Meet the New Executive Director

Your Voice… Your LSNA

The only constant is change. From advances in healthcare and practice to changes in public policy that affect how you perform your day to day duties caring for patients, you’ve come to realize there will always be one constant – change.

The Louisiana State Nurses Association – your LSNA – is no exception. LSNA is the statewide association for professional nurses like you. With over 60,000 professional nurses in Louisiana, LSNA must strategically position itself to be an effective voice and advocate for policy and practice that not only protects the integrity of your work but ensures that all Louisiana citizens receive the most competent and compassionate care possible.

LSNA is embracing bold changes to meet your needs. As a professional nurse in Louisiana, LSNA embraces YOU as our primary client and we want to work to meet your needs. From engaging in long term planning to redesigning a new and interactive website; from working with partners and stakeholders to promote quality CE opportunities to serving as your voice in public policy, LSNA recognizes that now is the opportunity to make bold changes.

As the Executive Director of LSNA I bring over 20 years of professional experience working with and leading nonprofit and community organizations; including over 10 years in association management. Partnering with LSNA’s Board of Directors, we will continue to embrace bold changes and seek effective strategies.

LSNA needs your help to achieve the vision we all share for professional nursing and better health care in Louisiana. The first step I would encourage you to do is simply take a chance on your professional association. You can strengthen our collective voice by becoming a member. We are in uncertain times politically as a state and a nation; by joining LSNA you can ensure we have resources to continue insisting that nursing be at the policy table and our voices be heard. The second step you can engage to advance your profession is make sure your voice is heard as a professional nurse. In the coming months you will receive opportunities to give input into the priorities of LSNA and the needs of professional nursing. Take time to make sure your voice is heard! The second step you can engage to advance your profession is make sure your voice is heard as a professional nurse. In the coming months you will receive opportunities to give input into the priorities of LSNA and the needs of professional nursing. Take time to make sure your voice is heard! Finally, feel free to email me and share constructive thoughts, suggestions and considerations on how we can collaboratively strengthen LSNA. I look forward to hearing from you!

Change is not easy. Only those bold enough to envision what we can be have the courage to embrace change. My commitment is that your LSNA will always be courageous in its service to you.

Best Regards,
John E Wyble, PhD
Certified Association Executive (CAE)
executivedirector@lsna.org

LSNA Cruise T-Shirts on Sale!
September 12 – October 12, 2016
(See LSNA website for details.)

Nurses!

Louisiana has a large list of nurses to keep updated and we want to reach you all.
Please be sure to email lsna@lsna.org with address changes / corrections or if the nurse listed is no longer at this address.
Subject Line: Pelican News Address Change / Removal – Last, First Name
Legislature with Louisiana House of Representatives Nursing Hall of Fame in 2003 and being recognized for allowing for mentioning all of Dr. Clark's contributions to nursing in many capacities of leadership including Dean of Academic teaching at Our Lady of the Lake College. She served there to benefit from Dr. Clark's expertise in 1973 when she began Science in Nursing in 1980, and a Doctorate in Education in commitment to lifelong learning, she earned a Master of Oklahoma with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She deep. Her commitment to nursing runs even deeper. She began consulting basis as needed moving forward. Dr. Clark not only remains active in LSNA, but nursing in general as evidenced by the release of a book that she co-authored this year with her daughter, Dr. Keeley C. Harmon, Jeffery M. Dyck, and Vicki Moran. The book is entitled Nurse Educator’s Guide to Best Teaching Practice. Dr. Clark’s contribution focused on a historical perspective of nursing education along with a discussion surrounding issues and trends in nursing education. Overall, the book presents essential teaching skills and tools for nurse educators.

Here is what some have said about Dr. Clark:

Diane Webb wrote: “As long as I have known Joe Ann Clark, she has been a role model for me. For the past 20 plus years, I have aspired to be like her in thought, word, and deed. Although I have made progress on this journey, I fear my advancing years will get me before I reach my goal! Dr. Clark, thank you for your leadership, your integrity, your honor, your professionalism, your legacy... you are truly LSNA’s Angel.”

Longtime LSNA member and past Health Policy Chair Maxine Johnson had this to say about Dr. Clark, “Dr. Clark has represented nursing in Louisiana and the nation with professional demeanor, knowledge, caring, and integrity that are beyond reproach. She has consistently demonstrated superior leadership and mentorship for literally thousands of nurses throughout her nursing career. LSNA and Louisiana nurses have been the beneficiaries of her leadership, wisdom, and spirit of excellence and fairness for many years. We will be forever grateful to her for the dedicated commitment and sacrifice she has made for us throughout her professional career!!

Jackie Hill, Past President expressed her thoughts this way: “I consider Joe Ann Clark the resident sage of LSNA. She knows the history of the organization and is always willing to provide words of wisdom in a kind, gentle manner. She is a joy to work with and I believe her for all the help she has given me over the years, especially when I was president of LSNA.”

Thank you does not seem adequate to express our appreciation to Dr. Clark for all she has done and continues to do for LSNA. We appreciate her past, present, and continued service. She serves as an inspiration to us all. We thank her for dedicated service to the organization as a member of the Bylaws Committee. LSNA begins an exciting new chapter in its evolution, but one that is steeped in rich history and tradition. We, as an organization, are what we are because of those who served in the past, those who are serving now and those who will serve in the future. And proud and celebrate that you are a member of such a remarkable organization.
In nursing, our experience equips us with knowledge, skill, and the instincts that allow us to provide excellent care. We learn from both our own experience and the experience of fellow nurses. With a lifetime of valuable nursing experience, Mather alumni have a wealth of knowledge, skill, and wisdom to share. Here are just a few words of advice shared by Mather School of Nursing alumni to nurses today:

Advice from Mather School of Nursing Alumni to Nurses Today

Bertha Adams White, Class of 1962

“The most important advice I could give to new nurses: Remember why you are a nurse. The Great Physician chose you. You are His hands. You show His heart. Your education is a tool that He has allowed which equips you to serve to the BEST of your ability. You are not infallible, but with His guidance, will be a blessing to those you serve. What a privilege to be able to work at what you love!”

Faye Feddeck, Class of 1961

“Seek employment that can offer longevity, a place where you can become part of a team that is committed to excellence in caring for patients, a place where you can make a difference and be innovative. Guard against becoming complacent and avoid being a cynic. Stay true to the reasons you became a nursing professional.”

Tish Breland, Class of 1965

“As a wound and ostomy nurse, my advice is this: If you don’t know the ostomy, go look it up and find everything you can. Your patient needs you to do it. Secondly, find a support group for your patient and encourage them to go.”

Dee Fegan, Class of 1960

“My secret to success as a nurse and leader: Having a strong sense of compassion for patients and their care led me to never cut corners. Things must be done by the book when it comes to a person’s life. Follow the rules and don’t cut corners. Also, remember that there is power in speaking up. When you notice something and speak up, you can change care for patients. Lastly, if you are called to nursing, do whatever it takes to make it happen and whatever your role may be, educate yourself as well as you can.”

To view photos from the event, alumni can visit the chapter’s Facebook page called “Mather.”
Here are several potential reasons:

- Adults in Louisiana living with chronic arthritis pain, less than 30% are taking opioids; minority and other disadvantaged populations to obtain access to needed opioids.

Bulls, Goodin, McNew, Gossett, & Bradley, 2016), but if providers hold false beliefs, Scipio, Hirsh, Torres, & Robinson, 2012). A growing body of research has in fact proven students/providers have reported that they believe African Americans’ nerve ending are Byun, & Gallagher, 2012). The literature provides evidence that providers hold distorted experience opioid prescription disparities across pain types and settings of care (Meghani, Byun, & Gallagher, 2012).

What does this issue look like in Louisiana? In my research with African American adults in Louisiana living with chronic arthritis pain, less than 30% are taking opioids; many of whom take on an ‘as needed’ basis versus routinely. This begs the question why? Here are several potential reasons:

- Patients’ fear of taking “strong medications” such as opioids.
- Patients do not request/advocate for opioids or stronger medications.
- Providers are not assessing pain at the same rate in African Americans in other racial groups.

It is imperative that we balance responsible opioid prescribing with equitable opioid prescribing and monitoring. One research participant discussed despite suffering with severe pain that often limits his function and performance at work, the provider prescribed acetaminophen. Although the participant reported to the provider that acetaminophen was not effective and a stronger medication was needed, the provider would not prescribe any opioids. This particular participant also stated that he used opioids in the past and they were helpful. CDC (2016) guidelines state non-opioids for opioid-naive patients (CDC, 2015). In response to the CDC guidelines to combat the opioid epidemic, a national campaign among academic nursing has ensued with nearly two nursing schools in Louisiana have committed their support to the initiative (http://www.aacn.nche.edu/news/articles/2016/opioids). Schools of Nursing and nurses are in prime position to advocate and promote the CDC’s national guidelines by (1) providing a balanced education on opioid use, (2) improving nurses’ cultural competency level, and (3) collaborating with health systems to disseminate guidelines and reduce pain treatment disparities and inequities through quality improvement initiatives.

