The Value in Saying “I Belong:” Professional Membership in CNA

Over the past two years I’ve had the honor and privilege of serving you, our CNA members, as President of our organization. During the tenure of my position I became very familiar with members questioning the value of belonging to CNA and how to justify the cost of membership. When members ask, “What do I get for being a member of CNA?” my reply was “What do you want?” Membership in a professional organization is not a one size fits all category of benefits. The value of membership in a professional organization isn’t one in which there are direct individual benefits; rather the benefits are collective in nature in which all nurses in Colorado benefit.

As I began attending our Governmental Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) committee meetings I met many esteemed colleagues who have vast experience in developing policies that benefit the nurses of Colorado and the patients they care for. Their tireless efforts to promote our profession is awe inspiring. They taught me how to advocate for nurses in front of our legislators at both the state
Executive Director's Column

Colleen Casper, DNP, RN, MS

Colorado Nurses Association continues to advance the work identified in our Strategic Plan. The primary accomplishments include:

Advocacy – The voice of nursing is more important than ever in the current conversations and decision making related to health care policy. Without a doubt, the greatest investment you made in this area was that of your dues. Your dues dollars are the lifeblood of CNA and the ANCC and they contribute to the voice for nursing in public policy, regulatory, media and the individuals and communities we serve. We strive to strengthen the role of nursing while also improving the health of all Coloradans.

Education – CNA mission includes the provision of professional development, as well as informational services. CNA Board of Directors recently approved the investment of re-instituting ANCC Accredited Approver status. To that end, CNA has contracted with Connie Pardee, PhD, RN to serve in the role of Nurse Peer Review Leader. Dr. Pardee will be working with the CNA Approval Board and ANCC to submit our self-study and to guide the ANCC re-accreditation process.

CNA President continued from page 1

...and national levels. This past legislative session I presented testimony in front of one of the state legislative committee sessions that protected nursing interests for Colorado Nurses. That testimony proved to be successful in blocking proposed legislation that would have negatively impacted nursing re-licensure particularly in rural areas. On the national level, I met with all of our State’s Congressmen to advocate on behalf of all Coloradans on changes to the Affordable Care Act, to promote and protect the unique needs of the most vulnerable populations. To me, that is value.

At the same time I started my presidency role I worked on a short task force with ANA to look at value pricing measures that could lower the cost of membership to make it more affordable for nurses to join the organization. The information I learned and the experience I gained serving on that committee helped me bring new ideas back to our own state organization. For the past two years the Board of Directors have been exploring ways to become a more efficient and effective organization at the lowest cost possible to reach all members throughout the state. To accomplish this, we improved our CNA website for the ease of use and to make it possible to reach all members throughout the state. To accomplish this, we improved our CNA website and make it available for members to complete. If you have not received that survey as of yet, please contact info@coloradonurses.org.

Engagement – Member engagement is the lifeblood of every professional association. CNA continues to experience significant membership growth. The membership growth is essential to fund the growing number of demands for CNA work in the State, Regions, Districts, and Special Interest Groups. The CNA Board of Directors is working diligently to determine what membership structures will optimize member choices in how and when they participate in the work of the association. To that end, a survey is currently available for members to complete. If you have not received that survey as of yet, please contact info@coloradonurses.org.

Sustainability – CNA Board of Directors engaged upon a financial turn around situation in late 2013. The initial goal was to reduce association costs to avoid reliance on investment funds. Going forward we look to advance our ability to replenish our investment funds to secure a strong future for the association that speaks on behalf of all Colorado RNs. We have streamlined many services through our partnerships with Civica (Association and Meeting Management Services) and with the help of all of our members, we are building a strong foundation to allow the Voice of Nursing in Colorado. Stronger Together!

In summary, 2016 was a year of significant accomplishment for CNA and the ANCC. With 2017 on the horizon, we look forward to the next phase of our work identified in our Strategic Plan. Without a doubt, the greatest investment you made in this area was that of your dues. Your dues dollars are the lifeblood of CNA and the ANCC and they contribute to the voice for nursing in public policy, regulatory, media and the individuals and communities we serve. We strive to strengthen the role of nursing while also improving the health of all Coloradans.

Advisory Board

Colleen Casper, DNP, RN, MS
President

Colleen Casper, DNP, RN, MS
President

Colleen Casper, DNP, RN, MS
President
ANNA’s theme for 2017 is Healthy Nurse Healthy Nation. ANA defines a healthy nurse as one who actively focuses on creating and maintaining a balance and synergy of physical, intellectual, emotional, social, spiritual, personal and professional well-being. A healthy nurse lives life to the fullest capacity, across the wellness/wellness continuum, as they become stronger role models, advocates, and educators, personally, for their families, their communities and work environments, and ultimately for their patients.

As the President-Elect of the Colorado Nurses Association, I am particularly interested in carrying the message of health to all nurses in Colorado. I am also interested in nurses finding ways to deal with the overwhelming stress that many experience in their various roles. I’m concerned about substance use in our nurses in Colorado. I have worked in the psychiatric and substance use fields my whole career. I believe CNA is the voice for all Registered Nurses in our state. Also, I am acutely aware that all Coloradans need access to safe, quality care that we can provide them, along with our health partners. Our state is an unusual one: we have urban, rural and frontier areas. Access to good quality care is an absolute must. We must be at the forefront advocating for affordable health care for all. Our voices need to be heard. We need to be talking about access to affordable care at every opportunity. And we must take care of ourselves in the process.

