursing license. This legislation was important to ensure that Nebraska could remain a part of the Nurse License Compact program that supports nurses licensing from other states.

On a national level in 2015, we witnessed the power of nurses. Nurses make up the single largest component of the healthcare providers. Comments made by members of The View about Miss Colorado and her “physician stethoscope” launched a national movement of nurses, and other professionals, to make a change. It was a great display of the power of being involved and using a unified voice to make a positive impact on our profession. While this displayed our power to make changes, Gallup, for the 14th consecutive year, named nurses as the most trusted profession. While this displayed our power to make changes, Gallup, for the 14th consecutive year, named nurses as the most trusted profession. With our numbers (over 25,000 nurses in Nebraska) and the trust of the public, we can influence policy in our state.

We cannot look back in 2016, without looking back on 2015. In Nebraska, nurses were successful in establishing barriers to practice for the Nurse Practitioners by eliminating the requirement for an Integrated Practice Agreement (IPA). The Nebraska Nurse Practitioner Association led the charge to remove this barrier and were supported by the Nebraska Nurses Association and many others throughout the state. We were also successful in passing legislation to require criminal background checks for any individual who was applying for a nursing license. This legislation was important to ensure that Nebraska could remain a part of the Nurse License Compact program that supports nurses licensing from other states.

On a national level in 2015, we witnessed the power of nurses. Nurses make up the single largest component of the healthcare providers. Comments made by members of The View about Miss Colorado and her “physician stethoscope” launched a national movement of nurses, and other professionals, to make a change. It was a great display of the power of being involved and using a unified voice to make a positive impact on our profession. While this displayed our power to make changes, Gallup, for the 14th consecutive year, named nurses as the most trusted profession. With our numbers (over 25,000 nurses in Nebraska) and the trust of the public, we can influence policy in our state.

Today you make a difference in the lives of your patients. Consider having a broader impact and make a difference in the lives of Nebraskans, Nebraska Nurses or the Nursing profession. Get involved! Use your voice! A one-minute call or email can make a tremendous impact.

To learn more about Kearney Regional Medical Center and view a listing of our current openings please visit www.kearneyregional.com.
Membership Application

NEBRASKA NURSES ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

HOW DO I JOIN NNA2?
Step 1: Complete Demographic Information
Step 2: Select Membership Option
Step 3: Calculate Total Fees Due
Step 4: Select Payment Option
Step 5: Return Completed Application and Payment

STEP 1 PERSONAL INFORMATION
Last Name/First Name/Middle Initial:
Date:

Credentials:
RN License No./State:

Address:
City/State/Zip Code:
County:

Email Address:
Basic School of Nursing:

Recruited By:
Graduation - Month/Year:

Congressional District:
Nebraska Legislative District:

STEP 2. MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS
Choose one annual or monthly membership option. (Monthly payments include a $5.00/month service fee to AAA for installment payment processing.)

JOINT MEMBERSHIP – NNA/ANA

$279.00/Year or $23.75/Monthly Epay*

THE FOLLOWING DISCOUNTED MEMBERSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE IF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA IS MET AND PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY IS PROVIDED. Reduced and Special Membership includes membership to NNA and ANA.

REDUCED MEMBERSHIP – NNA/ANA

$139.50/Year or $12.31/Monthly Epay*

Reduced membership requires:

- Not employed
- Full-time student (must be an RN)
- New graduate from basic nursing program within 12 months of licensure (first membership year only)
- 62 years of age or over and working part-time

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP – NNA/ANA

$67.50/Year or $5.63/Monthly Epay*

SPECIAL membership requires:

- 62 years of age and not employed
- Totally disabled

STEP 3. TOTAL DUE
Depending on your membership option, first year or , month is due with completed application.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLODED: $________

STEP 4. PAYMENT OPTIONS
- Check (payable to American Nurses Association)
- MasterCard or Visa

STEP 5. SUBMIT APPLICATION
Return completed application and payment to:
NEBRASKA NURSES ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 3107, KEARNEY, NE 68848-3

Questions? Call NNA 888-883-7025 or visit our website nebraskanurses.org

TO BE COMPLETED BY NNA STAFF:

STATE: __________________________
REGION: _________________________
AMOUNT PAID: $_________
Annual: ________
Monthly: ________
Check: ________
Credit Card: ________

APPROVED BY STAFF/DA

Nurse Manager, Charge Nurses and Staff Nurses. Often claimed as one of New England's premier summer camps, Laurel boasts excellent facilities and a well-staffed medical team. NPs, RNs, LPNs and Recent Grads are all welcomed to apply. Excellent Salary, Travel Allowance, Room and Board. For more information visit www.camplaurel.com, email staff@camplaurel.com or call 800-327-3509.

Immunize Nebraska
Hilton Omaha Hotel
Hosted by
Creighton University Health Sciences
Continuing Education (HSCE) and the
Metro Omaha Immunization Task Force
Target Audience includes Nurses
For more information call 800-548-CMED
or 402-280-1830 or visit Creighton's
HSCE Web site at
http://healthsciences.creighton.edu
Information posted as it becomes available.

Even if a mother has HIV, her baby doesn't have to. Before the baby is born... test all prenatal women for HIV.
Political Action Committee

Linda Stones, RN, BSN, MS, CRRN
Chair, Nebraska Nurses Association Political Action Committee

Political Action Committee: noun, a group formed (as by an industry or an issue-oriented organization) to raise and contribute money to campaigns of candidates likely to advance the group’s interests.

The Nebraska Nurses Association (NNA) Political Action Committee (PAC) was very active early in the history of the Association; however, in recent years, the group has been inactive. The NNA PAC has been reactivated with the creation of a Board of Directors and installation of Officers:

- Chair: Linda Stones
- Vice Chair: Nolan Gurnsey
- Secretary: Lin Hughes
- Treasurer: Kari Wade

The NNA PAC had several goals for 2016. The group plans to help educate nurses on the upcoming elections for the state legislature. All of the odd numbered legislative districts will be electing new representatives this year. Information on nursing related issues solicited from candidates will be shared with nurses. The hope is that through this process, voters can understand where candidates’ positions on issues important to nurses and to use this information to make informed voting decisions.