A National and State Complex: Opioids, Pain, and Race

Staja “Star” Booker, PhD(c), MS, RN

Most providers and the public are aware of the “opioid epidemic” that has gripped the nation. Opioid rates in the US are higher than ever, and opioid-related deaths have increased significantly in the past decade. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Louisiana has the highest prescribing rate of opioids per 1,000 residents for both males and females and age groups < 18 and 35+ (Paulozzi, Strickler, Kreiner, & Koris, 2015). As legislators and regulatory bodies continue to develop policies to ensure responsible opioid prescribing, the nation and our state faces a complex related to the intersection of opioids, pain, and race. The new “CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain” recommends that opioids be used when expected treatment benefits for pain reduction and functional improvement outweigh risks and other pharmacological and non-pharmacological modalities provide inadequate control (Dowell, Haegerich, & Chou, 2016). However, research shows that ethnic minorities (e.g., African Americans), despite having higher severities of pain and greater functional impairments and disability, experience opioid prescription disparities across pain types and settings of care (Meghani, Byun, & Gallagher, 2012). The literature provides evidence that providers hold distorted and unfounded beliefs related to pain. For example, some lay persons and medical students/providers have reported that they believe African Americans’ nerve ending are less sensitive to pain, thus causing them to feel less pain (Hoffman et al., 2016; Wandler, Scipio, Hirsh, Torres, & Robinson, 2012). A growing body of research has in fact proven that African Americans present with greater sensitivity to pain (Goodin et al., 2014; Bulls, Goodin, McNew, Gossett, & Bradley, 2016), but if providers hold false beliefs, it is plausible they may feel less compelled to prescribe appropriate pain medications.

In addition, stricter laws, policies, and guidelines, may make it more difficult for ethnic minority and other disadvantaged populations to obtain access to needed opioids.

References


A Nationall and State Complex: Opioids, Pain, and Race

Come for the Opportunities. Stay for the Fun!

There’s a reason why San Antonio is one of the nation’s favorite tourist destinations. It’s a fun city with friendly people and a lot to do. So why just visit when you can work here and enjoy our beautiful city all year long? Baptist Health System’s commitment to providing our nurses with excellent careers and work-life balance allows you to have an ideal job in an ideal city.

Why Baptist Health System?

- Six hospitals across San Antonio & New Braunfels
- An Interesting case mix
- Baptist Orthopedic Hospital opening Fall 2016
- Educational opportunities through Baptist School of Health Professions
- Career development opportunities
- Part of the national Tenet network

Why San Antonio?

- Affordable housing
- No state income tax
- Sunny climes & mild winters
- Family-oriented culture
- Fun, friendly city

To apply online, go to BHSnacers.com or email us at maxame.jones@baptisthealthsystem.com

We're a nicotine-free workplace. | San Antonio, Texas | EOE

BHSnacers BHSnacers
“How do you do that for a living?” “I could never take care of kids with cancer. I’d cry the time!” “There’s a special place in heaven for people like you.” These are all things that most of people who work in pediatric hematology and oncology hear on routine basis. To the outside, it’s easy to see the little bald kids and think how sad it must be for the doctors and nurses who care for those patients. While being a nurse in this specialty has its challenges, I and most of my coworkers cannot imagine working anywhere else or with any other type of patient.

It is a common misconception that our job revolves around taking care of kids who are dying of cancer. I’ve seen oncology nurses care for kids who are suffering from a variety of other illnesses, some of which are around death, but a job that revolves around. We celebrate our patients’ victories, from the many “No Mo’ Chemo” parties we celebrate each year, and to helping our patients at the end of life make their dreams come true. We have many patient’s realize dreams they never thought possible, from proposing to their girlfriends, to celebrating proms, graduations and senior trips. Our success is not measured by the number of days we able to help our patients live to see, but by the amount of life we are able to help them achieve each day regardless of prognosis or diagnosis.

We also have the privilege to watch our patient’s grow. We take care of our oncology kids for anywhere from 6 months to 4 or 5 years in duration. This amount of time is so short in comparison to the amount of time we care for our patients with hematologic disorders, such as sickle cell disease. We begin watching care of these patients at birth and watch them grow well into adulthood. Being able to watch these children grow is an honor. We are able to form relationships and bonds that will last a lifetime while preparing them how to maintain their diseases. It is always a humbling experience when we run into one of our “old patients” after they have transitioned to adult care and have them tell us how much we helped prepared them as kids to manage their disease as adults.

Every nursing discipline has many similarities and differences that make them all unique in their day-to-day practice. For instance, all nurses start their shift with report from fellow nurses. We all pass medications to our patients at the scheduled times, dress wounds routinely, draw labs when needed. What sets Pediatric Hematology/ Oncology nurses apart is the privilege we have to get to know our patients and their families because of the length of time we care for them. We celebrate their achievements and victories, and perhaps more importantly, we are there to hold their hands when they receive a new diagnosis or bad news. We have the honor to walk a road with these children that many adults could not even begin to imagine.

This type of nursing was a calling for each of us. Some of us knew from the beginning this was where we wanted to be. For some others, this position chose them. It is an area that can be hard and sad. Sometimes these kids make their way into our hearts. Sometimes we cry with them or in the car after a particularly hard case, not necessarily because we are sad, but because we are so grateful to have been granted the opportunity to serve these families in such an intimate way. It is these moments combined with the many forms of victory we are witness to each day that make it all worth it. If you ever have the ability to work in this specialty, you will understand why we love it so much.

Charles Potts, RN, BSN, CPON

When people find out that I am a Pediatric Hematology/Oncology nurse, many of them ask, “How can you do a job that is so sad?” My answer, and that of most of my co-workers is, “I can’t imagine doing anything else.” Most people’s understanding of the job is that we give chemotherapy and we take care of children who are dying of cancer. I tell them that it’s the opposite: many of our patients are around death, but a job that revolves around life.

We celebrate our patients’ victories, from the many “No Mo’ Chemo” parties we celebrate each year, and to helping our patients at the end of life make their dreams come true. We have many patient’s realize dreams they never thought possible, from proposing to their girlfriends, to celebrating proms, graduations and senior trips. Our success is not measured by the number of days we able to help our patients live to see, but by the amount of life we are able to help them achieve each day regardless of prognosis or diagnosis.

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Charles Potts, RN, BSN, CPON
Future of Nursing

NURSING EDUCATION CAPACITY AND NURSING SUPPLY IN LOUISIANA 2015 SNAPSHOT
Moving Toward the Recommendations from the Institute of Medicine Report on the Future of Nursing

According to the 2016 Movement of the Institute of Medicine Report on the Future of Nursing, leading changes, Advancing Health, with a baccalaureate degree at higher in nursing increased from 80% in 2015.

The passage rate on the NCLEX-RN for graduates from Louisiana’s pre-RN associate programs continues to exceed that of the nation.

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APRN EDUCATION CAPACITY

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APRN SUPPLY

Primary Employment Specialty Practice Areas Reported by APRNs Residing in LA (2015)

Post-Graduate Year

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In 2015, the largest numbers/percentages of APRNs reported their primary employment specialty practice areas as Adult Health/Adult Family Health/Primary Care (28%) and Anesthesia (27%).

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The Nursing Education Capacity and Supply report addresses current information related to programs that are currently in the pipeline, as well as nurses that are advancing their education. Information about students enrolled in registered nurse (RN) and advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) programs is derived from data that comes directly from schools of nursing via the annual reports submitted to LSBN from undergraduate and graduate nursing programs in Louisiana. Data presented in the report on these students includes degree type, admission, enrollment, demographics, performance on the National Council Licensure Examination for RNs (NCLEX-RN), as well as trends in post-licensure education.

The Nursing Supply Report presents an overview and analysis of RNs and APRNs that reside in Louisiana. Characteristics of the RN and APRN nurse workforce that are presented in the report include trends in educational attainment, demographics of the nursing workforce such as age, race/ethnicity and gender, and primary employment specialty. In 2015, the source for the information presented in this section of the report was derived from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Optimal Regulatory Board System (ORBIS) online licensure renewal system. Information about nurses that held a license to practice as a RN or APRN during the annual report year, but did not renew their license via the ORBS licensure renewal system is derived from data that is obtained from LSBN’s Nurse Track Licensure system (i.e., endorsement, reinstatement, or licensure by the Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Optimal Regulatory Board System (ORBIS) online licensure renewal system). Information about nurses that held a license to practice as a RN or APRN during the annual report year, but did not renew their license via the ORBS licensure renewal system is derived from data that is obtained from LSBN’s Nurse Track Licensure system (i.e., endorsement, reinstatement, or licensure by the Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Optimal Regulatory Board System (ORBIS) online licensure renewal system). Information about nurses that held a license to practice as a RN or APRN during the annual report year, but did not renew their license via the ORBS licensure renewal system is derived from data that is obtained from LSBN’s Nurse Track Licensure system (i.e., endorsement, reinstatement, or licensure by the Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Optimal Regulatory Board System (ORBIS) online licensure renewal system). Information about nurses that held a license to practice as a RN or APRN during the annual report year, but did not renew their license via the ORBS licensure renewal system is derived from data that is obtained from LSBN’s Nurse Track Licensure system (i.e., endorsement, reinstatement, or licensure by the Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Optimal Regulatory Board System (ORBIS) online licensure renewal system).