ANA had a Health Risk Appraisal (HRA) of registered nurses (RN) and student nurse participants’ responses received between October 2013–October 2014. There are some interesting results to take note of:

Overall, the majority of participants said they feel positive about their workplace health and safety conditions. Yet they indicated there is room for improvement. Participants’ top perceived risk was overwhelmingly workplace stress. They expressed concern about the risk of injury from lifting and repositioning patients or equipment. Bullying and incivility in the workplace are prevalent, as are physical assaults by patients or their family members. Many participants reported heavy workloads that often necessitate working outside scheduled work hours to complete tasks, such as arriving early to work and/or staying late.

The majority of participants are above their ideal weight range for their height. A significant personal safety risk identified is distracted driving, such as texting or talking on the phone while driving. On the positive side, most participants said they had access to worksite wellness and health promotion programs, and a very low percentage said they smoke cigarettes.

Nurses at 3.6 million strong and the most trusted profession, have the power to make a difference! By choosing nutritious foods and an active lifestyle, managing stress, living tobacco-free, getting preventive immunizations and screenings, and choosing protective measures such as wearing sunscreen and bicycle helmets, nurses can set an example on how to be healthy. Just think, if all 3.6 million registered nurses increase their personal wellness and that of just some of their family, community, co-workers and patients, what a healthier world we would live in!

Want to learn more and do more! Participate in our Healthy Nurse, Healthy Nation™ Grand Challenge! This nationwide movement connects and engages nurses and organizations to take positive action in physical activity, sleep, nutrition, quality of life and safety. Will you accept the challenge?

Join the Healthy Nurse, Healthy Nation™ Grand Challenge! Follow this link to learn more: https://engage.healthynursehealthynation.org/dashboard/edit/profile.
DENVER — The annual 10-month journey to the Statewide Nightingale Luminary Awards and Gala ended May 13, 2017, with the awarding of Luminary medallions to 57 Colorado registered nurses, of whom 12 were chosen to receive the Nightingale Award, the state’s highest nursing honor.

This was the 32nd installment of the annual awards, which is a fundraiser for the Colorado Nurses Foundation. A total of 266 nurses were nominated for the 2016-2017 awards. Local Area Health Education Centers and independent Nightingale Committees in 10 regions of the state designated 57 as Luminaries, qualifying them for a trip to Denver for the state event.

In Denver, 42 of the Luminaries attended a Luminary Networking Tea, followed by a dress rehearsal, a reception and their time on the stage receiving tributes from an adoring crowd.

During the second half of the evening, 12 of the RNs were named as Colorado Nightingale Award recipients, an honor that 187 nurses have now received. By Nightingale rule, they cannot receive it a second time.

The recipients follow:

Nightingale Awards for Leadership in Clinical Practice: outstanding nurses who motivated others to work toward a common goal: Karen Sublett, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Oncology Services, Penrose St. Francis Health Services, Colorado Springs; and Esther Carpenter, Clinical Nurse IV-Cardiovascular Surgical Nurse Coordinator, Children’s Hospital Colorado in Aurora.

Sublett’s nominator said: “Karen’s leadership with an interprofessional team to reduce CLABSI/CAUTI aligns with the national priority for patient safety.” Carpenter was honored for “her achievements in the field of Pediatric Cardiac Care, evidenced in her commitment to creating and sustaining a culture of exemplary practice that is supported by knowledge, science, and research.”

Nightingale Awards for Leadership in Administrator, Educator, Researcher, or Non-Traditional Roles: outstanding nurses who motivated others to work toward a common goal:

Anita Roberts, Nurse Program Manager, Eastside Pediatric-Teen Clinic/Denver Health Medical Center, Denver; and Kelly Gallegos, Administrator, Conejos County Health and Hospital Services, Alamosa.

Roberts was honored for “her leadership in developing and implementing the 6 week dyad visit for new mothers and babies,” while Gallegos, “drawing from her experience in non-profit, mission-based leadership, helped transform [her] struggling Critical Access Hospital into a community asset focused on patient safety, delivering safe, reliable, and effective care.”

Nightingale Awards for Advocacy in Clinical Practice: outstanding nurses who advanced a cause or a purpose: Allissa Randazzo, Staff RN, Aspen House / Memory Care Assisted Living, Loveland; and Rhonda Lewis, Director of Diabetes Education, Parkview Medical Center, Pueblo.

Randazzo, an advocate for those with dementia, also was described as “the voice to emergency responders who may not understand the nuances of dementia, the voice to the staff who need to be trained in how to provide exceptional care and the voice to family members who need to understand the disease process and what to expect.” Lewis was honored for her advocacy for diabetes education, prevention and treatment in Pueblo, Colorado for more than 25 years.

Nightingale Awards for Advocacy in Administrator, Educator, Researcher, or Non-Traditional Roles: outstanding nurses who advanced a cause or a purpose: Kathy Fagan, Nursing Faculty, Colorado Northwestern Community College, Craig; and Dr. Mary Jo Coast, Associate Professor of Nursing, Loretto Heights School of Nursing at Regis University in Denver.

