I would like to commend the Nurses in Mitchell for hosting an excellent 100th Anniversary Celebration for our SDNA Convention. It was very fitting that the 100th Anniversary was celebrated in Mitchell, since the 50th was also celebrated in Mitchell in 1966. The committee had a variety of excellent presenters with a variety of topics. Dr. Marla Weston, Chief Executive Officer of American Nurses Association, the American Nurses Foundation, and American Nurses Credentialing Center, was an excellent choice for the Keynote Speaker on Sunday afternoon and Monday morning. Mark your calendar for the next SDNA Convention, October 1 & 2, 2017, in Yankton. The nurses in the Yankton and Vermillion District are already beginning planning the 2017 convention.

I suggest that all of you access our ANA website (www.nursingworld.org) for the “Welcome to the Profession Kit,” which will provide a variety of information about ANA and the profession of nursing. Also, in the ANA website you will have access to ANA and State member benefits, personal benefits, factsheets and resources, professional tools to assist you with your job, and ANA periodicals. The factsheets and resources can assist you to provide information to nurses and nursing students in your districts. Make sure to inform all senior nursing students that they can join ANA/SDNA for half-price for two years. This reduction in membership dues was only available for the first year, but has been extended to two years. I urge all SDNA members to mentor nursing students, new graduates, and other nurses who are not members of SDNA and ANA, to provide information on how important it is for them to join their professional nursing organization.

Add to your calendar, Nurses Day at the Legislature, February 5 & 6, 2017, in Pierre. There are several bills that will be in committee while we are in Pierre, as well as during the legislative session. It is important for all nurses
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Carl T. Curtis Health Education Center
Nursing in the Omaha Indian Reservation in a culture rich in history with connection to the land.

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December 2016, January, February 2017
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CIRCULATION, ARTICLES, LETTER TO THE EDITOR, ETC

The South Dakota Nurse accepts and encourages manuscripts or editorials. We will determine which letters and articles are printed by the availability of publication space and appropriateness of the material. We welcome signed letters of 300 words or less, typed and double spaced and articles of 1,500 words or less. All materials should be mailed to: South Dakota Nurses Association, PO. Box 1015, Pierre, SD 57501 or e-mailed to: contactus@sdnurses.org.

The views expressed in the articles and editorials are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of SDNA.

South Dakota Nurse is the newsletter of the South Dakota Nurses Association. Direct inquiries about SDNA or this newsletter to:

South Dakota Nurses Association
PO Box 1015, Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605-945-4265 | Fax: 1-888-600-1232
Email: contactus@sdnurses.org
Website: www.sdnurses.org

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President’s Message continued from page 1
to become politically active, and provide facts for our House of Representatives and Senators at the state and national level concerning bills that affect our nursing practice. Information about the bills in our state can be found at our SDNA website (http://www.sdnurses.org/). Bills at the national level can be located at our ANA website (www.nursingworld.org). Any questions you have concerning the bills can be directed to Carrie Clausen Hansen.

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Call (605) 342-0255 or apply online!
Want some good advice from a South Dakota Nurses Foundation (SDNF) scholarship recipient? “Just be fully authentic and genuine in what you write in your application [and] feel empowered to share what inspires you and your passion for nursing,” encourages Melissa Coull, who is a 2016 recipient of the SDNF Rita H. Walsh Scholarship. Coull is enrolled in South Dakota State University Bachelor’s of Nursing Program and is currently the Diabetes Clinical Outreach Coordinator for South Dakota Department of Health in Brookings, SD.

Coull, who acknowledges that there is an irrefutable connection between mind and body and that it plays a significant part in her holistic approach to health and wellness, remarked, “I chose nursing for a career because I want a career in which I can connect with people and walk with them on their journey of health and wellness. I like to care for others and have a personal connection with them.”

The most “integral parts of nursing” for Coull are “building and maintaining personal relationships [with the patients] and possessing that passion” that sustains excellence in one’s daily service to the patients. “I draw my nursing inspiration from my patients and community, and from a place of public and population health. Seeing the needs of people, their successes and barriers, have propelled me to want to serve them and be a part of the solution,” said Coull.

As the Diabetes Clinical Outreach Coordinator, Coull mainly “collaborates with other organizations, programs and partners to move forward diabetes prevention and self-management efforts in South Dakota.”