Nursing Education Capacity

- Four thousand eighty-eight (4,088) qualified applicants applied for admission to Louisiana’s pre-RN licensure programs in 2015 which is a six percent decrease when compared to 4,313 applying in the previous report year.
- Over the last five years, there has been an overall 13% decrease in the number of students applying for admission to Louisiana’s pre-RN licensure programs.
- Approximately 34% (1,376) of the qualified applicants applying to Louisiana’s pre-RN licensure programs in 2014-2015 were denied admission.
- Over the past five years (2011-2015), there has been a three percent increase in the number of students enrolled in Baccalaureate programs in Louisiana and a 26% decrease in the number enrolled in Associate degree programs.
- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of students enrolled in pre-RN licensure programs in Louisiana were female.
- Sixty-four percent (64%) of the students enrolled in pre-RN licensure programs in Louisiana were White, 25% Black/African American, three percent Hispanic/Latino, three percent Asian, and four percent Other.
- There has been a 42% decrease in the number of licensed practical nurses (LPNs) enrolled in LPN to AD programs in Louisiana since 2011. Although small in number, there was an increase in the number of LPNs enrolled in LPN-BSN programs (eight in 2011; 29 in 2015).
- Louisiana’s annual pass rate in 2015 on the NCLEX-RN Examination (89.29%) continues to exceed that of the nation (84.51%).
- There has been a 121% increase in the number of students enrolled in Louisiana’s pre-RN licensure programs holding a DNP since 2012 and a 53% increase in the number with a PhD in Nursing.
- Mean salaries for all levels of nursing faculty in Louisiana, except for instructors, remain below the SREB mean for four year public colleges.
- There was an overall 17% decrease in the number of students enrolled in Louisiana’s APRN programs with the most significant decrease in enrollment occurring in CNS programs (50% decrease).
- Since 2011, there has been a 39% decrease in the number of students enrolled in non-licensure graduate nursing programs in Louisiana (Nursing Education and Nursing Administration).

Nursing Supply

- In 2015, 63,396 nurses held a license to practice as a RN in Louisiana. Eighty-six percent (54,696) of nurses licensed to practice in Louisiana also lived in Louisiana and 14% (8,700) reported home addresses outside of Louisiana.
- There has been a 236% increase in the number of RNs enrolled in Louisiana’s RN to BSN programs over the past five years and a 253% increase in the number of graduates.
- The average age for RNs licensed in Louisiana in 2015 was 45.4 years, compared to an average age of 48.8 nationwide (Budden, Moulton, Harper, Brunell & Smiley, 2016).
- There was a 39% increase in the number of licensed RNs with a DNP when compared to the previous year, and a two percent decrease in those with a PhD in Nursing.
- There were 5,299 APRNs licensed to practice in Louisiana in 2015 which represents a seven percent increase when compared to 2014. Ninety percent (4,781) were residents of Louisiana.
- In 2015, 66% (3,179) of all APRNs licensed and residing in Louisiana were Nurse Practitioners, 28% (1,316) were Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, three percent (146) were Clinical Nurse Specialists, and one percent (42) were Certified Nurse Midwives.

For additional information please contact the LSBN-Center for Nursing at kang@lsbn.state.la.us.
Cynthia Bienemy, PhD, RN, Louisiana Center for Nursing (LCN) director and co-lead for the Louisiana Action Coalition (LAC), was chosen as president-elect of the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers on April 27 during the organization’s annual conference in Orlando, Fla. The National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers (The FORUM) represents a group of nurse workforce entities that focuses on addressing the nursing shortage within their states and contributes to the national effort to assure an adequate supply of qualified nurses to meet the health needs of the US population. The FORUM supports the advancement of new as well as existing nurse workforce initiatives and shares best practices in nursing workforce research, workforce planning, workforce development and formulation of workforce policy.

In her position at the LCN, Dr. Bienemy collects, analyzes and reports on data about the registered nurse and advanced practice registered nurse workforce in Louisiana. She addresses nursing workforce issues related to nursing education capacity, nurse supply and nurse demand.

In addition to serving as co-lead, Bienemy’s work with LAC includes leading the Diversity Steering Committee and serving as a member of the organization’s Core Leadership Team.

Cynthia Bienemy

CALL TO APPLICATIONS

Louisiana State Board of Examiners in Dietetics and Nutrition Vacancy

Call for RN Applicant

According to Title 37, Chapter 41 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes for Dietitians and Nutritionists, the Louisiana State Nurses Association submits a list of licensed registered nurses for one appointment to the Louisiana Board of Examiners in Dietetics and Nutrition.

Terry Compton, APRN, RN, MS, CDE is the RN currently serving on the Louisiana Board of Examiners in Dietetics and Nutrition. Her term has expired and she is no longer eligible for reappointment at this time.

Interested individuals must qualify for the position in accordance with the Louisiana Dietetic/Nutrition Practice Act 3084.C which includes:

“One member shall be a licensed registered nurse selected from a list of names submitted by the Louisiana State Nurses Association.”

“Board members shall be residents of the state who have been actively practicing in the field of dietetics/nutrition or a related field for not less than five years. Board members shall have an unrestricted license to practice their respective profession, where applicable.

If you are interested in this position please email a letter of interest and resume to: lsnanurse@lsna.org

Subject Line to read: Board Vacancy Dietetics/Nutrition Application

For a nominee to be considered, deadline for submission of all required documents is:

September 26, 2016

Vacancies on Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Call for Nominations!

Nomination for the following positions:

The second term of the following board member of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing will expire as of December 31, 2016.

Demetrius Porche, DNS, APRN, PHD, FNP, who serves in a position dedicated to the area of education, as set forth in La. R.S. 37:914(C)(1)(b).

Dr. Porche has served two terms in office and is not eligible for reappointment.

In accordance with the requirements of La. R.S. 37:914 and La. R.S. 37:916 the Louisiana State Nurses Association submits the names of qualified applicants for each Louisiana State Board of Nursing vacancy to the Governor. The Governor then selects one person for each appointment.

Louisiana Revised Statutes 37:916 A (1-4) state the qualifications for each member of the LSBN:

1) Be a citizen of the United States and a resident of Louisiana for one year immediately prior to appointment.

2) Hold a current, unencumbered, unrestricted Louisiana license to practice as a Registered Nurse.

3) Have three years of experience in the respective field of practice.

4) Be actively engaged in the practice of nursing as a Registered Nurse at time of appointment.

All applicants will be interviewed by the Louisiana State Nurses Association Board of Directors at a time to be determined. Applications are available on the LSNA website www.ldna.org.

For a nominee to be considered, deadline for submission of all required documents is:

October 03, 2016

FREE Online CE Activity

As a nurse, you make a difference every day...

Some of your youngest patients—babies younger than 1 year of age—are at risk for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other sleep-related causes of infant death. But you can help reduce that risk.

Take our free continuing education (CE) activity to learn how to teach parents and caregivers about keeping their babies safe and healthy so they can grow up to make a difference—just like you.

Learn more about the free online CE activity at:

http://safetosleep.nichd.nih.gov/nursesce

The CE activity explains safe infant sleep recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics and is approved by the Maryland Nurses Association, an accredited approver of the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.
Gonzales, LA. (July 7, 2016) – The Emergency Nurses Association today announced 14 emergency nurses will be inducted into the Academy of Emergency Nursing, including 2 from Louisiana.

Since 2004, AEN has honored emergency nurses who have made enduring, substantial contributions to emergency nursing; advanced the profession of emergency nursing, including the healthcare system in which emergency nursing is delivered; and provided visionary leadership to ENA and AEN.

The candidates for induction are admitted to AEN as Fellows, recognizing they have made significant contributions to emergency nursing that go above and beyond being an outstanding nurse and a devoted ENA member. Fellows are entitled to use the FAEN designation following their name.

“AEN Fellows have significantly advanced the emergency nursing profession on the local, state, regional, national or international level in the areas of education, practice, research, leadership or public policy,” said ENA President Kathleen E. Carlson, MSN, RN, CEN, FAEN, a 2009 AEN inductee. “I congratulate my soon-to-be Fellows and look forward to celebrating their achievements at Emergency Nursing 2016 in September.”