As key races are identified, we may organize a group of nurses to meet with candidates in specific districts. While legislators make decisions on a wide range of issues, few of them have healthcare experience. Through these meetings, we can educate them on healthcare issues and how their decisions will impact the citizens of Nebraska.

The PAC is also looking for fundraising opportunities. One way that nurses exert influence is to provide candidates with funds to help with their election campaign. We are interested in ways to fundraise to help those candidates who are supportive of nursing. If you are interested in donating to the NNA PAC, please send your contributions to Nebraska Nurses Association PAC, P.O. Box 3107, Kearney, Nebraska 68848. Please note that PAC donations ARE NOT tax deductible.

Get involved! You can make a difference in your Community and your Profession!


NNA Awards – Due August 1st

Shannon Jones, BSN, RN
Member, NNA Nursing Professional Development Committee

As nurses, we all strive to provide safe and competent care to our patients on a daily basis; as educators, we hope that we are providing new nurses with the knowledge to do just that. As licensed practitioners, we contribute our education and knowledge to provide new evidence-based research to guide current and future nursing practice. Sometimes, though, we work with nurses who go above and beyond these duties.

Do you know a nurse who fits these categories? We all do! Your Nebraska Nurses Association wants to recognize members that are making a difference for their patients, practice, and profession...but we need your help!

NNA Awards serve as recognition tools for those member nurses who exemplify the profession, while highlighting excellent nurses in our community who are making an impactful difference. As you can see, there are awards for all aspects of nursing practice:

- **NURSE OF THE YEAR:**
  - This award focuses on outstanding achievement in nursing over a one-year period. The nominee must be directly involved in nursing through clinical practice, education, administration, or research and have made a positive impact on the quality of nursing care or the nursing profession.

- **EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT IN NURSING**
  - This award focuses on achievement in nursing over a cumulative number of years. There must be evidence of significant contributions to nursing at the local, state, or national level.

- **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**
  - This award focuses on the nominee’s service to the NNA at the district or state level over the past year.

- **NOTABLE NEW NURSE**
  - This award focuses on outstanding achievement in nursing by an RN practicing for five years or less since graduation from an entry level Registered Nursing program.

- **EXCELLENCE IN DIRECT PATIENT CARE**
  - The focus of this award is on achievement in nursing by a nurse providing direct patient care. The nominee is recognized for nursing expertise provided in a caring, professional manner.

- **OUTSTANDING NURSE EDUCATOR**
  - This award focuses on achievement by a nurse whose primary role is as an educator. The nominee must be directly involved in patient education, nursing education, continuing education or staff development. The award recognizes innovation and expertise in the educator role.

We encourage all members to nominate their peers and to recognize achievement within our profession. Self-nominations are also accepted! Nominations can be submitted all year long, but must be submitted by August 1st. Award nominees must be NNA members in good standing. NNA Award Nomination Forms may be found on the NNA website and completed forms can be emailed to awards@nebraskanurses.org.

\*OUTSTANDING NURSE EDUCATOR

- The focus of this award is on achievement by a nurse whose primary role is as an educator.

- The nominee must be directly involved in patient education, nursing education, continuing education or staff development.

- The award recognizes innovation and expertise in the educator role.

Prepping the best nurses to take the lead.

Acredited, online nursing programs for advancing RNs.

- RN to BSN: Complete in as few as three semesters with no clinical requirements.
- RN to MSN: Complete in as few as eight semesters.

Why RNs choose Clarkson College:

- Programs recognized nationally and statewide.
- Start dates and courses offered every semester.
- Curricula updated regularly to reflect best practices.
- Highly experienced faculty and one-on-one advising.
- Part- and full-time options with flexible course offerings.

Clarkson College

Proud to be nationally recognized five years in a row.
Nebraska Nurses Foundation – A New 501(c)3 in Nebraska

Teresa Anderson, NNA President

In July 2015, the Nebraska Nurses Foundation (NNF) became a recognized public benefit corporation, organized exclusively for charitable purposes within section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The purpose of the organization is to serve nurses and the public by providing information and resources to improve health care.

The business and affairs of the corporation are managed by a Board of Directors, consisting of five members of the Nebraska Nurses Association, two public-at-large members, as well as the chair of the Professional Development Committee of the NNA. In addition, the Director of State Affairs of Nebraska Nurses Association is an ex-officio and non-voting member of the Board of Directors of NNF. Prior to the creation of this corporation, the NNA had kept funds within the Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF). As our needs changed, the opportunity to create our own foundation was identified as a key priority by the NNA Board. In 2015 we were able to transfer $24,480.18 from three funds within the NCF, the General Account, the Shirley Dooling Memorial Account, and the Permanent Endowment to support scholarships to new nursing students. While these funds will be maintained, two additional accounts, the ALD Scholarship Account and NNA Member Scholarship Account, have been added.

At this time, the major fund-raising activities for the NNF are the annual Silent Auction and Change Drive conducted during the NNA Award Banquet, as well as private donations. These events and individual donations have added $3936.29. Thank you to our recent donors Don Wesley, Linda Stones, Teresa Anderson, the NNA Board, and Joanne Evans.

NNF Accepts Memorial for Winnie Dolph – Longtime NNA Member and Officer

Longtime NNA member, friend, and beloved colleague Winnie Dolph passed away on October 14, 2015 after a long illness. A memorial service was hosted by Mid-Plains Community College, where Winnie dedicated many years as a faculty member for the nursing program. Winnie was involved in many civic activities in North Platte, where she spent her adult life.

Winnie was a member of NNA (District 7) for over 25 years. She served on too many committees and in multiple offices for the Association to mention. She was known for her expertise in Bylaws and Convention planning. Her smiling face and accepting manner made her a joy to have at any meeting. The NNA Board of Directors contributed $250 to the Nebraska Nurses Foundation in honor of Winnie. If you would like to honor her memory by donating to the NNF, please send a check payable to the Nebraska Nurses Foundation, PO Box 3107, Kearney, Nebraska 68848.