A typical day may consist of having phone or in person meetings to discuss current projects and strategic planning. “My job role affords me the freedom to think creatively. I draw my nursing inspiration from my patients and community, and from a place of public and population health. Seeing the needs of people, their successes and barriers, have propelled me to want to serve them and be a part of the solution.”

Melissa Coull

December 2016, January, February 2017 South Dakota Nurse Page 3

It is a fantastic blend of evidence-based practice and creativity,” she interjected. “While I no longer see patients in direct patient care, I know my collaborative efforts do have a positive impact on population health.”

Upon completion of her degree, Coull plans on continuing with the State Department of Health. “My foreseeable plans are to continue in my current position. I really like what I do. I’m passionate about my work and have a very supportive and dedicated team at the Department of Health.”

Furthermore, nursing could never be tiresome for Coull. “I’m continually amazed at how versatile the profession of nursing is. I could work in nursing for a lifetime and never get bored,” confessed Coull. “I also really like the movement towards interdisciplinary collaboration and the team-based approach to patient care. At the end of the day, we all want the same thing for our patients, for them to have health and wellness and the best quality of life possible.”

On a more personal note, Coull and her husband Kelly of nine years are breathless keeping up with their vivacious seven-year old daughter Megan. “She either wants to be a nurse or a game warden on Alaska State troopers,” chuckled Coull, who related that Megan’s paternal grandmother is also a nurse. “[Megan] is into yoga. And so young and flexible, she can do some moves I can’t!”

“I enjoy many styles of yoga and am starting to get into meditation,” remarked Coull. “Once I’ve completed my degree and have more free time, I’d like to learn how to play the piano, and become trained as a Kundalini yoga teacher.”

Creating deliciously nutritious meals with her organic garden produce and putting her own signature on her new home occupy Coull when not servicing the diabetic community of Brookings. “I really like cooking and trying new recipes. We recently purchased a new home, so I look forward to infusing my own personality into it,” replied Coull, who is a staunch supporter of renewable energy and local food sustainability.

Coull concluded, “I feel so blessed to be among such wonderful and dedicated nurses as those in South Dakota.”

If you are interested and you qualify, please contact Sue Beyer, 605-745-5127, sue.beyer@state.sd.us. Paper applications are no longer accepted and you can log on for an application at http://bhr.sd.gov.

All applicants are subject to drug testing and background checks and employment is contingent on a negative result.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR RNs AND LPNs AVAILABLE AT THE SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS HOME

The South Dakota Veterans Home remains open for business and is excited about our new facility!

Come join us as we enter into this wonderful phase caring for South Dakota Veterans in the beautiful southern Black Hills! The nursing department has a wonderful new organization and we welcome all those that have a loving, caring, and willingness to provide services to our heroes, spouses, and widows of our veterans. Immediate positions are available for RNs and LPNs. RNs and LPNs wage is DOE and can be discussed at interview. Relocation expenses are provided for RNs and can also be discussed at interview. Available positions provide full benefits for the employee including, but not limited to, health insurance, life insurance, paid sick and vacation leave, retirement, major medical, and much more.

If you are interested and you qualify, please contact Sue Beyer, 605-745-5127, sue.beyer@state.sd.us. Paper applications are no longer accepted and you can log on for an application at http://bhr.sd.gov.

All applicants are subject to drug testing and background checks and employment is contingent on a negative result.

$2500 Signing Bonus

Melissa Coull in a word or two:

• If I could live anywhere, it would be: my current home.
• My family thinks I am: a hippie.
• I’m great at cooking: veggies and pasta.
• I’m fascinated with nursing because: it is so dynamic and personal to each individual.
• If I were not a nurse, I would be: a person who trains pet therapy and service dogs.
• No one knows: how much I dislike flying.
• Fantasy dinner party guests: Seane Corn—yoga teacher and social activist.
• One word to describe me: happy.
The SD Human Services Center, a 304-bed inpatient psychiatric and chemical dependency treatment facility, is seeking full and part-time RNs. HSC offers an excellent benefits package (for full and part-time positions) that includes 3 weeks paid vacation, 10 paid holidays per year, employer-paid health insurance for employees, fully-matched retirement plan and more! Salary is $22.73 - $26.21 per hour, DOQ, plus $1.00 per hour shift pay for evening shift and $1.50 per hour for night shift and $1.00 per hour for Geriatrics. To apply go to http://bhr.sd.gov/workforus. Job ID #7039 or #7040. For more information contact the HR office at 605-668-3118.