Fagan’s enthusiasm to advocate for senior citizens “led her to promote the establishment of a gathering place in Craig, that would enhance the quality of life for senior citizens,” her nominator wrote. Coast’s nominator lauded her work with Project Homeless Connect, saying that if access to health care through it had not been available, “the health of the homeless and marginalized in Denver would be even more compromised.”

Nightingale Awards for Innovation in Clinical Practice: outstanding nurses who demonstrated creativity that addresses today’s challenges or opportunities: Dr. Colleen McIlvennan, Lead Nurse Practitioner in Advanced Heart Failure and Transplantation, University of Colorado Denver; and Michelle Whaley, Comprehensive Stroke Program Coordinator/Acute Neurovascular Clinical Nurse Specialist, Swedish Medical Center, Englewood.

McIlvennan’s work “has changed the way clinicians approach the process of implanting a DT LVAD—a field that desperately needed change.” Whaley “improved stroke outcomes through creation of a multidisciplinary door to needle taskforce and CT-Direct protocol.”

Nightingale Awards for Innovation in Administrator, Educator, Researcher, or Non-Traditional Roles: outstanding nurses who demonstrated creativity that addresses today’s challenges or opportunities: Elizabeth Roten, Chief of Education, Grand Junction Veteran Health Care System; and Caren Misky, National Director of Advanced Practice Providers, Dispatch Health, Denver.

Roten was acknowledged “for advancing Grand Junction VA technology including: establishing a facility-wide guest WIFI system, simulation center, SCAN ECHO pain program, developed online and telelearning technology, and telehealth for distance learning applications.” Misky was lauded “for her innovation in providing on demand urgent care, in the home, assisted living or work setting, decreasing ER admissions and costs.”
Friends and colleagues respond to the announcement of Michelle Whaley, Comprehensive Stroke Program Coordinator/Acute Neurovascular Clinical Nurse Specialist, Swedish Medical Center in Englewood, Colorado, as one of 12 Nightingale Award recipients.

Guests bid on collectibles, including a "Rat Pack" wall hanging, foreground, at the 2017 Nightingale Luminary Awards & Gala on May 13, 2017 at the Grand Hyatt Denver.

Guests arrive at the 2017 Nightingale Luminary Awards & Gala on May 13, 2017 at the Grand Hyatt Denver. The awards are administered by the Colorado Nurses Foundation.

The 2017 Nightingale Luminaries pose for a group photo at the 2017 Nightingale Luminary Awards & Gala on May 13, 2017 at the Grand Hyatt Denver.

JOIN OUR JOURNEY

Now Hiring Experienced Operating Room Registered Nurses and Certified Surgical Techs.

As a community partner since 1922, Cedar Springs Hospital was the first free standing psychiatric hospital dedicated to the provision of specialized behavioral health care in the Rocky Mountain Region.

We continue to serve the needs of our community in a caring nurturing atmosphere that respects the tremendous courage it takes for someone to ask for help.

Cedar Springs Hospital in Colorado Springs provides both Acute Care and Residential Treatment Behavioral Health (PRTF) services for individuals of all ages and chemical dependency (substance abuse) treatment for adults 18 years of age & older.

2135 Southgate Road Colorado Springs, CO 80906
719-633-4114 or 1-800-888-1088
www.cedarspringshospital.com

Hiring for FT RNs (Night shift)
PRN RNs (All shifts)
PRN LPNs

To apply, visit www.uhsinc.com

- The Inpatient Programs at Cedar Springs provide an accepting, non-judgmental treatment approach in a specialized environment for those experiencing an acute crisis.

- Mountain View Place Psychiatric Residential Treatment for Children and Adolescents.

- Recovery Zone Military Specific Treatment for Complex Trauma, Combat Stress & Post Traumatic Stress Program for Adults who have served.

- New Choices Chemical dependency and dual diagnosis treatment programs.

- The Bridge Adult Partial Hospitalization Program
This year I had the honor of being nominated for the Nightingale Award by Senator Jeanne Nicholson. To be honest, and to my regret, I had never focused on this award or attended any past events. I did some quick research to find out what it was all about. I was nominated for my advocacy work. I have been an advocate for various causes even before becoming a nurse and it remains an almost daily activity to this day.

On the evening of April 1st, my husband and I arrived at the Doubletree Hotel and were astonished to see the number of people in attendance. As the evening unfolded, we learned that there were 187 nominees and 24 would be selected as “luminaries,” the first step toward receiving the Nightingale award. The program indicated that each nominee would be introduced and called to the stage. The evening was scheduled to end at 9 PM. My husband looked at me and said, “never.” He underestimated the organizational skills of nurses (it ended on time). As we sat and listened to the reason each nurse was nominated, the thought that kept going through my head was that I did not deserve this honor. The achievements of the other nominees were incredibly impressive. They ranged from developing orientation programs for new graduates working in critical care to conducting a needs assessment survey among staff nurses in various areas of Colorado. None of these accomplishments would be turned off in order to decrease alarm fatigue. My fellow nominees were all such accomplished, dedicated nurses. Nonetheless, almost at the end of the announcements I heard the announcer say, “She has been a nurse for 51 years…” and I went numb. I had been awarded the greatest honor a nurse could receive. Never had I ever thought I would be a nurse or felt as humbled to be in the presence of such accomplished people.