The 2016 AEN inductees are:

- Rose Lawrence Johnson, RN, Baton Rouge, Louisiana – Rose is the Louisiana Emergency Medical Services for Children Program Director and a Board member for the Louisiana Emergency Nurses Association.
- Dawn McKeown, MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, TCRN, Bossier City, Louisiana – Dawn is the Trauma Program Coordinator for University Medical Center in Shreveport and a Board member for the Louisiana Emergency Nurses Association.

To date, 132 extraordinary emergency nurses have been inducted into the AEN. This number includes one other Louisiana Emergency Nurse, Knox Andress, from Shreveport, LA.

Dawn and Rose will be inducted at the Emergency Nursing 2016 Awards Gala on Saturday, Sept. 17, in Los Angeles.

About the Emergency Nurses Association

The Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) is the premier professional nursing association dedicated to defining the future of emergency nursing through advocacy, education, research, innovation, and leadership. Founded in 1970, ENA has proven to be an indispensable resource to the global emergency nursing community. With more than 42,000 members worldwide and over 500 Louisiana members, ENA advocates for patient safety, develops industry-leading practice standards and guidelines, and guides emergency healthcare public policy. ENA members have expertise in triage, patient care, disaster preparedness, and all aspects of emergency care. Additional information is available at www.ena.org and www.louisianaena.com.

LENA Legislative and Nurse Practice Chair: Deborah Spann
Deb.spann@gmail.com
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Emergency Nurses Attend “Day on the Hill” in D.C.

Tammy O’Connor, BSN CEN & Donelle Brasseal, BSN, CEN

On May 10th and 11th the National Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) held a “Day on the Hill” where Emergency Nurses from each state met with their State Senators and Representatives to advocate for support with H.R. 4365 Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act of 2016, and H.R. 2646 Comprehensive Mental Health Reform. Emergency Nurses from across the country united together on behalf of all emergency nurses and emergency care providers, advocating for support with pressing issues facing our profession. The Louisiana State Council of Emergency Nurses (LCENA), represented by Tammy O’Connor, BSN CEN State-President, and Donelle Brasseal, BSN CEN President-Elect, met with Senator Cassidy, 5th District Representative Abraham, 3rd District Representative Boosé, Senator Vitter’s HCP Advisor, 2nd District Representative Richmond’s Legislative Assistant, and 6th District Representative Graves Chief of staff.

One of the primary concerns brought forward was focused on taking the opportunity to support first responders in the field and advocating for their ability to function fully within their scope of practice. We pressed our State Senators and Representatives for support of bill H.R. 4365, referred to as the “EMS Bill.” Acceptance of this bill will safeguard the continued use of standing orders by EMS to administer controlled substances during pre-hospital care. This bill would ensure that patients, being treated in the field, will continue to receive controlled substances, often life sustaining interventions without delay in care.

The second area of focus surrounded H.R. 2646 and S. 2680 that will improve the nation’s broken mental health system by focusing programs and resources on psychiatric care for patients and families most in need of services. The House bill, “Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act” (H.R. 2646) provides critical resources for additional inpatients beds and outpatient treatment. Mental Health is a national emergency with more than 11 million Americans having a severe mental illness, yet millions go without treatment due to a broken mental health system. Research represents that mental health disorders are the leading cause of disability in the U.S., and an estimated 26.2% of American 18 or older suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder. Despite the grim statistics, access to mental health care treatment is severely lacking, resulting in these patients accessing an emergency department (ED) for care. The mental health patients utilize more resources than other patients which places an added strain on an already over-crowded ED’s. AWA research represents that the average ED stay for a mental health patient is 18 hours versus 4 hours for all other types of patients.

The two bills focus on a comprehensive plan to address the failing mental health system with strategies such as improving reimbursement under Medicare and Medicaid programs, increase volume of psychiatric hospital beds, advance utilization of telepsychiatry, additional resources on suicide prevention, extend health IT laws for improved coordination of care, improve coordination between federal agencies, improve training of care providers in mental health and substance abuse disorders.

After emergency nurses returned from Day on the Hill, there is momentum gaining in support of this bill with an increase of 83 bipartisan cosponsors, up from 70 prior to our visits. This is exciting news and represents the impact that Emergency Nurses have in advocating for those issues that directly impact our profession, and that of our patients.

The movement to improve the overall health care system for those with mental health disorders is a journey that will require a test in time, however, we are confident that there is movement in the right direction.
How to Make Our Voices Count

Lisa Deaton, BSN, RN

Each state’s nursing association acts to support and serve all levels of registered nurses within their state. Louisiana State Nurses Association (LSNA) seeks to provide an avenue for nurses working together, to actively address the factors which impact the health care and the profession of nursing.

Politics and policy affect health care—including every area of nursing—whether it’s education, practice or research. Each legislative session, LSNA’s Health Policy Committee reviews and monitors legislation that could directly impact health care services and nursing practice. The Committee maintains a legislative presence and actively lobbies LSNA’s position as necessary.

It is the role of the Louisiana Nurses Political Action Committee (LANPAC), an entity of LSNA, to monitor legislation and identify members who support LSNA’s positions as it relates to nursing practice and the health needs of the citizens of Louisiana. We are in the process of reviewing the voting records of the members of the Louisiana legislature for the 2016 sessions. This information will be available on the LSNA website under LANPAC.

As the volatile issue of healthcare and budget constraints continue to consume daily conversations and headlines, nursing, as the largest provider of healthcare services, has to maintain a strong political voice. LANPAC can help Louisiana nurses strategically and legislatively align to strengthen their voice and harken political ears to the message Louisiana nurses need to move forward. The time has come to add volume to Louisiana nurses voice. LANPAC needs financial support from contributors to help carry nursing’s advocacy forward. LANPAC understands that like most Americans, many nurses are living on a tight budget. As we try to build up LANPAC funds for imminent political action, LANPAC asks you to consider contributing what you can. Even a small contribution is a big investment when many nurses are living on a tight budget. LANPAC understands that like most Americans, many nurses are living on a tight budget. As we try to build up LANPAC funds for imminent political action, LANPAC asks you to consider contributing what you can. Even a small contribution is a big investment when many nurses are living on a tight budget.

LANPAC is seeking a professional nurse in each of the 105 House and Senate districts across Louisiana to volunteer as we attempt to engage nurses in a collaborative process to build relationships with and educate our legislative partners. We need you to help LANPAC go strong in our profession and the health of the population we serve. To make a contribution, please obtain the donation form at the following link: http://www.lsnan.org/lanpac.html

The Louisiana Action Coalition’s (LAC) Nurse Leader Institute (NLI), with support from the Louisiana State Nurses Association (LSNA) provided RNs across the state an opportunity to strengthen leadership skills and to network with colleagues and seasoned nurse leaders. A group of 23 RNs participated in the recent offering; with20 having completed all five days of the training.

“Nurses need a leader. The information presented by the passionate faculty of the NLI throughout the week. The content covered and resources given will be a valuable asset to help me grow within my leadership role,” said Toni Armstrong, RN. “Thanks to LAC for giving me this leadership training as an up-and-coming leader is one of the highlights of my career. I am always impressed by the participants in terms of willingness to learn and share. Sharing of experiences and networking is essential to learning and building a collaborative base to call upon as you develop and grow in management.”

The NLI was created by the LAC Core Leadership Team and Leadership Steering Committee to provide nurse managers and emerging nurse leaders with the tools they need to be successful. Based on priorities identified in a nurse leadership needs assessment survey fielded in 2015 to all RNs in Louisiana, LAC saw leadership training as a need and responded. The 33.2 CE curriculum includes segments on budgeting, communication, recruitment and retention, staff performance, quality improvement and personal leadership skills.

Registered nurses from work settings including hospitals, home health, academia, public health, insurance and claims, research, regulatory and ambulatory care made up the June 2016 group of NLI participants.

“The Nurse Leader Institute was an eye-opener for me,” said Jeannie Smith, RN, BSN, CMSN. “It allowed me to see the potential I have within myself to become a great leader. The information presented by the passionate faculty of RN-leaders gave me the knowledge, courage and inspiration to reach for my dream of becoming a nurse executive. I am no longer a ‘lamb’ but a ‘lion’ in the making.”

“The content covered and resources given will be a valuable asset to help me grow within my leadership role,” said Toni Armstrong, RN. “Thanks to LAC for giving emerging nurse leaders the opportunity to spread our wings!”

Those who completed the Nurse Leader Institute are now eligible to participate in a nine-month mentorship program during which each will be matched with an experienced nurse leader in his or her area of practice/interest. Those nurse leaders successfully completing both the Nurse Leader Institute and the mentorship program will be recognized at the annual Louisiana Nurses Foundation Nightingale Gala.