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http://cherrycountyhospital.org/getpage.php?name=index

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2016 SDNA Annual Convention Highlights

On behalf of the Board of Directors and 2016 SDNA Convention Planning Committee, we would like to thank the following people for their contribution to a successful convention in October 2016:

- **SDNA President Margie Washnok** for your support and enthusiasm
- **Dr. Marla Weston**, American Nurses Association for serving as Keynote speaker
- **Our speakers:** Janell Christenson, Jamie Grosdidier, Nicole Townsend and Sunny Kapoor, Angela Jackley, Rhonda Kemmis, Erik Ehl, Pat McGill and Nancy Nelson along with panel members Alice Graber, Sheila Letcher, Nelle Funk, and Pat Twedt.
- **To our sponsors and vendors for providing financial and educational support**
- **Julie Dangel**, for providing delicious birthday cakes to adorn the tables for the banquet
- **Weston Frank**, auctioneer for making us laugh while raising money for our association
- **Angie McCain** for designing the atmosphere of nostalgia with nursing uniforms and apparel
- **Kristi Riggs** for being the auctioneer’s assistant and engaging the members in the auction
- **Melonnie Gregerson** for buying gifts to recognize each speaker with a gift of appreciation
- **Sharon Rehorst, Gloria Thompson, and Pat Twedt** for being a dedicated District 7 members and volunteers
- **Carman Timmerman** for designing and sharing the Nursing History display
- **Becca, Ramada Conference Center Mitchell** for support and attention to details.
- **South Dakota Army National Guard Staff Sergeant Brian Flanagan and Sergeant Dan Mohlhauf** for displaying the colors at the start of the convention.
- **Emily Sudbeck** for making birthday treats for the 100th Birthday of SDNA
- **Dakota Wesleyan University and South Dakota State University Nursing Students** for your participation and energy during the convention.
- **Rochelle Reider** for enlisting the support of vendors and sponsors making it the best yet.
- **SDNA members and friends of SDNA** for your generous donations to the live and silent auction
- **Wyonne Kaemingk and Diane Sandhoff** for your endless support and great friendship

In gratitude,
Pat Sudbeck, SDNA District 3/7 President
The South Dakota Nurses Association (SDNA) recognized nurses from across the state at its 2016 Annual Convention, held this year in Mitchell, South Dakota. The 2016 convention marked the 100th year anniversary of the SDNA. The following nurses were recognized for their exceptional service, dedication, and contributions to the nursing profession:

**Joy of Nursing Award** – Kathi Piper, Aberdeen

**Pioneer in Nursing Award** – Ellann Petersen, Yankton

**Nursing Practice Award** – Brenda Bonnichsen, Sturgis

**Rookie of the Year Award** – Marlys Volzke, Aberdeen

**Nurse Educator Award** – Helene Hegge, Crofton, NE

**Hall of Fame Award** – Gloria Damgaard, Sioux Falls, and Deb Soholt, Sioux Falls

SDNA districts also honored one nurse for his or her contributions to the SDNA and the nursing profession.

**District 1, 2, 3** – Pat Shaver, Sturgis

**District 4** – Janice Noonan, Aberdeen

**District 5-7** – Rochelle Reider, Mitchell

**District 8 & 9** – Tom Stenvig, Nunda

**District 10** – Julie Dangel, Sioux Falls

**District 11** – Kathy Jorgensen, Yankton

The goal of the SDNA Annual Convention is to offer a forum for nurses to gain knowledge about clinical care, leadership, and professional practice issues and to build professional relationships. Featured speakers included keynote speaker and American Nurses Association Enterprise Chief Executive Marla Weston, PhD, RN, FAAN, and South Dakota Lt. Gov. Matthew Michels, a nurse himself, spoke warmly of nurses and nursing at the SDNA Awards Banquet.
2017 NURSES DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE AGENDA
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE CAPITOL AND RAMKOTA HOTEL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA

Monday, February 6, 2017

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Registration
Ramkota Hotel River Centre

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM Luncheon
Ramkota Hotel River Centre
Welcome
Overview of SDNA Political Agenda / Orientation and Advocacy
Carrie Clausen Hansen, SDNA Government Relations Chair
Brittany Novotny, SDNA Lobbyist
Deb Fischer Clemens, SDNA N-STAT Coordinator and GRC member
Federal Legislation and Nurses Strategic Action Team Committee (N-STAT) Update
Deb Fischer-Clemens, SDNA N-STAT Coordinator