The next step in this process was the award ceremony on May 13th. When we arrived at the Grand Hyatt I was again amazed at the size of the crowd. There were a total of 54 luminaries from various areas of Colorado. Twelve would be selected as Nightingale winners. The luminaries were honored first. We all went on stage and received a medallion. After dinner, the announcements of the Nightingale winners began. The feelings I had the night of the luminary awards were magnified 100 times. The 12 nurses selected as Nightingale recipients were all absolutely outstanding. I was in awe of their achievements. Anita Roberts developed and implemented the 6 week dyad for new mothers and babies. Allissa Randazzo won for her advocacy for those living with dementia and my colleague Mary Jo Coast won for her tireless work with the homeless; to mention only a few. The 12 nurses selected as Nightingale recipients were all absolutely outstanding. I was in awe of their achievements. Anita Roberts developed and implemented the 6 week dyad for new mothers and babies. Allissa Randazzo won for her advocacy for those living with dementia and my colleague Mary Jo Coast won for her tireless work with the homeless; to mention only a few. I did not win. I can honestly say that I would not have voted for myself. Those who won achieved amazing outcomes for their patients, their institutions and the public. They were each examples of truly outstanding nurses. My husband leaned over to me and said, “we are in good company.” I could not have agreed more. I had tears in my eyes and I vowed not to miss another Nightingale gala.

**Nightingale Colorado**

**In a Room with Heroes; a Reflection**

Carol L. Goldstein Ph.D., RN

DENVER – Nominations for the 2018 Colorado Nightingale Luminary Awards will begin on or about Oct. 1, 2017, according to the event’s administrator, the Colorado Nurses Foundation. Next year is the 33rd installment of the awards, which culminates in the statewide Nightingale Luminary Awards & Gala on Saturday, May 12, 2018. The event will be in metro Denver, although a location had not been set as of press time.

The Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence expresses its gratitude to the Colorado Nurses Foundation for being the recipient of this honor. The Center also acknowledges the many partners who work with us to assure a bright future for nurses and healthcare in Colorado.

**A Special Acknowledgment for the Center**

The principles of acknowledgement is a topic that is included in some form in every educational program presented by the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence. We discuss the importance of giving acknowledgement to family, colleagues, coworkers and team members.

Familiarity with the subject did not; however, prepare the staff present at the Colorado Nightingale Gala for the announcement that the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence was named as the first recipient of this honor. The Center also acknowledges the Colorado Nurses Foundation for being the purpose of improving healthcare and the education of nurses, and providing the President of the Colorado Nurses Foundation and ratified by vote of the Board of Directors. It is to be given to an individual who is not a nurse or to a Colorado administrator, the Colorado Nurses Foundation.

**Nightingale Colorado**

**Nominations Will Open in October**

Please refer to the foundation’s website at www.coloradonursesfoundation.com for up-to-the-minute details.

Colorado RNs working in both clinical and non-traditional settings are recognized for their achievement in one of three categories: advocacy, innovation and leadership.

Local Area Health Education Centers and independent Nightingale Committees in 10 regions of the state designate up to 60 of the nurses as Luminaries. A state selection committee selects up to 12 of the Luminaries as recipients of the Colorado Nightingale Award, Colorado nursing’s highest honor.

In 2017, 266 nominations were received, with 57 nurses designated as Luminaries. The awards are named for Florence Nightingale, English social reformer and statistician, and the founder of modern nursing. The 2018 edition of the awards falls on the 198th anniversary of Nightingale’s birth. They also fall on the last day of National Nurses Week in the U.S.

**Advance your career as an Adult Gerontology Acute Care NP with an online* program at the University of Northern Colorado.**

- Post-Master’s Certificate
- Nursing Master of Science with AGACNP emphasis
- Nursing DNP: Post-Bachelor’s with AGACNP emphasis

*Includes summer intensives in Greeley, CO.

To learn more, contact: AUDREY.SNYDER@UNC.EDU

**EXTENDED.UNCO.EDU/NURSING**

**UNC**

Extended Campus
CNF Student Scholarships

Colorado Nurses Foundation scholarship applications will be available on September 1, 2017 from the foundation website at www.coloradonursesfoundation.com. The foundation has a long record of supporting nursing education in the state and annually awards between 15 and 20 scholarships to deserving nursing students statewide.

If you are interested in applying, or know someone who would be an appropriate recipient, please visit the website at that time and apply using the foundation’s online application form. Application deadline is October 30, 2017. Recipients will be announced in December and scholarships funded in January for the first quarter or semester of 2018.

Gallup Indian Medical Center

Hiring New Graduate & Experienced Nurses.

79 Bed Facility, Baby Friendly Certified, Trauma III designated hospital bordering the Navajo Reservation in Gallup, NM. Positions available within ER, Medical/Surgical, OB/L&D, ICU, Ambulatory Care & Specialty Nurse Positions.

We offer:

- Up to 25% Relocation and Recruitment Incentives
- Competitive Salaries

Contact: Myra Cousens, MSN, MBA, Nurse Recruiter 505.726.8549 | myra.cousens@ihs.gov

I.H.S. is required by law to give absolute preference to qualified Indian applicants. Equal Opportunity Employer.

The prestigious Magnet Recognition Program® honor goes to Saint Joseph Hospital.