We’re Growing!

At Fillmore County Hospital, we offer our nurses the opportunity to expand their nursing skills and offer a wide array of services, such as: Obstetrics and nursery, ER, acute care, behavioral health, surgery, and so much more! At FCH our nurses are a crucial part of the care team and partner with our medical staff to provide exceptional patient care through meaningful collaboration.

Qualified applicants are eligible for a sign on bonus!

Be part of providing inspired care in central Nebraska.

- Competitive wage
- Tuition assistance
- 12-month Residency Program for new graduate nurses
- Shift and weekend differential
- Loan forgiveness

Building CAREERS

Registered Nurses Needed

Are you looking to join a rural, progressive organization? Tri Valley Health System has served the area for over 50 years and is currently searching for Registered Nurses. Tri Valley operates a critical access hospital and rural health clinics in Cambridge, Arapahoe, and Indianola.

Contact Tammy @ tvhshr@trivalleyhealth.com; call (308) 697-1136; or apply online at www.trivalleyhealth.com

Mary Lanning HealthCare

715 N. St. Joseph Avenue | Hastings NE 68901 | 402.460.5840 | www.marylanning.org

Mercy Nurses Rock!

We’re looking for awesome nurses to be part of our care team at our Mercy locations in Oakland, NE, Sioux City, IA and Primghar, IA. We are growing and we want the best and the brightest to come work with our team of great caregivers and doctors to provide the best care to our patients. There are some exciting times ahead for Mercy and we want you to be a part of it!

Mercy is looking for both full and part time Nurses throughout our hospitals including ER/ Trauma, Surgery, Rehab and our brand-new ICU!

Ask us about our NEW Nurse Residency Program. It’s all about your future!

Competitive wages, benefits, and education reimbursement!

Please visit our website at: http://www.mercynursing.com or apply online at www.mercynursing.com/careers.

RFD (Formerly Iowa Veterans Affairs)
Catherine Parker – President
NNA Member – Lincoln

Sara stated it is “a privilege to serve as President of the Nebraska Nurses Foundation (NNF) for the next two years.” She expressed excitement about the opportunity to participate in the on-going development of the Foundation and the services it will provide. “NNF will serve as a valuable entity in the overall mission of benefiting and supporting the nursing profession throughout the state. We have a great group of individuals serving on the NNF Board of Directors whose primary responsibilities include establishing the fund measurement structure for assets archived by Districts of the Nebraska Nurses Association. Another Board responsibility will be investigating and establishing the processes for funding nursing scholarships in collaboration with the Nebraska Nurses Association.

“I’m an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse – Clinical Nurse Specialist serving the Emergency Department(s) at Bryan Medical Center in Lincoln, NE. One of the best parts about being an APRN-CNS is the opportunity to provide leadership in the development of comprehensive clinical practice standards, programs and services benefiting the patients, their families and the clinicians. I have been active in the Nebraska Nurses Association since moving to Nebraska in 1996, serving in various roles at the state and district level.” A few of those roles included: NNA President (2 years), NNA Budget & Finance Committee (8 years), NNA Convention Planning Committee (4 years), and District III Treasurer (4 years).

Catherine Parker – Vice President
NNA Member – Lincoln

Catherine is currently the Nurse Manager for Employee Health Services at Bryan Health in Lincoln, NE, where she has been employed for over 30 years. As a member of NNA for about 30 years, Catherine has served in various leadership positions and on several committees at the state and district levels. She chose to serve on the Foundation Board “to help establish a solid and sustaining financial resource to support nursing students and nurses to further their education.”

Lynee Patrin – Secretary
NNA Member – Omaha

Lynee recently retired from Nebraska Medicine after 40 years. She has been a member of ANA/NNA since graduation serving in various roles over the years. “I am excited about the work that has been done to further develop and expand the services the Foundation provides to nurses. I look forward to our work ahead.”

Joshua Hanshaw – Treasurer
Community Member – Lincoln

Josh Hanshaw serves as executive director of Lincoln/Lancaster County Habitat for Humanity. With a Master of Public Administration degree with an emphasis in Nonprofit Management, Josh has served in a variety of management roles with nonprofit organizations, including Good Samaritan Hospital, Child Advocacy Center in Lincoln, and American Cancer Society in Topeka, Kan. Josh has served on numerous nonprofit and community boards including Kearney Family YMCA, Nebraska Children’s Museum, and Good Samaritan Hospital, Child Advocacy Center in Lincoln, and American Cancer Society in Topeka, Kan. Josh has served on numerous nonprofit and community boards including Kearney Family YMCA, Nebraska Children’s Museum, and Kearney Young Professionals Network, and Nebraska Healthcare Marketers. Josh is married to Alisha and he has 4-year-old twins.

Dan Rock – Community Member – Omaha

Dan Rock loves nurses and knows how important they are. His wife is a Certified Diabetes Educator Nurse at Nebraska Medicine. His aunt, an emergency department nurse, died in an ambulance-truck collision; two other aunts, his mother-in-law, and sister-in-law are also nurses. Last, but certainly not least, his mom was an extraordinary OB nurse at Bergan Mercy. Dan is a lawyer in Omaha helping families with wills and personal injury matters, and represents health care facilities in employment matters including immigration. Dan is serving on the Foundation Board to help the nurses of Nebraska anyway he can.

Joanie Nelson – NNA Member – Lincoln

Joanie is an RN with over 30 years’ experience in acute care and a recent graduate of UNMC’s Master of Science in Emergency Preparedness program. Joanie is a member of ANA/NNA, the Disaster Medical Assistance Team for Nebraska (NE-1 DMAT as an intermittent Federal employee), the Association of Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Professionals (AHEPP), and the Medical Reserve Corp. (MRC) for the Omaha/Council Bluffs region. Joanie now finds there is more time to be involved with professional organizations and volunteer work within the community. She was recently elected to the Legislative Affairs Committee (LARC) for the NNA, interested in the legislative process, and how bills affect the Nursing profession. Joanie joined the Foundation Board to become more knowledgeable about the NNA organization and its leadership strategies. “The opportunity to network and learn from those already involved will greatly enhance my own satisfaction as a nurse, in one of the most respected professions.”