12:15 PM - 12:30 PM Break

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM South Dakota Department of Health Update
South Dakota Department of Social Services Update
Ramkota Hotel River Centre

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM House and Senate Floor (all attendees)
South Dakota State Capitol

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM 2016 Legislative Update
Ramkota Hotel River Centre
Carrie Clausen Hansen,
SDNA Government Relations Chair
Brittany Novotny, SDNA Lobbyist

4:45 PM – 5:00 PM Evaluations and Wrap-up

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Chili Supper with South Dakota Legislators
Ramkota Hotel River Centre

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

7:00 AM - 10:00 AM Legislator Breakfast
Presidents and Speakers Lounges
South Dakota State Capitol

7:45 AM – 12:00 PM (noon) Committee Hearings
South Dakota State Capitol

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM Picture on the Capitol Stairs (all attendees)
South Dakota State Capitol

Fragrance-Free Event: We ask that you avoid wearing perfumes, fragrances or using perfumed soaps to create a more comfortable environment for those with chemical sensitivities.

NURSES DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE 2017
RAMKOTA HOTEL RIVER CENTER, PIERRE, SD
FEBRUARY 6-7, 2017

REGISTER NOW!
To qualify for early rates, this form below must be filled out for each attendee and received by January 6. Please circle the amount you are attending so we may plan our numbers.

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<th>Nurses Day at the Legislature</th>
<th>SDNA Member</th>
<th>Non-Member</th>
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- Full refunds less a $25.00 processing fee, allowed in case of major personal emergency when notice is given at least 96 hours prior to the start of the event.
- SDNA cannot be held responsible for weather-related problems.
- Due to the expenses that are incurred during the planning of this event, there will be no refunds issued if the event is cancelled for any reason including, but not limited to, bad weather, natural disaster, or acts of terrorism.
- Fees include education programs and materials, refreshments and meals as noted on the agenda.

A block of rooms will be held at the Ramkota until January 6th.
Telephone: (605) 224-6877

Please make your check payable to SDNA and mail to the SDNA Office with this registration form:

Name, Credentials ____________________________________________________
(Please print your name as you would like it to appear on the nametag)
Email ___________________________ Are you a Registered Nurse? Yes No
(please circle Yes or No)
Address ___________________________________ Phone ____________
City ___________________ State ______ Zip __________
Legislative District Number ____________ (Can be found at http://legis.state.sd.us)

South Dakota Nurses Foundation (SDNF) is a charitable organization affiliated with SDNA to support nursing in South Dakota through education, research, and service.

Please consider supporting SDNF by “Adding Up” to your registration fee.

Registration Fee $________________________
“Add Up” to SDNF $________________________
Total Submitted $________________________

South Dakota Nurses Association
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Plainsmen - Richard Waring Rehabilitation - Indianola - St. Elizabeth - St. Francis - St. Mary.

December 2016, January, February 2017
South Dakota Nurse
This agenda reflects SDNA’s commitment to the assurance of an optimum level of health for all citizens of South Dakota.

**Professional Nursing Practice**
SDNA supports legislation or administrative action that:
- Establishes the South Dakota Board of Nursing as the sole regulatory authority for professional nursing practice;
- Implements SDNA’s position on education for nursing practice;
- Protects nurses from discrimination in the workplace due to age, color, creed, disability, gender, health status, lifestyle, national origin, or sexual orientation;
- Protects the economic and employment rights of nurses, including their right to advocate for patients;
- Provides direct third-party reimbursement for services provided by nurses, including advanced practice nurses;
- Provides for rehabilitation of impaired health care workers;
- Places professional nurses on boards, commissions and other entities which have responsibility for health care planning and policy making;
- Provides funding for nursing education and research at basic and advanced levels;
- Facilitates recruitment and retention of an adequate and culturally diverse registered nurse workforce.

**Access to Quality and Affordable Health Care**
SDNA supports legislation or administrative action that:
- Provides access to quality, cost-effective health care for all South Dakotans, especially vulnerable populations, such as children, pregnant women, older adults, impoverished persons, minorities, homeless persons, the chronically ill, residents of correctional facilities, and those who lack health insurance;
- Provides access to alternative models of quality, cost-effective health care, such as community nursing centers, hospice, home care, and adult day care;
- Assures access to nursing care services and recognizes advanced practice nurses as qualified providers of primary health care services;
- Improves the coordination of healthcare delivery systems to enhance continuity of care;
- Provides public accountability for positive health outcomes through use of appropriate quality indicators;
- Provides incentives for cost containment in health care without compromising quality or access.