Diane Fulton, RN, MSN, senior vice president and chief nursing officer at Rapides Regional Medical Center in Alexandria, served as faculty at both NLI trainings. “Many of us started our leadership careers because someone asked us to staff a nurse to step up and act as an ‘interim manager’ with no formal training - including me.” Fulton said. “I’m glad we now have something available that provides a good foundation for a novice or beginning nurse leader. With more than 17 percent of RNs in leadership positions retiring in the next five years, it is important to train our replacements.”

“The strength of the Nurse Leader Institute is the quality of the faculty,” said Morvant. “Participants get to learn from seasoned nurse leaders who are committed to the profession and so willingly give their time to prepare our future leaders. Our goal is to inspire our future leaders and give them tools to work with on their journeys to greatness.”

Lisa Colletti, RN, MN, NEA-BC, LAC Core Leadership Team member and retired nurse executive, also served as faculty for the second time. She said, “Presenting to young, up-and-coming leaders is one of the highlights of my career. I am always impressed by the participants in terms of willingness to learn and share. Sharing of experiences and networking is essential to learning and building a collaborative base to call upon as you develop and grow in management.”

The next LAC Nurse Leader Institute is scheduled for January 9 through 13, 2017, in Baton Rouge. Registration will open in October. Detailed information about the NLI and Nurse Leader Mentorship Program can be found on the LAC website at louisianafutureofnursing.org.

Development of the Nurse Leader Institute was funded by donations from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of support Louisiana, Gifted Healthcare LLC and the Great 100 Nurses Foundation. In-kind donations were provided by the Louisiana State Nurses Association through its Louisiana Nurses Foundation, including serving as LAC fiscal agent; and the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, through its Center for Nursing staff. Special acknowledgement goes to Lisa Deaton, LAC Core Leadership Team member who volunteered time to staff the NLI throughout the week.
2017 Nightingale Awards and Gala
16th Annual Louisiana Awards Gala for Nursing and Healthcare
Sponsored by the Louisiana Nurses Foundation and Louisiana State Nurses Association

Individual Award Criteria:
All Louisiana registered nurses or retired registered nurses who practiced in Louisiana are eligible to be nominated for a 2017 Nightingale Award. In addition, individual RN’s are eligible to be nominated for induction into the Louisiana State Nurses Association/ Louisiana Nurses Foundation Hall of Fame, the most prestigious award of recognition for life long contributions. Applications are limited to the electronic application which may be accessed from the Louisiana State Nurses Association website, www.lansa.org.

Hall of Fame names will be notified prior to the event whether or not they are selected for induction into the Hall of Fame. All other nominees for awards will be announced at the Gala.

All submissions must include the following information on the nominated nurse as well as the specific award criteria:
• Number of years in practice as a registered nurse.
• All academic degrees.
• All current nationally recognized nursing certifications.
• Current position and years in position.

Please comment on and give examples of the nominee’s achievements/ accomplishments related to the SPECIFIC AWARD CRITERIA for which he or she is nominated.

Clinical Practice Nurse of the Year
This award recognizes a registered nurse who consistently delivers exemplary direct patient care in a primary nursing role.

Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. ability to demonstrate use of clinical expertise and interpersonal/communication skills to deliver excellence in patient care,
2. Impact on clinical outcomes and patient satisfaction through application of nursing knowledge,
3. ability to use leadership skills and quality measures to initiate improvement in patient care processes, and
4. evidence of participation in professional/community organizations, and
5. evidence of continuing education and lifelong learning.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse of the Year
This award honors an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse licensed in Louisiana for outstanding direct patient care. This category includes: Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Midwives, Nurse Anesthetists, and Clinical Nurse Specialists.

Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. Impact on wellness to a population of patients, Rec:
2. demonstrates advanced clinical expertise and interpersonal/communication skills to improve patient outcomes,
2. impact on wellness to a population of patients, Rec: Documentation of use of evidence based practice to guide practice,
3. use of leadership skills and quality measures to advance an area of nursing practice,
4. evidence of continuing education and lifelong learning, and
5. evidence of participation in professional/community organizations.

Nurse Researcher of the Year
This award recognizes a research focused registered nurse who had led significant nursing research leading to an improvement in direct patient care and has shown to impact healthcare delivery or the community.

Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. develops and implements a research protocol(s) that focuses on patient outcomes, clinical quality or the community,
2. translates specific research findings into meaningful and valuable clinical practice change(s),
3. disseminates nursing research findings outside of the organizational structure,
4. demonstrates the ability to secure funding to conduct or implement research as needed, and
5. evidence of participation in LSNA/ANA and other professional organizations.

Clinical Nurse Educator of the Year
(healthcare provider, primary role)
This award is given to an outstanding clinical nurse educator practicing in any area of care that provides formal education programs in a healthcare facility based in Louisiana.

Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. impact on nursing outcomes that were a direct reflection of clinical nursing education,
2. excellence in classroom presentation and competency demonstration and validation,
3. excellence in clinical expertise and nurse educator competencies,
4. participation in LSNA/ANA and/or professional nursing, professional development, or educational organizations, and
5. evidence of mentoring nurses to the profession of nursing at an organization, including measurement outcomes related to nursing retention and turnover.

Rookie of the Year
This award honors a registered nurse who, while practicing for less than two years, exhibits awareness of the practice of nursing and professionalism while delivering nursing care.

Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. consistency of job experience since becoming a registered nurse,
2. demonstrates ongoing growth in professional nursing practice.
3. demonstrates excellence in clinical practice,
4. evidence of demonstrating leadership,
5. evidence of continuing education and learning, and
6. participation in professional/community organizations.

Registered Nurse Mentor of the Year
This award honors a registered nurse who assisted a nursing colleague(s) to advance in the nursing profession.
Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. demonstration of exemplary professional behaviors in a mentor/student relationship,
2. demonstrates professional commitment to mentor others in the art and science of nursing,
3. evidence of continuing education and lifelong learning,
4. participation in professional/community organizations.

Nursing Administrator of the Year
This award recognizes a registered nurse who serves in a key nursing leadership role, administers the business/administration care activities of a health organization, and/or who manages other personnel who have achieved demonstrated excellence during the past year.
Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. documentation of exemplary leadership in an area of nursing practice within the healthcare agency as a result of the vision and leadership of this individual,
2. use of leadership skills, quality measures, and evidence-based initiatives to improve nursing practice,
3. demonstration of personal and organizational commitment to lifelong learning, and
4. participation in professional/community organizations.

Outstanding Community Achievement by a Registered Nurse
This award recognizes achievement of outstanding community service by a registered nurse.
Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. demonstration of exemplary leadership in voluntary activities within community organizations such as schools, churches, agencies, etc.,
2. demonstration of significant accomplishments in the community,
3. evidence of activities that have yielded a positive impact on the health and welfare of the community and its citizens, and
4. participation in professional/community organizations.

Nursing Educator of the Year (Faculty, School of Nursing)
This award is given to an outstanding nurse educator involved in formal undergraduate or graduate nursing program based in Louisiana.
Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. serves as a role model to students and positively impacts the student learning experience,
2. evidence of innovation and excellence in education competencies, in the classroom and in other learning modalities,
3. demonstrates excellence in clinical expertise,
4. participation in professional/community organizations, and
5. evidence of participation in lifelong learning.

Nursing School Administrator of the Year
This award recognizes a registered nurse who is responsible for the administration of a school of nursing or division within a school of nursing, and in the past year has demonstrated excellence in achievement in this role.
Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. significant achievement by the institution/nursing program as a result of the vision and leadership of nominee,
2. evidence of innovative leadership on behalf of faculty and students,
3. evidence of personal and organizational commitment to lifelong learning, and
4. evidence of participation in professional/community organizations.

Organizational Award Criteria:
Please comment on and give examples of the organization’s achievements/accomplishments in relation to the specific award.

Nursing School of the Year – Undergraduate Degree Programs
This award recognizes a school of nursing offering formal education for students seeking initial licensure as a registered nurse. The nominated school must be in good standing with the LSBN and accreditation bodies.
Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. evidence that school of nursing has commitment to recruiting, selecting and retaining educating future nurses,
2. NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate for immediate two-year reporting periods,
3. examples of innovation in nursing education in all educational settings, classroom, clinical laboratory, clinical practice,
4. percentage of full-time and part-time faculty who are members of LSNA/ANA and related activities, and
5. percentage of enrolled nursing students who are members of LASN and activities of the student organization.

Nursing School of the Year – Graduate Degree Programs
This award recognizes a school of nursing offering formal education for registered nurses seeking a graduate degree for advanced clinical practice roles as well as nursing administration, nursing education and research.
Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. description of the advanced practice and higher degree programs offered,
2. number of graduates in each offered program during the past two year period,
3. advanced practice certification first-time pass rates for immediate two-year reporting periods, if applicable to type of program,
4. examples of innovation in nursing education, and
5. percentage of students and faculty who are members of LSNA/ANA and other professional nursing organizations and related activities.