Douglas Haas – Chair – NNA Nursing Professional Development Committee

Douglas lives in Kearney where he practices as a cardiology Nurse Practitioner at the Nebraska Heart Institute. “I have been a member of the Nebraska Nurses Association since the attainment of my RN licensure in January of 2010 and have loved every minute with this organization. As the Chair of the NNA NPDC, I oversee scholarship applications, event proposals, and member credentialing for the Annual Membership Meeting. I am proud of the creation of the NNF and I am excited to see the work this group creates.”

Jill Kliethermes – Foundation Manager (Contracted)

Jill serves as the Executive Director of the ANA Midwest Multistate Division and CEO of the Missouri Nurses Association (MONA). Jill also supports the Kansas State Nurses Association and the Missouri Nurses Association Foundation, as manager of their programs and brings tremendous experience to her position as manager of the NNF.

Karen Harris – Accountant/Financials (Contracted)

Karen is a 30-year accounting professional experienced in the accounting principles for nonprofit programs on a city, state, and federal level. Karen hopes by handling the financial aspects of the foundation, it will give the other members of the board additional time to concentrate on the important issues.

Joshua Hanshaw
NNA Member – Lincoln

“I am honored to serve as a board member of the Nebraska Nurses Foundation. Nursing is an integral part of my life, as is promoting the profession of nursing and the work of nurses. I am currently the Director of Doctoral Studies at Nebraska Methodist College. In addition to my role as an educator, I am a Gerontological Clinical Nurse Specialist in practice at Nebraska Methodist Health System.” Alice has served on a number of community and professional boards throughout her career, most recent service includes NNA’s Board of Director, Nebraska Center for Nursing, Nebraska Center for Nursing Foundation, and Nebraska Credentialing Review Board.

Alice Kindschuh
NNA Member - Omaha

Karen Harris
Accountant/Financials

Karen is a 30-year accounting professional experienced in the accounting principles for nonprofit programs on a city, state, and federal level. Karen hopes by handling the financial aspects of the foundation, it will give the other members of the board additional time to concentrate on the important issues.

Meet the NNF Board and Staff

Sara Seemann
NNA Member – Lincoln

Sara stated it is “a privilege to serve as President of the Nebraska Nurses Foundation (NNF) for the next two years.” She expressed excitement about the opportunity to participate in the on-going development of the Foundation and the services it will provide. “NNF will serve as a valuable entity in the overall mission of benefiting and supporting the nursing profession throughout the state. We have a great group of individuals serving on the NNF Board of Directors whose primary responsibilities include establishing the fund measurement structure for assets archived by Districts of the Nebraska Nurses Association. Another Board responsibility will be investigating and establishing the processes for funding nursing scholarships in collaboration with the Nebraska Nurses Association.

“I’m an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse – Clinical Nurse Specialist serving the Emergency Department(s) at Bryan Medical Center in Lincoln, NE. One of the best parts about being an APRN-CNS is the opportunity to provide leadership in the development of comprehensive clinical practice standards, programs and services benefiting the patients, their families and the clinicians. I have been active in the Nebraska Nurses Association since moving to Nebraska in 1996, serving in various roles at the state and district level.” A few of those roles included: NNA President (2 years), NNA Budget & Finance Committee (8 years), NNA Convention Planning Committee (4 years), and District III Treasurer (4 years).

Catherine Parker – Vice President
NNA Member – Lincoln

Catherine is currently the Nurse Manager for Employee Health Services at Bryan Health in Lincoln, NE, where she has been employed for over 30 years. As a member of NNA for about 30 years, Catherine has served in various leadership positions and on several committees at the state and district levels. She chose to serve on the Foundation Board “to help establish a solid and sustaining financial resource to support nursing students and nurses to further their education.”

Lynee Patrin – Secretary
NNA Member – Omaha

Lynee recently retired from Nebraska Medicine after 40 years. She has been a member of ANA/NNA since graduation serving in various roles over the years. “I am excited about the work that has been done to further develop and grow the Nursing Foundation. I see this as a great opportunity for me to continue to contribute to my profession and will be serving on the Board as your secretary. We have a great group of people on the Board and I look forward to our work ahead.”

Joshua Hanshaw – Treasurer
Community Member – Lincoln

Josh Hanshaw serves as executive director of Lincoln/Lancaster County Habitat for Humanity. With a Master of Public Administration degree with an emphasis in Nonprofit Management, Josh has served in a variety of management roles with nonprofit organizations, including Good Samaritan Hospital, Child Advocacy Center in Lincoln, and American Cancer Society in Topeka, Kan. Josh has served on numerous nonprofit and community boards including Kearney Family YMCA, Nebraska Children’s Museum and Kearney Young Professionals Network, and Nebraska Healthcare Marketers. Josh is married to Alisha and he has 4-year-old twins.

Dan Rock – Community Member – Omaha

Dan Rock loves nurses and knows how important they are. His wife is a Certified Diabetes Educator Nurse at Nebraska Medicine. His aunt, an emergency department nurse, died in an ambulance-truck collision; two other aunts, his mother-in-law, and sister-in-law are also nurses. Last, but certainly not least, his mom was an extraordinary OB nurse at Bergan Mercy. Dan is a lawyer in Omaha helping families with wills and personal injury matters, and represents health care facilities in employment matters including immigration. Dan is serving on the Foundation Board to help the nurses of Nebraska anyway he can.

Joanie Nelson – NNA Member – Lincoln

Joanie is an RN with over 30 years’ experience in acute care and a recent graduate of UNMC’s Master of Science in Emergency Preparedness program. Joanie is a member of ANA/NNA, the Disaster Medical Assistance Team for Nebraska (NE-1 DMAT as an intermittent Federal employee), the Association of Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Professionals (AHEPP), and the Medical Reserve Corp. (MRC) for the Omaha/Council Bluffs region. Joanie now finds there is more time to be involved with professional organizations and volunteer work within the community. She was recently elected to the Legislative Affairs Committee (LARC) for the NNA, interested in the legislative process, and how bills affect the Nursing profession. Joanie joined the Foundation Board to become more knowledgeable about the NNA organization and its leadership strategies. “The opportunity to network and learn from those already involved will greatly enhance my own satisfaction as a nurse, in one of the most respected professions.”