**Public Health**
SDNA supports legislation or administrative action that:
- Assures public health and safety;
- Strengthens the public health infrastructure;
- Sustains and promotes access to effective public health services (e.g., school health centers, sexually transmitted infection clinics, and community mental health providers);
- Assures availability of essential health services for all South Dakota citizens;
- Provides for resources to promote a healthy society;
- Provides adequate funding for programs aimed at health promotion and prevention of disease/disability for people in all stages of life;
- Assures adequate preparation, preparedness and response to natural, biological and chemical disasters and to acts of terrorism;
- Initiates measures to reduce or eliminate violent crimes.

**Occupational and Environmental Health**
SDNA supports legislation or administrative action that:
- Assures workplace safety;
- Protects employees, including those in health professions, from health hazards encountered in employment settings, including the establishment of ergonomic standards;
- Sets and enforces standards for the protection of the environment.

**Human Rights**
SDNA supports legislation or administrative action that:
- Supports the basic rights of all people for equity under the law regardless of race, creed, color, gender, age, disability, lifestyle, religion, health status, nationality, or sexual orientation;
- Protects the privacy rights of patients in all health settings;
- Assures provision of health care information to consumers to facilitate informed choice in health care.

**Staying Up to Date/Contacting Your Legislators**

**Internet**
South Dakota’s legislative session has its own website, House and Senate sessions are broadcast live, and all committee hearings are broadcast via Internet.


Legislative Research Council: http://legis.state.sd.us – Has committee hearings are broadcast via Internet.

House and Senate sessions are broadcast live, and all South Dakota’s legislative session has its own website, Sanford Health.

**Email**
(Fastest way to reach them: All legislators have their own laptop computers.)
Go to: http://legis.state.sd.us Click on Legislators. Find your legislator(s). Click on email legislator.
- Make reference to the number of the bill HB or SB ###.
- Ask for support or opposition to the bill.
- Provide brief and specific information to your reason.
- Include your name, RN, phone number and email address.

**Letters**
First sentence of the letter: Bill number HB or SB ###, title and request for support or opposition.
- Keep your supporting information brief and concise.
- Avoid the use of ad hominem.
- If you have printed material that may assist in making your point, mail it with the letter.
- Always conclude your name, RN, address and phone number.
- Letters and postcards may be sent to the legislator’s home.
- The mailing addresses of legislators in Pierre are: The Honorable [Representative’s name] 500 East Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501
- The Honorable [Senator’s name] 500 East Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501

**Phone Calls**
Legislators are best reached when they are home for constituent business.
- Do not worry about disturbing their “off” time. It’s their job to listen to you and they expect calls.
- Identify yourself and the bill you are supporting and opposing.
- If you send a letter or a postcard, ask if they received it and if there are any questions.
- Ask if you can count on their support. Do not let them hedge.
- Always thank them for listening to your opinion.
- If you are unable to call them at home, you can call them at the Capitol Building and leave a message asking them to support/oppose HB or SB ###. The Senate Lobby number is 605-773-3821 and the House Lobby number is 605-773-3851. A page will take the information and deliver the message to your legislator.

**Cracker Barrel Sessions**
Local cracker barrel sessions are an effective way to receive and provide information to your Legislators. Check your local newspapers for dates, times and locations.
- Legislators listen to their constituents.

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**SDNA PAC Makes 2016 Legislative Candidate Endorsements**

The South Dakota Nurses Association PAC is pleased to announce that we have endorsed and/or financially supported the following 2016 South Dakota Legislative candidates listed in the following table:

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Red Dawn Foster</td>
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<td>Susan Kelts</td>
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<td>Haven Stack</td>
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**Letter of Endorsement**
Jason Ferrichs 1 D S
Corey Allen Heidelberger 3 D S
Larry Tiedemann 7 R S
Jason Unger 8 D R
Jim Powers 10 D R
G. Mark Mickelson 13 R R
P. James Eckhoff Jr. 13 D R
JR LaPlante 13 D R
Tom Holmes 14 R R
Karen Soli 15 D R
Jamie Smith 15 D R
Craig Kennedy 18 D S
Kyle Schoenfish 19 R R
Kent S. Peterson 19 R R
Tona Rozum 20 R R
Julie Bartling 21 D R
Gary Burrus 21 D R
Billie H. Sutton 21 D S
Jim White 22 R S
Justin R. Cronin 23 R R
Dan Ahlers 25 D R
Troy Heinert 26 D S
Jim Bradford 27 D R
Timothy R. Johns 31 R R
Alen D. Solano 32 R S
Kristin A. Conzet 32 R R
Terri L. Haverly 35 R S

A quorum of PAC members and Lobbyist Brittany Novotny met via phone conference October 13, 2016 and each candidate was reviewed for anticipated or past support of nursing issues that affect citizens of South Dakota.