Outstanding Employer or Facility of the Year (Other than Hospital)
This award recognizes an employer of registered nurses that demonstrates recognition for professional nursing and innovation in leadership.
Award Criteria—please address the following:
1. outcome measures of professional nursing growth within the facility,
2. specific examples of organizational initiatives supportive of nursing practice,
3. evidence of RN professional development, and
4. recognition of support for nursing participation in professional/community organizations.
Nightingale Awards

2017 Nightingale Awards
Saturday, April 1, 2017, L’Auberge Hotel, Baton Rouge

Champion: $25,000
• One table (for 10) to the Gala in a premium location.
• Corporate name listed on promotional materials.
• Corporate Champion Level recognition in the Gala literature.
• Logos Gala printed program.
• Corporate Champion in the LSU-Pelican News.
• Presented at the Gala Awards ceremony.

Guardian: $10,000
• One table (for 6) to the Gala in a premium location.
• Corporate name listed on promotional materials.
• Corporate Guardian level recognition in the Gala literature.
• Logos in the Gala printed program.
• Logos in the LSU-Pelican News.
• Presented at the Gala Awards ceremony.

Advocate: $1,000
• One ticket to the Gala in a good location.
• Logos in the LSU-Pelican News sent to every licensed RN in Louisiana.
• Presented at the Gala Awards ceremony.

 Protector: $2,000
• All (6) tickets to the Gala (seating will be together).
• Corporate level recognition in the Gala printed program.
• Recognition in the LSU-Pelican News sent to every licensed RN in Louisiana.
• Presented at the Gala Awards ceremony.

Strategist: $1,000
• Four (4) tickets to the Gala (seating will be together).
• Corporate level recognized in the Gala printed program.
• Recognition in the LSU-Pelican News sent to every licensed RN in Louisiana.
• Presented at the Gala Awards ceremony.

Friend: $100
• Two (2) tickets to the Gala (seating will be together).
• Recognition in the Gala printed program.
• Presented in the LSU-Pelican News.
• Presented at the Gala Awards ceremony.

Sponsorship Levels:
Champion: $25,000
Guardian: $10,000
Advocate: $1,000
Protector: $2,000
Strategist: $1,000
Friend: $100

Total amount due:
The LNF is a registered 501(c)(3) organization and all contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

INDIVIDUAL SEATING:
Cost: $75.00/Seat

Check endorsements payable to Louisiana Nurses Foundation (LNF)
Name (for payment processing and reservations):
Address:
City/State/Zip:
Telephone:
Email:
Organization Name (if corporate payment or sponsorship):
You will be contacted to present information and recognition program.

Table reservation:
Cost: $600.00/Table (Tables of 6)

Check is the only way to reserve seating. Reservations for tables will be dated when received and table placement will be by date received. There will be tables with open seating for individual reservations.

Total number of Tables:

Amount Due ($75/seat):

Payment Method:
Check enclosed—payable to Louisiana Nurses Foundation (LNF)
MasterCard 
Visa 
Am Express 
Discover Card
Card #: 
Exp Date: 
Signature:

Additional Information:
§ The Nightingale Awards Gala will be on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at the L’Auberge Casino-Resort Hotel, Baton Rouge. Our website has hotel information on the Nightingale Flyer.
§ Placement of sponsorship tables will be up front closest to stage, and will also depend on sponsorship level and date received.
§ Please mail, scan, or photo reservations to Louisiana Nurses Foundation 5713 Superior Drive, Suite A-4 Baton Rouge, LA 70811

Gala will be held at the L’Auberge Hotel Baton Rouge
Saturday, April 1, 2017

General Instructions for Nominations

Please see our website at www.LSNA.org for detailed instructions.

Application deadline is Monday, November 28, 2016

General instructions include:
• Please go to our website at www.LSNA.org for all instructions. Information can be found on the home page under “Important News.”
• Applications will be accepted starting September 15, 2016. ALL material MUST be received by Monday, November 28, 2016.
• Each nomination must have a separate application that includes all required information.
• For Individual submissions contact information is required to allow contact with the nominee (name, street address, phone number). This must be their home contact information. Information cannot be sent to employment address. If it is an organization submission please include contact person.
• Applications are to be complete when submitted by the deadline noted and will be presented to the judges as such. No additional information will be added after submission to the judges. LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Application deadline is Monday, NOVEMBER 28, 2016.
• Louisiana Nurses Foundation will not contact nominator or nominee for missing information.

Late December 2016 each NOMINEE will be contacted by Louisiana Nurses Foundation to notify them of their nomination.

Any questions please contact: Louisiana State Nurses Association (225) 201-0993.
The Louisiana Nurses Foundation (LNF) adopted a bylaw amendment to collect and distribute funds to assist participants in the Recovering Nurse Program. The LNF received a letter of request from Barbara McGill, Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) Recovering Nurse Program Director, requesting consideration by LNF to establish a separate fund to help nurses defray the cost of treatment for substance use disorders. In describing the need, McGill stated “Good treatment is expensive and some nurses who are chemically dependent are fired from their jobs when their illness is discovered. When they are fired they lose their insurance and have a difficult time paying a co-pay.” Her vision for the program was to collect funds and then distribute in the form of partial grants and/or loans to assist with treatment cost. Even if the monies went to paying COBRA cost, we could make an impact on the success of the nurse in recovery.

After careful consideration, the LNF acted to amend its bylaws to include the purpose of collecting and distributing funds to assist participants in the Recovering Nurse Program (RNP). Chad Sullivan, Louisiana Nurses Foundation Vice-President has agreed to lead the effort in establishing fundraising activities and program guidelines. According to Sullivan, “As legal counsel for nurses, my clients are often faced with the seemingly impossible task of obtaining expensive treatment for which they lack monetary funds. As a gut reaction, a number of clients express the desire to give up the nursing license they worked so hard to obtain due to the financial hurdles presented to them when facing addiction. My hope is that we can collect funds so that this obstacle is removed from the recovering nurse’s path, allowing them to focus on recovery and sobriety.”

BACKGROUND:
A program, Louisiana Nurses Network for Impaired Professionals (LaNNIP), to protect the public through early detection and referral to treatment of impaired nurses and to assist nurses suffering from chemical dependency was first established in Louisiana in 1986 under the auspices of the Louisiana State Nurses Association with a Memorandum of Agreement between LSNA and LSBN. The LNF was created with a specific charge to collect funds to administer the program. By 1990, based on the success of the program, the number of nurses in the program began to exceed the financial and human resources of LSNA/LNF. Through mutual agreement the program was transferred under the auspices of the LSBN and became the Recovering Nurse Program.

The Recovering Nurse Program has a good track record of helping nurses get into recovery and stay in recovery. A study by the LSBN demonstrated that only about 6% of the nurses who successfully complete the program were reported back to the LSBN. The LSBN celebrated 30 years of the Recovering Nurse Program (formally LaNNIP) this past July.

Need:
While Louisiana can be proud of being one of the first states to establish a program for the early detection referral to treatment and monitoring recovery of impaired professionals, a need still exist to assist nurses suffering from a substance use disorder or other conditions that impair or potentially impair one's practice as a registered nurse. The key to successful treatment, specifically those treatment programs that focus on the treatment of healthcare professionals. These programs are expensive. Additionally the nurse may have a period away from their drug of choice to avoid relapse. The nurse often finds him/herself financially bankrupt; perhaps having to lose one’s home, deplete a child’s college fund, etc., to pay for treatment, further, adding to the challenge of recovery. Support to nurses to get the needed treatment will not only assist the nurse to regain the ability to practice nursing, it may well save the nurses and/or patients lives.

With the passing of Sr. Lucie Leonard on March 18, 2016, LNF act to name the fund in her honor. Sr. Lucie Leonard, in her position of Nursing Practice Consultant of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, was a driving force for the establishment of the Recovering Nurse Program; formally know as the Louisiana Nurses Network for Impaired Professions (LaNNIP) under the auspices of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. This would be a very fitting remembrance of her tireless efforts to achieve early detection and referral of nurses suffering from chemical addiction so that they may regain their careers and save their lives.

LNF News

The Louisiana Nurses Foundation establishes Sr. Lucie Leonard Recovering Nurse Support Fund

The LNF News

Personal Plea:
As the current President of the Louisiana Nurses Foundation and having been the Executive Director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association when both the LaNNIP and the LNF were formed, I am very excited to be a part of reengaging the LNF in support of our fellow colleagues suffering from physical, mental and substance abuse disorders. Substance abuse disorders are an occupational hazard in that no other professional has as much access and opportunity to divert drugs. Many factors lead to substance abuse among nurses, but regardless of the underlying issues, successful recovery is the key to not only saving their careers but often times their lives. I sincerely hope that nurses will reach out to their colleagues in need through volunteerism and contributing to the fund.