Douglas Haas – Chair – NNA Nursing Professional Development Committee

Douglas lives in Kearney where he practices as a cardiology Nurse Practitioner at the Nebraska Heart Institute. “I have been a member of the Nebraska Nurses Association since the attainment of my RN licensure in January of 2010 and have loved every minute with this organization. As the Chair of the NNA NPDC, I oversee scholarship applications, event proposals, and member credentialing for the Annual Membership Meeting. I am proud of the creation of the NNF and I am excited to see the work this group creates.”

Jill Kliethermes – Foundation Manager (Contracted)

Jill serves as the Executive Director of the ANA Midwest Multistate Division and CEO of the Missouri Nurses Association (MONA). Jill also supports the Kansas State Nurses Association and the Missouri Nurses Association Foundation, as manager of their programs and brings tremendous experience to her position as manager of the NNF.

Karen Harris – Accountant/Financials (Contracted)

Karen is a 30-year accounting professional experienced in the accounting principles for nonprofit programs on a city, state, and federal level. Karen hopes by handling the financial aspects of the foundation, it will give the other members of the board additional time to concentrate on the important issues.
Submitting an Individual Education Activity for Nursing Contact Hours

Judi Dunn MS, CPP, RN-BC
Nurse Peer Review Leader, Midwest Multistate Division

Organizations, associations, healthcare facilities, and entrepreneur nurses wanting to provide contact hours for continuing nursing education (CNE) may submit Individual Education Activities to the Midwest Multistate Division (MW MSD) CNE Unit for review and approval to award contact hours for nurses. The planning and implementation of such activities follow the same rigorous criteria guidelines and requirements of all American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)/MW MSD approved educational events.

But how to go about it?

1) Visit the MW MSD website at www.midwestnurses.org; under Continuing Education review the Individual Education Activities section. Read the site information carefully. Under “Tools, Figures and Resources” you will find the Application Instructions document as well as other resources. This extensive document will walk you through the various components of a CNE event so that you can prepare the application.

2) The completed application must be received in the MW MSD office a minimum of 45 days prior to the event date. The key word here is – completed. Planning a CNE event takes a great deal of time and effort. Planning Committees need to adequately allow for a minimum of 3 months to complete the planning process prior to sending in the application.

3) Currently the application is accepted electronically by email, paper hard copies or a flash drive by postal mail. An online application system is being tested at this time, and will hopefully be available in 2016.

4) Many nurses wishing to complete an Individual Education Activity Application may not be familiar with the educational concepts and terms discussed in the application instructions. The MW MSD staff is here to help! What is important to understand is that CNE is based on the needs of learners – that there is an identified gap in knowledge, skills or practice. CNE is not provided just “because it sounds like a great topic.”

5) There are a variety of means of conducting a needs assessment from which the gap analysis is completed. With the gap information, the Planning Committee decides on the appropriate presenter/faculty and outlines the learning outcomes for the program. Working with the presenters/faculty, content and teaching strategies are determined to meet the learning outcomes. Evidenced-based references are collected and an evaluation format is decided upon.

6) At this point the Nurse Planner is able to distribute the appropriate forms, ensure completion and review for any potential of bias or conflict of interest. Completed and signed forms are compiled to be submitted with the activity application.

7) The applicant will be notified if any items are missing; once the missing items are received, the application is forwarded on to a MW MSD Nurse Peer Reviewer. The Nurse Peer Reviewer is responsible for ensuring the application documents and the planned event meet ANCC/MW MSD requirements. Once approved the applicant is notified.

8) After the Individual Education event occurs, there are follow up documents that must be submitted to the MW MSD for recordkeeping purposes.

If you have any questions, please contact the MW MSD Continuing Education Unit or Judi Dunn MS, CPP, RN-BC at nprl@midwestnurses.org.
Nebraska ENA Strives to Meet the Needs of Emergency Nurses

Anna J. May, MSN, BA, RN-BC, CEN, CPEN
NE ENA, Immediate Past President

Representing over 40,000 emergency nurses in the US and abroad, the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) provides advanced, relevant information regarding safe practice and safe care in an emergency setting. Founded in 1970 as the Emergency Department Nurses Association, the original members hoped to increase education and networking among emergency nurses. In 1985, the name changed to ENA, recognizing that the practice of emergency nursing was role-specific and not site-specific. The Trauma Nurse Core Course (TNCC) and Emergency Nurse Pediatric Course (ENPC) developed by ENA have become practice standards required for registered nurses working in emergency departments worldwide.

The Nebraska Emergency Nurses Association (NE ENA) is the state council which carries out the mission of ENA. Initially formed in the early 1980’s by a small group of emergency nurses, NE ENA has grown to nearly 300 members today. Members enjoy a strong sense of community as they work together to use their time, knowledge, and experience to advocate for patient safety and excellence in emergency nursing. Quarterly meetings are held using the Nebraska Telehealth network to allow for participation by emergency nurses throughout the state. In addition to providing education and networking, NE ENA has sponsored specialty certification review courses, injury prevention programs, trauma grand rounds, government affairs advocacy and updates, and an annual day-long educational conference. The organization continues to evolve into an authority, advocate, lobbyist, and voice for emergency nursing. For more information, log on to www.nebraskana.org.

NE ENA is an Organizational Affiliate of the Nebraska Nurses Association.

Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of NNP Education

LaDonna Hart, MSN, APRN-NP, FNP-C
President, Nebraska Nurse Practitioners

This year, NNP celebrates the 25th anniversary of the annual education conference event. “NNPs: The Silver Lining in Health Care” conference, February 18-20, 2016 at LaVista, makes note of the significant milestones on Nursing’s journey to promote the health and wellness of those residing in Nebraska.

On Friday, February 19th, NNP will honor and celebrate the contributions made by a coalition of stakeholders, policy makers, and community organizations impacting NP practice and allowing for the direct access to the care provided by NPs’ through the passage of LB 107.