Compassionate care comes to life in so many ways. From a genuine smile to a gentle touch, we embody empathy and commit to it each and every day. Congratulations to Saint Joseph Hospital for achieving this recognition which is the nation’s top honor for nursing excellence, patient care and innovations in practice. We want to thank all of our associates for their professionalism and passion for our patients.
Interprofessional Collaborative Practice: Breaking Out of Our Silo’s

Deborah Center, MSN, RN, CNS, CTA-CC
Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence

Over the last few years, there has been a growing emphasis on developing interprofessional collaborative practice and team-based care to improve patient outcomes. Today’s patients have complex health needs requiring input from more than one discipline to meet their needs. Evidence suggests that by enhancing the level of collaboration within teams where each professional’s contribution is valued equally there can be achievement of the quadruple aim. For example, interprofessional collaboration results in higher quality, safety, provider and patient satisfaction and more efficient utilization of resources to reduce costs. True interprofessional collaborative practice is a partnership that is participatory and coordinated involving clear communication and shared decision-making. Some experts suggest interprofessional collaborative practice to be the best model of team-based care.

However, many clinical organizations and educational programs struggle to create the time and geographic space to allow for the development of interprofessional relationships to adequately apply concepts to the provision of patient care. Many have an unrealistic expectation that by hiring the right people and putting them together in the same space, there will magically be synergy and interprofessional collaborative teamwork. The reality is teams do not just happen, especially when the professions all come from a different model of education, experiences and backgrounds. These barriers may cause organizations to fall into the pattern of continuing to provide care in silos where each profession does their part of patient care without clear communication on an agreed plan. Results may include adding to costs, dissatisfaction, and errors or duplication of services that reduce quality.

How do we break out of our silos and capitalize on the unique qualities and strengths of each profession? How do we, as nurses, help other professions understand the true contributions the different levels within our profession can make within interprofessional teams? Albert Einstein identified the definition of insanity as “doing the same thing over and over again expecting different results.” Until we step out of our silos into interprofessional collaborative practice, we will just maintain the insanity of multiple professionals working in the same building without collaboration or a shared vision.

To me, interprofessional team-building is like gardening. To change our practice, we need to plant the seeds and then provide all the right combination of sunlight, water, and nutrition, while we tend to the weeds and protect from the changing seasons. In interprofessional teams, we need to plant the seeds to understand the value and competencies of each profession. Next, for the roots of collaboration to grow, we need to provide the right combination of time for relationship building, communication and consensus building to promote shared decision-making. Along the way, we need to weed out incivility and inappropriate use of power to promote a higher level of accountability and competency. Like gardening, this is year-round work that takes all of us to produce outcomes and see the beauty and fruits of our labor.

At the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence, we are continuing to expand our garden for interprofessional collaborative practice through a five-year funding opportunity from the Primary Care Division of HRSA involving a consortium of statewide partners from four accredited primary care provider education programs and the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN). This unique funding program has four essential components focused on developing interprofessional collaborative practice skills with clinical teams, student leadership and teams, and preceptor development to support students.

One element of our program evaluation involves the measurement related to six domains of interprofessional competency. The six domains include: Communication, Collaboration, Roles and Responsibilities, Collaborative Patient/Family-Centered Approach, Conflict Management/Resolution, and Team Functioning. For the student groups that have completed to date, there has been a demonstrated statistically significant change in knowledge of interprofessional collaborative skills to assist them in creating and sustaining interprofessional teams.

When we can put individuals from different disciplines in the same space for training, we can break down the silos created by our past traditions. Clinical team members and students have the opportunity to develop relationships and trust that plant seeds and establish strong roots for improving patient outcomes. Feedback from the participants include statements such as, “This is the first time I have ever spent this much time with the physician, and I was able to learn that we do want the same thing for the patient. I had no idea before.” Moreover, a physician student wrote, “Traditions bring hierarchy. This workshop cemented why it is important to do away with hierarchy and titles to really take care of patients.” Some of the seeds we are planting are starting to sprout, and we have more work to do! For more information about the programs at the Center for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice, please email Deb Center at Deb@ColoradoNursingCenter.org.
Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder: Advanced Practice Nurses can help increase access to care.

Dr. Mary Weber, PhD, PMHNP-BC, FAANP, FAANP
Professor
Endowed Professor in Psychiatric Nursing
University of Colorado College of Nursing

Almost 2 million Americans 12 years or older were estimated to have Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) due to prescription drugs (Health and Human Services [HHS], 2015). In addition, there has been close to a 2.5 fold increase in prescription opioid overdose deaths since 2001 (HHS, 2015; https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/). Now, almost half of all opioid deaths are from prescription drugs. Unfortunately, OUD is not a new phenomenon, and attention to the rising number of deaths from prescription opioids has only highlighted what many of us in Nursing have known, that access to treatment has been an ongoing problem for decades. Although research has been limited, there are evidence-based options for treatment other than abstinence, what is referred to as medication-assisted treatment (MAT). These options include methadone that can only be prescribed from a primary care setting, an OTP, or a substance treatment program. Unfortunately, most people with OUD do not receive MAT, despite evidence that MAT reduces mortality, high-risk behaviors that can lead to HIV and Hepatitis C, and levels of crime (Connock, 2007). The purpose of MAT is to block the euphoric and sedating effects of opioids, reduce the craving for opioids, and/or mitigate the symptoms of opioid withdrawal. MAT also includes psychosocial interventions that have shown to promote recovery and retention in care. These interventions can save lives. Unfortunately, there has been a shortage of physicians who prescribe buprenorphine as well as a lack of understanding among clinicians as to what MAT is and why this is such an important option.