The PAC balance prior to distribution was $3350. We distributed contributions totaling $3,050.00. We will begin fund raising efforts very soon for the next election cycle.

If you have any ideas, they are always greatly appreciated.

I want to thank each and every one who contributed in any way to the success of the PAC balance. This is our most successful financial year! It does not always work to be able to send a financial contribution to a candidate, with your help our voice will be stronger in the upcoming legislative session.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Dangel MSN, RN
South Dakota Nurses Association PAC Chairperson
By Carrie Clausen Hansen, SDNA GRC Chair

Greetings fellow nurses. What an exciting fall it has been. Our SDNA Convention was a wonderful place to network, connect with friends and share the excitement of being a nurse. It was also a time to start gearing up for the next Legislative session. Thank you for your support as I was elected for another term as the Government Relations Committee Chair.

When you read this, elections will be over. I trust you participated and elected those who will serve your district and our state in a positive way. It was estimated that one third to one half of our legislators will be ‘new’ for this upcoming SD Legislative Session. Now is the time to get to know those newly elected legislators, especially those in your districts. Contact them, make sure they know you are a nurse and assure them that you would welcome questions regarding upcoming bills that will impact nurses, their patients and our healthcare systems. Nurses are the experts in nursing and are the health care providers, nurses, their patients and our healthcare systems. Nurses are talking to them. Make sure they hear those newly elected legislators, especially those in your districts. Contact them, make sure they know you are a nurse and assure them that you would welcome questions regarding upcoming bills that will impact nurses, their patients and our healthcare systems. Nurses are the experts in nursing and are the health care providers, nurses, their patients and our healthcare systems. Nurses are the experts in nursing and are the health care providers.

The Government Relations Committee is working on Nurses Day at the Legislature 2017. This annual event will be held February 6 and 7 in Pierre. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the legislative process, meet legislators, share a bowl of chili with them while discussing health care issues and observe Committee and Floor action at the Capitol. It is a great time to connect with nurses and legislators and learn about what issues are being discussed that will impact nursing, healthcare and our clients.

Members of the GRC meet weekly during the Legislative Session to discuss bills that have been submitted and determine which we will support, which we believe we need to actively oppose and which should be monitored. These decisions are based on the Health Policy Agenda of SDNA. This document was developed by the GRC and the SDNA Board of Directors and guides us in making policy decisions. It can be found on the SDNA website should you not be familiar with it. Each week SDNA members will receive an email with a bill list and our positions on them. In addition to determining what action we may take on a bill, we also strategize how best to do that. One way we involve many SDNA members is through our ‘Action Alerts’ which go out in an email. Typically these occur when an important bill is up for discussion in a committee or the House or Senate floor. We need your help contacting legislators about these issues and will provide “Talking Points” to assist you in providing critical information in a short time period. Should you have questions about a bill or have information on the topic that may be important if we testify on a bill, please contact me or the office.

We welcome input from you regarding legislation and issues important to you. For those interested in becoming more active in policy making, there are Districts that could use a representative to the GRC. Talk to your District President and let them know. We would like at least one person from each SDNA District to be involved.

I leave you with my ‘typical’ statement regarding politics, healthcare and our legislature. You may not like politics or policy making and want someone else to be involved instead of you, but EVERY year, legislators in Pierre and Washington DC, who are not nurses, make decisions that impact nurses, their patients and their workplace. Make sure they have as much information as possible to convince them to make the RIGHT decision. You have a critical voice. Please use it.