Evening festivities also include a celebration of the 20th anniversary of a unique cohort of University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing – Kearney (UNMC CON – Kearney) faculty who chose, in mid-career, to take a risk to transition to a new role of Nurse Practitioner (NP). NNP and UNMC will recognize these faculty members who participated in an educational program impacting the practice of NP students and the health of many patients: Dr. Jean Bartek, Joyce Cornwell, Dr. Marcia Hoffman, Sharon Holoye, Terry Kevil, Roberta Kroeger, Lu Milius, Patty Newell, Dr. Peggy Pelsis, Dr. Kathleen Popelka, Dr. Bunny Pozehl, Barbara Sand, Dr. Joyce Schilke, Shirley Tachenko-Achord, and Dr. Nancy Walthman. Rosalee Yeaworth Ph.D, FAAN, Dean Emeritus, Professor Emeritus, UNMC CON will present for the evening celebration.

A special thank you to all the NPs who have served on the education committee over the last 25 years. It is through mentoring and strong leadership that this event has sustained the test of time and effectively supported the mission of NNP.

Registered Nurses

We are currently seeking licensed professional nurses for our full-time 6pm to 6am shift (36 hours per week). We are also looking for individuals who would like to be in our PRN (Casual Status) pool (less than 24 hours per week). Successful candidates will have at least two years of experience preferably in ICU or ED.

Kimball Health Services offers a great working environment, very competitive wages, an excellent paid benefit package, bonus and relocation.

Apply on-line at www.kimballhealth.org or call Richard Harriger, at (308) 235-1952, ext 264

Nebraska Veterans’ Homes

The Privilege of Caring for America’s Heroes

The Division of Veterans’ Homes includes the state Veterans’ Homes located in Bellevue, Norfolk, Grand Island & Scottsbluff. Our Homes focus on wellness and allowing people to live their lives to the fullest extent possible. Services range from assisted living to skilled nursing care.

Join our Team in one of these Career Opportunities: RN, LPN, Nurse Aide & Medication Aide

The State of Nebraska offers a competitive benefits package for Employees!

Apply online at www.statejobs.nebraska.gov or at one of the following locations:

Norfolk Veterans’ Home
600 East Benjamin Avenue
Norfolk, NE 68701 • (402) 370-3330

Grand Island Veterans’ Home
300 5th Street
Grand Island, NE 68801 • (308) 385-6522

Eastern Nebraska Veterans’ Home
12505 South 40th Street
Bellevue, NE 68123 • (402) 395-2180

Western Nebraska Veterans’ Home
1102 West 42nd Street
Scottsbluff, NE 69361 • (308) 632-0300

Affiliate Organizations News

The Nebraska Nurses Association (NNA) is proud to partner with other nursing associations that share the mission, vision, and values of the organization to support nursing practice and public health. Nursing Associations formally affiliated with NNA (and their members) enjoy a number of benefits, including:

- Access to NNA Member Only information related to legislative advocacy and lobbying
- NNA legislative advocacy support (may include lobbyist time with additional paid lobbying fee) for issues on which the two organizations share platform priorities.
- Publication of association news and information in the Nebraska Nurse, the official publication of the NNA, which reaches all nurses in the State of Nebraska each quarter
- Public relations and media recognition as an official affiliate of the NNA
- NNA member pricing for select programs, events, and resources
- Guaranteed member seating for registered attendees at NNA events
- Association voting member at the Nebraska Nurses Association Membership Assembly

If your Nursing Organization is interested in becoming an Organizational Affiliate of the NNA, please contact Melissa Florell at director@nebraskanurses.org or 888.885.7025 x400.
Recently, my mother, age 84, was hospitalized subsequent to a urinary tract infection and a fall with a resultant fractured shoulder. This was the second such admission in 2015 and, given her history of multiple co-morbidities, complications ensued both times, including severe delirium, pulmonary distress, unstable atrial fibrillation, and a questionable seizure. I was experienced as the primary care-giver and decision-maker for my mother opened my eyes to the realities of the healthcare experience today.

As a family member, I was treated kindly, welcomed at her bedside, and supported with cookies and hot chocolate when the volunteer cart came around. I was provided with only cursory information such as “she had a bad night” or “she has slept a lot and her vitals were stable.” The information was at the level of “her labs are back and her infection seems to be responding to treatment.” These people knew I was the President of the Nebraska Nurses Association and a nurse for nearly 35 years.

As a nurse, I was frustrated and discouraged. Where was the change of shift report? I wanted to know her vital signs and the results of the laboratory tests performed; I wanted to see the MRI of her brain and to have the changes reviewed with me. The doctors did not seek me out to provide information; there was no real opportunity to find out about her care unless I arrived at 6:30 am to query the night shift directly, run my own “report checklist,” and wait to “catch” the doctors.

As a nurse my expectations were high, but I failed the system too – by not letting everyone know the level of information I expected. The white board in her room helped, but still left me with unanswered questions. My mom has cognitive impairment, but everyone know the level of information I expected. The white board in her room helped, but it seemed they were counting on her to relay the information. I question whether my frustration was only because I was a nurse, or was it a glimpse of how the average family must feel when time is not reserved to educate and routinely include them in the plan of care.

Through my work as an ANA Nursing Knowledge Center consultant and expert in the assessment and implementation of “excellence” cultures, I know that some facilities are making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for implementing “excellence” cultures, I know that some facilities are making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessors circling around at the perimeter. Perhaps this is a lesson learned for making the family and patient the center of the communication dynamic, not hungry assessor
Nebraska Action Coalition: Looking Back, Moving Forward

Victoria Vinton, MSN, RN
Director, Nebraska Action Coalition – Future of Nursing

The Nebraska Action Coalition (NAC) celebrated its fourth year as an Action Coalition (AC) under the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action (CFA) in September 2015. The Campaign, spearheaded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and AARP’s Center to Champion Nursing in America, celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2015.