Sr. Lucie Leonard, O. Carm, MSN, RN

Get Involved:
The Louisiana Nurses Foundation will need individuals with a passion and commitment to this program to get involved. To volunteer to assist the effort, please email the Louisiana Nurses Foundation at: www.lnf@lsna.org.

Donate:
To make a tax deductible contribution to the Recovering Nurse fund, please send a check made payable to the Louisiana Nurses Foundation/Sr. Lucie Leonard fund and mail but at the Louisiana Nurses Foundation, 5713 Superior Drive, Suite A-6, Baton Rouge, La., 70816

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

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Prepared for nurses for leadership
All programs are online. Financial aid may be available to those who qualify.
Recently, representatives of LSNA attended the American Nurses Association (ANA) Membership Assembly in Washington, DC. The ANA Membership Assembly is the governing and official voting body of the American Nurses Association (ANA). It identifies and discusses issues of concern to members and provides direction to the ANA Board of Directors. One of the key responsibilities of the ANA Membership Assembly is to determine policy and positions for the Association. The meeting of the ANA Membership Assembly provides a forum for discussion of critical nursing practice and policy issues and input from a broad cross section of nursing leaders.

In 2013, Arkansas Nursing Association and Louisiana State Nurse Association collaborated to form the South Central Accreditation Program (SCAP) as a pilot project at the request of ANCC. Effective February 1, 2016, SCAP ceased operation as an approver unit. During February, Louisiana moved to reestablish their approver unit and provider unit. With this change LSNA is committed to providing continuing education services to our nurses.

In the past few months, Jennifer Newman, CE Coordinator, and I have been working on implementing the 2015 ANCC Criteria changes. Individuals can access the changes at www.nursecredentialing.org and download the new manuals; one for Providers and one for Approvers. All forms have been revised and placed on the web site – www.lsna.org click on Education. Any new applications for Individual Education Activities and Approved Provider Units should use the revised forms. All Approved Provider Units should ensure that the changes have been implemented by January 2017. So far, individuals and Nurse Peer Reviewers have had very positive comments about the new forms. Information can be typed directly on the form and then saved. It is not necessary to print and scan before sending. All applications are now required to be submitted electronically either by email or a flash drive.

In June, 19 potential Nurse Peer Reviewers began training. Three videos have been developed along with post-tests as part of the training curriculum. The addition of these reviewers should speed up our review process.

In coordination with LSNA, we are also in the process of rebuilding the web site for the Approver Unit. Sections for IEAs and Provider Units have been established as well as Sample Forms, Frequently Asked Questions, Resources, Advertising of activities, and listing of Approved Provider Units. If your agency or institution is interested in becoming an Approved Provider Unit, please contact us. Why should you become an Approved Provider Unit? Continuing nursing education has changed during the last five years. Continuing nursing, medical and pharmacy education have been working together to provide consistency in the approval process.

The accrediting process is voluntary, and is intended to strengthen and sustain the quality and integrity of the Continuing Nursing Education (CNE). The extent to which each organization accepts and fulfills the responsibilities inherent in this process is a measure of its concern for quality and its commitment to striving for and achieve excellence in its endeavors. Providing CNE directly to professional nurses is a unique opportunity to market your company/school/hospital as a leader in the healthcare field. Nursing professionals can be assured that they receive quality CNE as prescribed by ANCC’s rigorous accreditation process.

Promote Highest Professional Standards for Nursing
Private and public health care organizations rely on ANCC credentials to promote excellence in nursing and health care globally. In every country, ANCC-accredited continuing education is the most effective and sustainable strategy to improve professional nursing practice.

In High Demand
Nurses need CNE contact hours to maintain ANCC certification and are loyal to organizations that help them improve professional skills and patient outcomes. ANCC accreditation enjoys wide recognition and acceptance by licensing boards and other regulatory bodies.

Compete Globally
ANCC is the first and only health care credentialing organization to attain full International Organization for Standardization (ISO) certification. Once accredited by ANCC, organizations can more readily compete in new markets worldwide.

Increase Credibility
Nurses trust ANCC-accredited organizations to deliver quality professional education that adheres to evidence-based, global standards. Linking your brand to the ANCC reputation for improving outcomes elevates your standing with key stakeholders.

Expand Visibility
Accredited organizations may use ANCC accreditation logos and language in promotional materials and are listed in a searchable directory on www.nursecredentialing.org.

Improve Curricula for Nurses
Most organizations value the accreditation application process as a potent means to uncover specific ways to strengthen CNE programs. Other benefits include:

- Recognition by most state licensing boards;
- Recognition of the organization’s willingness to have their educational programs reviewed for adherence to objective national standards;
- Publication of your CNE activity on the LSNA website at no extra cost.

Did you know that ANCC-certified nurses are required to have 50% of their CNE from an ANCC accredited or approved provider unit for certification renewal?

LSNA leads the way in setting the standards for continuing nursing education (CNE) in Louisiana and surrounding states.
Introducing LSNA’s Workplace Advocacy (WPA) Committee

The Workplace Advocacy Committee has come together with the facilitation of Patricia LaBrosse PMHCNS-BC, LSNA Director Health Policy, Workplace Advocacy, and Clinical Practice. Ellen Beyer, DNP, MBA, MN, RN, PHCNS-BC, APRN and Paula Kensler, DNP, MBA, RN, both instructors at LSUHSC School of Nursing in New Orleans, are co-chairing this committee. The committee members include Ryan Landry, BSN, CCRN, who is the Cardiothoracic Program Director at CVT Surgical Center in Baton Rouge, Captain James R. McManus who is the Education and Training Flight Commander and Staff Development Officer at Barksdale Air Force Base in Shreveport, Melody Eschetes, BSN, RN, who works in Palliative Care in Baton Rouge, and Tammy Randol, MSN, RN, C., who is the Patient Care Coordinator at Willis Knighton Health System, Shreveport.

The committee’s initial goal is to assess the nurses of Louisiana regarding our perceptions of our workplaces to identify what we believe to be our workplace priorities and opportunities for improvement in Louisiana. This committee is presently working on the most efficient and effective way to facilitate this assessment.

The “workplace” is simply a place where one works, however more specifically, a healthy workplace or work environment is much more. The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN)(2001), identified six essential standards that must be in place to create a healthy work environment. These essential elements are: skilled communication, true collaboration, effective decision making, appropriate staffing, and opportunities for improvement in Louisiana. This committee is presently working on the most efficient and effective way to facilitate this assessment.

The work of volunteers is at the very heart of professional organizations. The members have a passion for the work of the organization and choose to devote their time and energies to its mission. This is true of the Louisiana State Nurses Association. It has been the volunteer members, who for decades have contributed long hours of dedicated service, that have been the driving force behind the continued work of the association.

It has been said by Gayla LeMaire that “Volunteers are paid in six figures… S-M-1-L-E-S.” I would like to take this opportunity to thank some dedicated LSNA volunteers with a load of smiles.

- Deborah Garbee, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, RN of New Orleans has been serving on the LSNA Board since the spring of 2013. She served as Clinical Practice Council Chair and more recently as Director of Clinical Practice, Health Policy, and Advocacy. Deb has experienced some personal stressors over the last several months that have made it necessary for her to resign her position on the Board of Directors of LSNA and the Board of Trustees of the Louisiana Nurses Foundation (LNF). We mourn with her over the death of her beloved father. LSNA thanks her for her service to the organization and hopes that she can one day return to her area of service.
- Patricia LaBrosse, APRN, BC was serving as Health Policy Chair which is one of the committees that reported up through the Director position held by Deb Garbee. Patricia has graciously agreed to fulfill the remainder of Deb’s term. This commitment includes continuing as Health Policy Chair and serving on the Louisiana Nurses Foundation Board of Trustees. Many thanks to Patricia for agreeing to serve in these multiple areas.
- Many thanks and many S-M-1-L-E-S to Amanda Bolton, BSN, RN who has been serving as our inaugural Director of Transition Practice. Amanda has been serving on the LNF Board of Trustees also. As a relatively new member of the profession, Amanda has brought a fresh perspective to the table and challenged us to “think outside the box.” She has established relationships with young nurses and students, introducing them to the workings and mission of LSNA. Amanda feels that she needs to step down at this time to focus on her graduate studies, work, and family responsibilities. We appreciate Amanda so much and look forward to the time that she can return to her place of service with LSNA.
- Rose Schaubhut has been serving on the LSNA BOD since 2013. She was first elected to serve as Leadership/Management Council Chair. This position transitioned into the Director of Organizational Advancement with the Bylaw changes accepted by the House of Delegates in 2015. Due to illness in her family, Rose feels the need to step down from her directorship at this time. Our thoughts and prayers are with Rose and her family. We thank her for her service.
- Patrick D. Reed, RN, DNP, MSN, MBA, MS/CM, CPHQ has graciously agreed to serve out the remainder of Rose’s term. We welcome Patrick to the Board and look forward to working with him in the area of Organizational Advancement.
- Paul A. Kensler, DNP, MBA, RN pkensler@lsuhsc.edu
- Instructor LSUHSC School of Nursing New Orleans, LA Co-chair – WPA Committee
- Ryan M. Landry, BSN, CCRN
- Cardiothoracic Program Director CVT Surgical Center Baton Rouge, LA – WPA committee member
- Captain James R. McManus
- Education and Training Flight Commander, Staff Development Officer Barksdale Air Force Base Shreveport, LA – WPA committee member
- Melody Eschetes, BSN, RN
- Palliative Care Baton Rouge, LA WPA committee member
- Tammy Randol, MSN, RN, C.
- Patient Care Coordinator Willis Knighton Health System Shreveport, LA WPA committee member