SDNA Government Relations Committee List

Nov. 02, 2016

Chair Carrie Clausen Hansen carrrie.clausenhansen@yahoo.com
Member Sherry Bea Smith (D123) ssmith1@regionalhealth.com
Member Linda Wolden (D123) fahleaf07@hotmail.com
Member Pat Woolsridge (D5-7) powooldridge@hur.midco.net
Member Roberta Olson (D8-9) roberta.olson@sstate.edu
Member Anna Atteberry Gustafson (D10) anna atteberry@sstate.edu
Member Deb Fischer Clemens (D10) deb.fischer.clemens@sverha.org
Member Julie Dangel (D10) julia.dangel@sstate.edu
Member Marian Eberhard (D10) marianerberhard@gmail.com
Member Teri Egan (D11) jeet.egan@sstate.edu
Member Susan Suelzle (D4) susan.suei@sdhealth.org
Member Charles Pagsley (D4) cexpugley@gmail.com
Member Sandra Welting (D4) sandra.welting@presentation.edu
Member Jacqueline Kelley (D11) jdrunzei@washburn.edu
Member Ad hoc Margie Washnock (SDNA Pres)brittany novotny@midwestsolutionssdcom
Lobbyist Brittany Novotny contactus@sdnurses.org
SDNA ED Eric Ollila

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District 1, 2 & 3

Districts 1, 2, & 3 met at Minervas in Rapid City on September 13 for a regular business meeting. Several district members enjoyed the convention in Mitchell on October 2 and 3, 2016. Many thanks to the convention committee for the wonderful convention. And, congratulations to all the award winners and newly elected officers! Members of the district hosted the newly elected legislators for a ‘Meet and Greet’ dinner with the legislators on November 15, 2016. The next district meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2017.

Linda De Long
District 1, 2, & 3 President

District 4

We are watching the leaves change color and the seasons change. It is a pleasant hunting season, so be careful out there. Many hunters are also using their time as an opportunity to quality health care for our nation’s Veterans. The VA offers an incomparable benefits package.

The Sioux Falls VAHCs is currently recruiting for night and day RN and LPN healthcare positions in the following clinical areas. 8 hour, 12 hour and intermittent shifts available, depending on location.

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District 8-9

Fifteen candidates from legislative districts 4, 5, 7 and 8 gathered in Brookings on October 17th to learn about Advanced Nursing Authority and Regulation and Medicaid Expansion. Robin Arends, DNP, Executive Director of NPASD and Bryan Wermers, CNP, Vice President of NPASD presented the background to the collaborative agreement with Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Physicians and the need to have this collaborative barrier removed. The second point was to remove joint South Dakota Nursing and Medical Board certification. The goal is to be only with the SD Board of Nursing. Removal of the collaborative agreement and certification under just one board would increase access by patients to primary care with nurse practitioners in rural clinics and grant authority to NPs to practice to the full scope of their certification. Frequently, there are not enough physicians in rural communities to sign on to collaborative agreements. South Dakota no longer has these collaborative agreements. South Dakota is losing certified nurse practitioners to these states and thus, decreases access to care in South Dakota. Advanced Practice Nurse Providers and Physicians understand the scope of their practice and readily refer situations that are beyond their scope to other health care providers. This is a similar practice as a primary care physician who refers patients to health care providers in orthopedics, cardiology, etc.

The second presenter was Brenda Andersen, CNP, on the rationale and need to expand Medicaid in South Dakota.

The information is complicated to explain and understand, but the bottom line is that the working poor would have access to health care coverage through Medicaid Expansion. The goal is to have these individuals seek care earlier in an illness, access preventive care such as mammograms, immunizations, etc. at less cost than a disease that has progressed to a serious level and treatment for the illness is then sought in an emergency department at greater cost. Individuals who can afford insurance under the Affordable Care Act and through employers get the care they need at a cost they can afford. Medicaid Expansion is needed.

Further information is provided at http://sdnurses.org/Main-Menu/News-Events/ Nurses-Day-At-The-Legislature

Following the presentations there was a productive dialogue with legislative candidate questions and responses from the presenters.

District 10

District 10 meets the first Tuesday of the month so our next meeting is planned for November 1st at CJ Calloways by the Red River. We are always excited to see new and old faces and welcome all district 10 members. We realize that nurses are busy people with families, jobs and community needs pulling for their time. We will be planning this Spring Workshop: Healthy Nurse, Healthy Nation, Healthy Communities. We are just beginning to plan for this and welcome ideas for presentations. I would like to stress that to come is the most important message. You can be as involved as your time allows we would just like your voice and ideas. We keep meetings to 1 hour with supper available at your own cost for socializing after the meeting adjourning after the meeting. We would love to see District 10 be a strong voice for the large group of nurses that it represents. We are planning for elections of officers at the November meeting as well.