Nebraska is one of 51 ACs across the country working on the Campaign’s vision so that everyone in America can live a healthier life, supported by a system in which nurses are essential partners in providing care and promoting health. In alignment with that vision, NAC takes this opportunity to share its collaborative accomplishments in 2015.

January – March

• The Nebraska Action Coalition assisted in the establishment of a local American Association of Men in Nursing (AAMN) chapter. In collaboration with Methodist Hospital and NAC, AAMN had its first meeting at Methodist Hospital on January 19th.

• One of 18 ACs awarded a second State Implementation Program (SIP 3) Grant in February.

• SIP 1 Grant outcomes (ended January 31, 2015):
  o 61% of RNs in Nebraska have a baccalaureate degree (BSN)
  o 14% increase of Nebraska nurses on decision-making bodies/boards
  o 81 emerging nurse leaders honored during 2012 and 2014 40 Under 40 events
  o Development of mentor/mentee dyads across all 4 NAC regions
  o Publication of Diversity Toolkit

April – June

• National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) NE Chapter is chartered and holds its first meeting in April. The NAC worked with nurses since 2013 to establish the Hispanic nurse organization.

• Was awarded $10,000 Lessons in Leadership grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation of California.

• Showed the American Nurse documentary across 5 locations in Nebraska in collaboration with NNA, Nebraska Organization of Nurse Leaders (NONL), and Nebraska Assembly of Nursing Deans and Directors (NANDD)

July – September

• Kathy Karsting RN, MPH, Program Manager of the Maternal/Child Division of DHHS, is one of 25 nurses chosen as a RWJF Public Health Nurse Leader (PHNL). NAC submitted a letter of recommendation for Ms. Karsting

• Jonas Scholars Marcia Shade, MSN, PhD(C) and Terry Khan APRN, DNP(C) completed Engagement Package for all nurses interested in becoming nurse leaders

RN Positions

You love what you do.
SHOULDN’T YOU LOVE WHERE YOU WORK?

Fremont Health is leading the way in what it means to be a nurse, it means having the opportunity to become a leader. To truly improve patient outcomes, To work with the latest technology and equipment in an incredible new healing environment designed to be patient-centered and staff-supportive. To be valued for your innovation. It means real opportunities for growth and advancement. And most importantly, it means making a difference every day.

- Generous benefits program
- Tuition assistance
- RN to BSN program
- Career advancement opportunities
- Multiple shifts available

You choose nursing for a reason. Now choose Fremont Health.

Visit FremontHealth.com to find out what nursing opportunities are available, or call (402) 941-7366.

Notes from around Nebraska

October – December

• First AC to hold a Culture of Health Summit. This collaborative event, hosted by NAC, NNA, NONL, and NANDD on October 15-16, 2015, was held in Omaha and via video broadcasted to Lincoln, Kearney, and Norfolk. Over 250 people representing healthcare, business, insurers, public health and state legislators attended the two-day Summit across state.

• The Diverse Nurse Open House was hosted by NAHN, AAMN, and Omaha Black Nurses’ Association (OBNA) on Nov. 13 in Omaha. The event was held to encourage membership in these organizations. NAC and One World Community Health Centers sponsored this first of its kind event.

• NAC Education Team Co-Leads, Marilyn Valero PhD and Aubray Orduna EdD, attended a CFA Education meeting in Salt Lake City where NAC’s competency portfolio model was highlighted as a means to create seamless mobility for RN to BSN students.

• Five members of the NAC attended the national Campaign for Action Summit December 9-10th in Washington D.C.

To the future of nursing, health, and health care in Nebraska in 2016!
In today’s healthcare environment with seemingly endless information available, it can still be frustrating to find the right information, at the right time, for the patients we care for and treat. The Nebraska Health Information Initiative (NeHII) is working to solve this dilemma and create a secure, consolidated patient chart that connects all health professionals in Nebraska through its Virtual Health Record (VHR).

NeHII is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that partners with the State of Nebraska as the State’s designated integrator for Health Information Exchange (HIE). Incorporated since 2008, NeHII is one of the most successful health information organizations in the nation covering more than 3 million patient lives and connecting more than 5,500 hospitals, medical clinics, doctors, and nurses across Nebraska and southwest Iowa. NeHII also serves as the designated Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) for the State of Nebraska, linking both a patient’s medical and prescription drug record in a single, secure location.

To assist in its goal to connect Nebraska, NeHII has actively engaged many health care partners across the state, from Omaha to Scottsbluff. The Visiting Nurses Association (VNA), a leading in-home care organization in Nebraska for more than 100 years, has been a key participant in NeHII since 2011. Working to improve the continuum of care as patients transition from one care setting to another, NeHII aims to increase patient safety by providing care professionals with accurate information directly from a patient’s chart. Through its Virtual Health Record, the VNA is able to access a patient’s lab results, radiology reports, and admission and discharge information.

The Nebraska Health Information Initiative (NeHII) is able to access a patient’s lab results, radiology reports, and admission and discharge information. Francie McNiel, MSN, RN and Clinical Support Manager for the VNA, spoke on how NeHII allows her staff to assist patients with their care. “As a nurse, my job is to advocate for my patients and what they need. They need me to be able to have access to this information.” The consolidated patient record, available through the VHR provided by the Nebraska HIE, truly assists the entire care team and allows time and attention to be shifted back to where it belongs - the patient! This complete medical record allows providers and allied health professionals to reduce the amount of redundant laboratory and diagnostic testing, as well as minimize the time for administrative care staff to find the information needed for pre-authorization, chart preparation, and patient follow-up. Bridget Young, COO for the VNA discusses how NeHII is used in the transition process, “The VNA Intake Department accesses NeHII during the referral process to obtain information that will improve the transition to home or hospice care whether the patient is transitioning from acute care, post-acute facility, or (a) MD office.”

NeHII doesn’t just save time and money, it can save lives. As the State of Nebraska’s designated PDMP, NeHII provides a link to its users to view an individual’s prescription drug history. Recognizing the current prescription drug overdose epidemic, one of the VHR’s most used functions is the prescription drug query. This functionality allows licensed health professionals to view prescription, quantity, refill, and pharmacy location information for retail and insured prescription drugs throughout the state.