References

American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) (2016) AACN standards for establishing and sustaining healthy work environments: A journey to excellence (2nd ed.). AACN

LSNA News

September, October, November 2016

Norlyn Hyde, LSNA President

LSNA Thanks Some Dedicated Volunteers

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Yoga scrub pants by MC2 are so comfortable you’ll need a pair for home and for work. They have the same EZ-FLEX fabric you’ve come to love from the rest of Med Couture’s line, with the added comfort of a knit waistband. Front side pockets, double cargo pockets and an extra accessory pocket mean these pants aren’t just stylish, they’re highly functional.

Try a pair today!

Available now at

ShopNurse.com

Mc2

September, October, November 2016

Pelican News • Page 17
Greetings and friends,

Although some of you were on vacation and busy keeping your units staffed, taking care of our sick, injured, hospitalized or home-bound relatives and neighbors, many of our BRDNA members were also participating in several events held from May to September.

BRDNA members participated in the legislative process, either by contacting their legislators or by being present at the committee hearings focusing on “Collaborative Practice” and other issues regarding healthcare and education.

Our homework this year... nurses will need to contact legislators to determine the position they took on what was SB 187, perhaps education could follow. For future healthcare issues, anyone interested in being a contact person for their house the position they took on what was SB 187; perhaps education could follow. For other points regarding nursing and other issues regarding healthcare and education.

Our brdna.org website has been updated! Please check it monthly for new news. Thank you to Jennifer R.

Remember BRDNA also has a Facebook page.

Several Baton Rouge nurses attended the “Medicaid Expansion Coalition” information day, June 6. We learned “what was, is, no more.” DHH name has changed to LPH. There are 5 insurance programs. Eligibility requirements for Medicaid have changed. Individuals must be between ages 19 – 64, must have a household income below 138% of the FPL and be a U.S. citizen or qualified alien. Medicaid is based on current income and not on assets. There are application centers and individual sites. Other points were discussed.

Starting news came from the State OPH Restructuring... (via LSNA Insider). Office of Public Health budget reductions for FY 2017 included elimination of the Director of Nursing and Assistant Director of Nursing positions. We are told the 2 positions have been removed and those nurses offered a different position.

In June, July and August, registered nursing volunteers met to plan and prepare for the LA Action coalition (LAC), Regional Action Coalition(RAC), region 2 “Discover Diversity in Nursing” project. Region 2 was awarded a mini-grant. The project involves RN Ambassadors to visit high school counselors or high school students to encourage minority, underserved, and/or male students to consider Nursing as a career. USB bracelets will be used to disseminate the necessary information. The ambassadors will visit the counselors and students during September and October, complete an evaluation for a report to the LAC.

We would love to see more registered nurses and students at our monthly meetings. In August, Dr. Trudy Williams presented “Simulation in Nursing Education.” Because our meeting sites do rotate and to allow nurses living in different ends of the district to have easier access, please confirm the location of BRDNA meetings on the BRDNA website and open your constant contact notice. Remember our BRD meetings are held the second Thursday in September, October, November, January. Continuing education units are offered at most meetings.

Congratulations to Dr. Sharon Bator, immediate past BRDNA president, on her retirement from SU. She also resigned her position as BRDNA Vice president but agreed to continue to serve on the program committee. We thank her for her several years of service to the BRDNA.

Time to quit. Hope to see you soon at a Baton Rouge District Meeting.

Southshore District News

Georgia Johnson, NDNA President

In May, the NDNA enjoyed a presentation at their new location, Bosco’s in Mandeville. The program “Positive Energy and Conscious Change: Making a Difference for Ourselves and Our Patients” was presented by Mitzi Myers. There were several new attendees at the meeting.

In June, District President, Georgia Johnson prepared a presentation for Girl Scout Troop 30960’s sleep over. This was a two-part presentation on Becoming a Nurse and Basic First Aid. The participants qualified to receive their first aid badge. This was part of the district’s effort to promote nursing as a career.

Also, in June, the Board of Directors held their bi-annual Strategic Planning Meeting to evaluate progress toward the established 2016 goals and to plan for upcoming events. One of which, is the annual Awards Program to recognize the “Southshore Top Twenty.” This year the event will be held at Lakeview Medical Center in Covington on September 20th. Nominees need not be a member of Northshore District but must reside in Washington or St. Tammany Parish. Further information is available on the NDNA website: www.northshoredistrictnurses-louisiana.com

Excellent progress has been made with membership; twelve new members so far this year, four of whom are new graduates. NDNA now has a district t-shirt that can be ordered at each meeting. In addition to participation in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s in October, NDNA has undertaken a new community service project. An Adult Coloring Book, which has become so popular today, was developed for use during chemotherapy treatment. Our first recipient is Slidell Memorial Cancer Center, who has graciously hosted our Award Program several times. These accomplishments are a result of the hard work and dedication of the Board.

The NDNA Program Planning Committee met in July at Delta College to plan the 2017 Calendar aimed at providing CNE credit for the educational program at each meeting and a CE workshop.

JOIN OUR GROWING TEAM!

Medical/Surgical

Emergency Department

($5,000 Sign On Bonus)

Apply online at www.iberiomedicalcenter.com.

Apply in person or mail resume to 2315 East Main Street, New Iberia, LA 70560.

Fax resume to (337) 374-7655.
DISTRICT CHALLENGE PROGRESS REPORT

GOAL: To recognize district efforts to increase LSNA membership

The district membership challenge is proceeding well. Membership is increasing. As a reminder, the DNA that achieves the highest percentage increase in membership and the DNA that recruits the most graduates will be recognized at the 2017 House of Delegates.

GOAL: To recognize district efforts to increase LSNA membership

Below is the six-month progress report for Jan.-June 2016. Kudos to those in the lead.

What is NOT going well is the effort to recognize the members that recruit the most new members. As part of the welcome packet, new members are given a self-addressed, postage paid post card to credit the person that recruited them. These are not being returned. If you are putting forth the effort to recruit a new member, be sure to tell them to complete and return the post card that they receive.

Did you know…?

Cruise, every year LSNA combines learning with fun in the sun on the way to Costumel, MX.

• See website for more details!

ANA's Website, offers valuable resources to our members

• FREE: ANA's Online Continuing Education gives you easy access to the highest quality issue based and clinical CE topics. Whether you're looking to advance in your career, understand new laws and regulations, or simply keep your license and certification up to date, ANA has CE that will help you meet your goals while improving your patients’ outcomes.

• Please log in to ANA's website, http://www.nursingworld.org/, for access to many exclusive features and services for members. This includes access to your special MyANA page where you can change your profile, print your Member card, link to your state association site, access your special ANA groups and ANA NurseSpace.org and much, much more. Check out ANA's Member Value Program! If you need help finding your login information, please contact the ANA Membership Department at 1-800-923-7709.

• Update needed to your LSNA membership information? Follow these simple steps…
  1. Go to: http://www.nursingworld.org/
  2. Click on: MY ANA (tab in top left corner of the blue bar)
  3. LOGIN – if you do not have a login in name yet it is free to register.
  4. Click on: Modify Profile
  5. Update with new information
  6. Click on: Update Profile

Pelican News, LSNA's quarterly news publication, goes to every RN in the state.

• If you are not receiving the Pelican News and are an RN please make sure your address is up to date with LSBN.

• Anyone may submit an article to be reviewed for possible publication. Please check out page 2 of the Pelican to go or our website, lsna.org, for information on how to submit an article.

2016 Article Submission DEADLINES (submissions by end of the business day)
April 08, 2016  |  July 08, 2016
October 07, 2016
Renew your passion for nursing in an environment that celebrates your faith.

Join CHRISTUS Health Louisiana’s close-knit team that thrives on healing souls and saving lives. Our nurses are making a difference in the lives of patients and their families every day; yours are the hands they hold, yours are the faces they remember. Join us in extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.