On July 21, 2016, President Obama signed the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) in to law. This law expands prescribing privileges to Nurse Practitioners (NP) and Physician Assistants (PA) for five years (until October 1, 2021) to prescribe buprenorphine. It is believed that this law will expand access to MAT in rural and urban settings as well as in primary care settings. It is hoped that more and more NPs and PAs will take this opportunity to learn how to treat OUD and help reduce overdose deaths and increase access to treatment.

What are the steps for you to be able to prescribe buprenorphine? Nurse Practitioners and PAs must obtain a “waiver” from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). This “waiver” permits you to legally prescribe buprenorphine products for OUD with a designation on your DEA license. Here are the steps:

Step 1: Check your eligibility.
To qualify for a waiver, NPs and PAs must:
• Be licensed under state law to prescribe Schedule III, IV, or V medications for pain
• Through other training or experience, demonstrate the ability to treat and manage OUD and have a valid and active DEA number
• If required by state law, be supervised or work in collaboration with a qualifying physician (physician must be waivered) to prescribe medications for the treatment of OUD

Step 2: Take 24 hours of required coursework.
The American Psychiatric Nurses Association, in conjunction with the Providers Clinical Support System for MAT (PCSS-MAT), offers the FREE required 24 hours of MAT training. The American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP), in conjunction with the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) also offers the FREE required 24 hours of MAT waiver training. Both groups give continuing education credit.

Step 3: Complete your Notice of Intent Form (NOI) to prescribe buprenorphine
Once you have finished the 24 hours of training, complete the NOI form online and submit it to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for review.

Step 4: Forward your Certificates of Completion to SAMHSA
When you complete the 24-hour trainings, email your certificates of completion to info@buprenorphine.samhsa.hhs.gov or fax them to 301-576-5237. You will receive notice from SAMHSA as well as a letter from the DEA with a special identification number.

Important websites:
https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/
retrieved June 11, 2017
https://aanp.inreachce.com/
https://www.samhsa.gov/index.cfm?
index=matwaiver
https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-
treatment/qualifying-nps-pas-waivers

Additional References:

Many thanks to Dr. Mary Weber for contributing this column on the important role for nurses in the care of those with Opioid Use Disorder:

Peer Assistance Services provides the statewide Nurses Peer Health Assistance program through a contract with the Colorado Board of Nursing. For more information contact: Katherine Garcia, MA, LAC, MAC, Client Services Manager. kgarcia@peerassist.org.

Office locations:
Denver | 2170 South Parker Road, Suite 229 Denver, CO 80234 | 303 369-0039
Grand Junction | 200 Grand Avenue, Suite 270 Grand Junction, CO 81501 | 970 291-3209
24 Hour Information Line –720-291-3209

peerassist.org

CO Division of Youth Services is expanding our nursing services! Will be recruiting RNs, NPs and PAs over the next 6 months.
Check the state of CO website for job postings at https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdyr/jobs
Peggy Baikie
Medical Operations Coordinator
P 303.916.1277 | Peggy.Baikie@state.co.us

CO Division of Youth Services is expanding our nursing services! Will be recruiting RNs, NPs and PAs over the next 6 months.
Check the state of CO website for job postings at https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdyr/jobs
Peggy Baikie
Medical Operations Coordinator
P 303.916.1277 | Peggy.Baikie@state.co.us
DNA 3

We had a delightful celebration for Nurses week. Mary Wall brought gifts for all who attended and also provided door prizes from Affordable Medical Care. Members shared inspirational moments from their career. Our program topics for 2017-2018 will be about community agencies and health services that make a difference.

Anne Zobec, Board Member
Work: 719-667-6942
Cell: 719-351-4268

DNA 4

DNA 4 held its meeting Scholarship Dinner on April 21, 2017. The scholarship program is a one year paid dues to membership in CNA/ANA. These Nursing students are academically qualified to receive the award.

This year’s recipients are
CSU- P – Kourtney Stroud
LCC – Mendi Choot
OJC – Caitlyn Johnson Beauchamp
PCC – Bruce Miller
TSJC – Fabiola Botello Serrano

Congratulations to these nursing students!

Pictured here are (L-R) Ruth Depalma, Kourtney Stroud, Tejana Cox, Diane McElroy, Caitlyn Johnson Beauchamp, Kathy Carpenter, Lori Rae Hamilton.

Kathy Carpenter, RN, MSN
President DNA 4

DNA 6

DNA 6 is hosting an educational talk on End of Life Options, presented by Helen Lester, MSN and Dr. Jennifer Harbert on Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in conjunction with the combined DNA 4 and 6 meeting in Alamosa. Helen Lester just retired as the director of Hospice del Valle in Alamosa and is a long time DNA 6 and ANA member, also serving as treasurer of DNA 6. Dr. Jennifer Harbert is the Hospice del Valle medical director and practices Family Medicine in Del Norte, CO.