Marian Eberhard
District 10

District 11

District 11 has again hosted an informative speaker for our September meeting. Helene Hegge, RN, MSN presented Advance Care Planning to members and guests at the September meeting held at the University of South Dakota Department of Nursing. Her presentation displayed the difficulties and benefits of $9,552 are eligible for Medicaid. Further information is provided at http://sdnurses.org/Main-Menu/News-Events/ Nurses-Day-At-The-Legislature

The District invited the South Dakota Nurses’ Association to the 2017 Convention to be held in Yankton for October 1 and 2, 2017 in the Yankton Best Western Hotel and Convention Center. The district meeting for the 2017 convention will be “SDNA: The Next 100 Years.” We look forward to hosting the SDNA members when they come to Yankton for this future event.

At the 2016 convention, District 11 is proud to announce two very deserving award winners: Helene Hegge, RN, MSN awarded the Nurse Educator of the Year award and Elliam Petersen won the Pioneer in Nursing Award. The District Nurse of the Year for District 11 was Kathy Jorgensen. The attendees of the Mitchell convention were very pleased with the speakers, organization, and old faces.

Congratulations to the District 5-7 SDNA group on a fine convention in 2016!

Kathy Jorgensen
District 11 President
If you have events that you want posted on the SDNA Calendar of Events, please contact the SDNA Office at (605) 945-4265 or by email at contactus@sdnurses.org.

December, 2016
December 1
District Leadership
Reporting Form Due to
SDNA Office

December 25
Christmas Day

February, 2017
February 6-7, 2017
Nurses Day at the
Legislature (NDL)

March 2017
March 11
Last day of the 91st South
Dakota Legislative Session

A special “Thank you!”
to the following individuals
who have donated to the
South Dakota Nurses
Foundation since January
1, 2016. The great support
is appreciated!

Mary V. Piper
Timothy & Beverly
Jorgenson
Judith Niklasson
Kathy Jorgensen
Dr. Kay Foland
Randy & Adele Jacobson
Mike & Julia Dangel
Janet Lord
Arelle Kleinasser
Gary & Mary Brendtro
Dennis & Sherry Smith
Donald & Linda
Erlenbusch
Cynthia Elverson
Linda Herrick
Marlin & Joyce Fjelland
John Jacoway & Linda
Kroppenske
Mary Ingram
Gary & Audrey Stevens
Kathryn Vigen
Eilam K. Petersen
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Carrie Clausen Hansen
Erica Trebesch
Haven Gluf
John Walsh

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Sanford Health Heart Hospital, located in Sioux Falls, SD, has an exciting full-time opportunity with the Cardiac Catheterization Lab for an experienced Registered Nurse. Come work at our state-of-the-art 205,000 sq. foot facility which is a custom Healing Environment that helps foster quicker recovery time.

We have one of the most dynamic and innovative nursing practices in the country. As nursing professional, you will benefit from Sanford’s Magnet status, professional development opportunities, professional autonomy and accountability; teamwork; outstanding physician relationships, supportive Leadership; and so much more!

Visit sanfordhealth.org/careers (click on Sioux Falls Region). Job number is 234332.

Incentive package offered. Interested candidates should call Jeanine at 605-328-0526 to discuss this exciting opportunity.

Sanford Health is committed to the health and well-being of our community. As the largest employer in the region, we strive to create a work environment that fosters open communication, collaboration, respect, and support. We are dedicated to recruiting and developing the best and brightest talent throughout the organization. Sanford Health offers a wide range of opportunities that can be tailored to fit your unique career goals, while meeting the needs of our patients.

*Sanford Health Heart Hospital*

**Sanford Health Heart Hospital**, located in Sioux Falls, SD, has an exciting full-time opportunity for an experienced Registered Nurse. The Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory is a state-of-the-art facility, providing a custom Healing Environment that helps foster quicker recovery time.

We offer an outstanding educational opportunity, competitive salaries, generous benefits and a full-time designation at 30 hours. For a current list of open positions, visit [SanfordHealth.org/JoinOurTeam](http://SanfordHealth.org/JoinOurTeam).

*Sanford Health Heart Hospital* is a part of Sanford Health, the largest integrated health system in the region. Sanford Health stands for something completely different from what you would expect from a hospital, it represents a broad range of services and care along with a commitment to philanthropy. Sanford Health offers a wide range of opportunities that can be tailored to fit your unique career goals, while meeting the needs of our patients.

Visit sanfordhealth.org/careers to learn more about Sanford Health and find other exciting opportunities.

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