NeHII’s on-demand access also delivers important medical information to care providers in emergency settings. Mitchell Barrett, ARNP with Methodist Health System, uses NeHII every day. “As a provider, it’s very valuable to have that information available at our fingertips so that you ever more than what they can tell me at that moment. They need me to be able to have access to this information.”

The consolidated patient record, available through the VHR provided by the Nebraska HIE, truly assists the entire care team and allows time and attention to be shifted back to where it belongs - the patient! This complete medical record allows providers and allied health professionals to reduce the amount of redundant laboratory and diagnostic testing, as well as minimize the time for administrative care staff to find the information needed for pre-authorization, chart preparation, and patient follow-up. Bridget Young, COO for the VNA discusses how NeHII is used in the transition process, “The VNA Intake Department accesses NeHII during the referral process to obtain information that will improve the transition to home or hospice care whether the patient is transitioning from acute care, post-acute facility, or (a) MD office.”

NeHII doesn’t just save time and money, it can save lives. As the State of Nebraska’s designated PDMP, NeHII provides a link to its users to view an individual’s prescription drug history. Recognizing the current prescription drug overdose epidemic, one of the VHR’s most used functions is the prescription drug query. This functionality allows licensed health professionals to view prescription, quantity, refill, and pharmacy location information for retail and insured prescription drugs throughout the state.

NeHII’s on-demand access also delivers important medical information to care providers in emergency settings. Mitchell Barrett, ARNP with Methodist Health System, uses NeHII every day. “As a provider, it’s very valuable to have that information available at our fingertips so that you ever get into an acute emergency situation where you can’t verbalize your information. . . how sick you are or your past medical history, I can get on the computer and within 30 seconds I can see what you’ve had previously . . . it really saves lives.”

NeHII takes its role as the state-designated HIE and PDMP seriously. As a data gateway for a significant amount of personal health information, security is priority number one. NeHII uses a proven data system that is widely used by many of the leading banking and health care security companies across the country. All information on NeHII’s VHR uses the latest data encryption software and has restricted access to approved health systems and providers that demonstrate a clear treating relationship to the individual.

But, security doesn’t just stop with access as NeHII also believes in a patient’s right to consent. Using an opt-out model, all patients whose information is collected have the option to opt out of the health information exchange. To date, more than 97% of all patients covered by NeHII have elected to remain within the VHR. And, while some states have adopted the use of a “Break the Glass” model for emergency access, NeHII’s privacy/security team has elected not to enact this functionality. This allows NeHII users to respect a patient’s wishes so that consumers are comfortable in how their health information is accessed and used.

NeHII is working with both clinical and academic professionals. Thanks to a significant grant that was awarded to the State of Nebraska in 2015 from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology within the US Department of Health and Human Services, the State, NeHII and the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) are partnering to build two integrated Communities within Nebraska for use of interoperable data in clinical practice. These communities will have access to a wide-array of interoperability tools, including NeHII’s Virtual Health Record (VHR), direct secure messaging, admissions/ discharge reporting, and a population health data analytics platform. The partners will also be assisting the Integrated Communities with adoption, work flow, and case study analysis to enable clinicians to access data in manners that are consistent with their daily practice routines. Timely access to relevant data across the continuum of care is essential to the goal of making Nebraska the healthiest state by 2020.

If you would like more information about NeHII, please visit the website at www.nehii.org or contact NeHII’s CEO Deb Bass at 402-981-7664.
Nebraska Center for Nursing Update

Dr. Liane Connelly, PhD, RN, NEA-BC
Chair, Nebraska Center for Nursing

As reported in an earlier issue of the Nebraska Nurse, the Nebraska Center for Nursing is in process of finalizing the new strategic plan for the 2016-2020 cycle. During the November, 2015 meeting, Board Members of the Center for Nursing made revisions to the mission and vision statement, and developed a draft form of a new Charter. The draft Charter and specific goals will be developed and approved in the January 2016 meeting.

The primary goals for the Center for Nursing include the development of a statewide plan to alleviate the nursing shortage in Nebraska through the maintenance of a data based on nursing supply and demand data in Nebraska. A new goal includes a formal development of demand data in the state, that the Center seeks to achieve through partnerships with relevant nursing groups and employers. A second primary goal is to convene various representatives of nurses and other providers in business and industry to review and comment on data analysis prepared for the Center, recommend systematic changes, and evaluate and report the results of the efforts to the Legislature and public, as well as to interpret and disseminate other nursing workforce data. Finally, the Center seeks to enhance and promote recognition, reward and renewal activities through media and positive image-building efforts for nursing.

The results of these ongoing efforts will be reported in future issues of this publication.
Nursing Opportunities
- Experienced PICU
- Experienced NICU
- Nurse Practitioners
- Medical Surgical (IMC)
- Emergency
- Ambulatory Clinics
- Private Duty/Home Care
- Children's Physicians Clinics

Take your pediatric nursing career to the next level through our specialized programs:
- Transition to Pediatrics
- RN Residency
- Homecare Academy

WHICH ONE ARE YOU?

Maybe it's time to build a career as unique as you are. At Golden LivingCenters*, we don't treat nurses like commodities. We know that behind the nurse there's a person and that person deserves the chance to do more with their talent, work with the best technologies, and enjoy a work environment that is as close to family as it gets. If your career feels a little generic, this is definitely a Golden opportunity.

RN& LPNs - Current RN or LPN license in the state of Nebraska required. *Sign-on bonus available in select locations.

CNAs - Current CNA certification in the state of Nebraska required. *Sign-on bonus available in select locations. *Training available in select locations.

Incredibly Low Medical Premiums • Competitive Wages • PTO • 401K • Tuition Reimbursement

Golden LivingCenters has locations in:
- Broken Bow • Clarkson • Columbus • Cozad • Franklin • Fullerton • Grand Island • Hartington • Nebraska City
- Neligh • Norfolk • Omaha • O'Neall • Plattsmouth • Schuyler • Scottsbluff • Sidney • Tekamah • Valley • Wausa

To apply online: jm.goldenlivingjobs.com