For more information email or call Charlotte Ledonne, nurse coordinator with the San Luis Valley Area health Education Center at charlotte@slvhec.org or 719-589-4977.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Ledonne, RN, BSN, MA, LPC
President DNA 6

DNA 16

DNA enjoyed an active spring with a focus on legislative and educational events. In January we learned about advancements in frostbite treatments with TpaX which has effectively decreased frostbite related amputations to less than 10 percent. On February 21, 67 nurses, 25 student nurses and 23 legislators gathered for rich discussion on nurses viewing health care as policy and advocacy over politics at the 17th annual Nurse Legislator Dinner. In March we were joined by Region I Director Kathy Shaw for a discussion on results of the CNA restructuring survey.

In April we engaged in discussion on respectful and appropriate health care giving for the transgender community with a speaker on health equity and disparities in this population from the Colorado LGBT Community Center.

During National Nurses Week we sold over 300 tickets for Nurses Night at the Rockies and were honored to have five nursing leaders, Terri Buxton, Judy Burke, Mary Kershner, Susan Moyer, and Christine Schmidt, represent our profession for pre-game recognition on the in-field. That thrill was followed by a Rockies victory over the LA Dodgers! Our May meeting was a very special conclusion to the year with a wine and dinner reception and viewing of the documentary: “Exposure, Reclaiming the Nobility of Nursing,” at the home of the author, Juliana Adams. The documentary was an inspiring look at how nurses become everyday heroes to the people for whom they care by providing competent, compassionate care which should never be taken for granted by changing systems and environments. This film is a celebration of nursing for new, long practicing, and aspiring nurses.

DNA 16 includes CNA members from the Denver metropolitan area and points far north and south as well as east to the Kansas and Nebraska borders. With that, it should not be a surprise that we have a large membership, currently totaling 598! When we reconvene in the fall, we plan to explore the use of Circle Communities on the CNA website for improving efficiency of mass two-way communications with members.

Christine Schmidt, RN, MS
President DNA 16

DNA 20 (West Metro Area)

DNA 20 members ended 2016-17 with a potluck and the announcement of the board members for 2017-18. Newly elected Board members are: President, Annette Cannon; Vice President, Teresa Freudig; Secretary, Irene Drabek; Board Members at Large, Norma Tuhan and Kathy Wood. Continuing in office are: Treasurer, Linda Stroup; Board Members at Large, Kathy Crisler and Janet Ballantine. Nominating Committee members elected are: Irene Drabek (Chair), Kiska May, Allison Windes,
District & Special Interest Group Reports

SIG 30/Colorado Society of Advance Practice Nurses

SIG 30 Colorado Society of Advanced Practice Nurses held elections in April, electing new board members. The new board members are Jennifer Rodgers (President Elect), Janece Moore (Secretary) and Vanessa Vergara (Program Coordinator).

Congratulations to SIG 30 members Susie Stefani and Afton Williamson. They have each been awarded a $500 scholarship to attend a conference. Money for nursing scholarships is raised through the donations provided at the monthly membership meetings.

SIG 30 continues to welcome new members as the SIG 30 membership continues to grow. The SIG 30 Board of Directors will be seeking feedback from the membership. SIG 30 members please be on the lookout for a membership survey.

Janece Moore

DNA 23

DNA 23 is looking forward to resuming our meetings as we have not met during the summer. Our first meeting of the Fall will be held at our annual assembly in September. (Registration information is posted on the CNA website and more information is also included in this issue of the Colorado Nurse on page 7. After that, we will continue to meet at the Perkins Restaurant (Westminster) near 120th Ave and Melody Drive every other month on the second Tuesday. All nurses are welcome to join us, These are a great opportunity to discuss healthcare trends as well as bond with nurses from various specialties. All DNA 23 members are encouraged to nominate a “DNA 23 Nurse of the Year”... please email your suggestion to Tonya Hunt at hunttonya36@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you in September!

Tonya Hunt, RN, MSN, CHPN
President, DNA #23
Hunttonya36@gmail.com

DNA 20 Board Member At Large

Norma Tuhan, RN, MSc, NE-BC

DNA 20 met in August to finalize plans and speakers for the coming year. We will continue to meet at St. Anthony Hospital, Lakewood on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm. Our speaker for September 20 is Don Moseley, Executive Director, Ralston House, a Child Advocacy Center, who will speak on the need for services for children and families in Jefferson, Gilpin, Adams, and Broomfield counties and how Ralston House addresses these needs.

SIGS members remain committed to advancing nursing. Annette Cannon presented a poster on "Promoting Diversity in the Workplace Through Culturally Responsible Teaching," along with presenting a Round Table discussion on Workplace Integration of the Internationally Educated Nurse at the Partners In Education and Integration of Internationally Educated Nurses 11th National Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, April 27th/28th, 2017.

For information on DNA 20 meetings and speakers contact President Annette Cannon at Annette2006@msn.com or see the CNA website.

Just Because You Received This Publication, Doesn’t Mean You Are A CNA Member

Expand your clinical teaching skills! The Center’s next Clinical Scholar training classes will be February 12-16, 2018. This popular workshop will increase your clinical teaching skills and help educate the next generation of Colorado nurses.

Supercharge your presentation skills! The Center’s next Powerful Presentations Workshop will be January 8-10, 2018. This high-impact small-group based workshop provides immediate skills feedback. DVD recorded presentations receive detailed coaching.

See www.ColoradoNursingCenter.org, contact us at info@ColoradoNursingCenter.org or (303)715-0343 x17

Keefe Memorial Hospital

A progressive rural hospital located on the plains of eastern Colorado, is actively seeking RN’s. Nurses are provided with a varied work load, unique to rural nursing (MedSurg, ER, Swing Bed). New grads welcome! We work 12 hour shifts, 7 to 7. Come be a part of an outstanding health care team.

Contact Jasmine Shea, RN/DON or Carrie Rico, HR for more information at 719-767-5661.

Submit an application online at www.keefememorial.com

August, September, October 2017

District & Special Interest Group Reports

SIG 30/Colorado Society of Advance Practice Nurses

SIG 30 Colorado Society of Advanced Practice Nurses held elections in April, electing new board members. The new board members are Jennifer Rodgers (President Elect), Janece Moore (Secretary) and Vanessa Vergara (Program Coordinator).

Congratulations to SIG 30 members Susie Stefani and Afton Williamson. They have each been awarded a $500 scholarship to attend a conference. Money for nursing scholarships is raised through the donations provided at the monthly membership meetings.

SIG 30 continues to welcome new members as the SIG 30 membership continues to grow. The SIG 30 Board of Directors will be seeking feedback from the membership. SIG 30 members please be on the lookout for a membership survey.

Janece Moore

DNA 23

DNA 23 is looking forward to resuming our meetings as we have not met during the summer. Our first meeting of the Fall will be held at our annual assembly in September. (Registration information is posted on the CNA website and more information is also included in this issue of the Colorado Nurse on page 7. After that, we will continue to meet at the Perkins Restaurant (Westminster) near 120th Ave and Melody Drive every other month on the second Tuesday. All nurses are welcome to join us, These are a great opportunity to discuss healthcare trends as well as bond with nurses from various specialties. All DNA 23 members are encouraged to nominate a “DNA 23 Nurse of the Year”... please email your suggestion to Tonya Hunt at hunttonya36@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you in September!

Tonya Hunt, RN, MSN, CHPN
President, DNA #23
Hunttonya36@gmail.com

DNA 20 Board Member At Large

Norma Tuhan, RN, MSc, NE-BC

DNA 20 met in August to finalize plans and speakers for the coming year. We will continue to meet at St. Anthony Hospital, Lakewood on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm. Our speaker for September 20 is Don Moseley, Executive Director, Ralston House, a Child Advocacy Center, who will speak on the need for services for children and families in Jefferson, Gilpin, Adams, and Broomfield counties and how Ralston House addresses these needs.

SIGS members remain committed to advancing nursing. Annette Cannon presented a poster on "Promoting Diversity in the Workplace Through Culturally Responsible Teaching," along with presenting a Round Table discussion on Workplace Integration of the Internationally Educated Nurse at the Partners In Education and Integration of Internationally Educated Nurses 11th National Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, April 27th/28th, 2017.

For information on DNA 20 meetings and speakers contact President Annette Cannon at Annette2006@msn.com or see the CNA website.

Just Because You Received This Publication, Doesn’t Mean You Are A CNA Member
Promoting Patient-Centered Team-Based Health Care

The United States spends more on health care than any other country, and the outcomes are not representative of that investment. It is evident that the current health care infrastructure is insufficient to meet the needs of health care consumers today and in the future. A fundamental change in health care delivery is needed to achieve what the Institute for Healthcare Improvement describes as the “Triple Aim”:

- Improving the patient experience of care (including quality and satisfaction);
- Improving the health of populations; and
- Reducing the per capita cost of health care.

The high-performing team is now widely recognized as an essential tool for constructing a more patient-centered, coordinated, and effective system of health care delivery. The American Nurses Association (ANA) supports patient-centered, team-based health care that values each and every team member for his or her own unique abilities, training, and expertise. Formulation of health care teams based on the individual needs of patients requires unencumbered, highly functioning team members to coordinate care and improve the nation’s system of health care delivery. To foster health care teams, all health care professionals need to practice to the full extent of their education and training, unburdened by outdated, barriers, and costly restrictions.

Solutions

- Encourage policy makers, the nursing community, and other stakeholders to work together with consumers to reform outdated scope of practice laws.
- Government regulation’s sole purpose is to protect the public, and this should guide scope of practice reform, not safeguard the self-interests of professional groups. Scope of practice reform is necessary as a profession’s practice evolves.
- Support the collection of data and application of evidence to advocate for payment models that are consistent with team-based care and acknowledge that the most qualified leader may not be a physician, depending on the specific situation.
- Decades of research have established the safety and effectiveness of care by advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), and that body of evidence has led institutions and organizations from the Institute of Medicine to the National Governor’s Association to AANP to call for the lifting of barriers to APRN practice.
- Educate patients about team-based care and about team members’ unique qualifications and roles while exercising sensitivity to care recipients’ perceptions and concerns about this shift in delivery. Assist patients in becoming active participants in managing their care.

Friends of Nursing 2017 Scholarship Awards

Families, FON members and supporters celebrated with 21 nursing students as they received FON scholarship awards. The undergraduate and graduate nursing scholars represented nine colleges and schools of nursing in Colorado. Rick Crandall served as MC for the event while awards were presented by Ruth O’Brien, Chair of the FON Scholarship and Grants Committee. A special recognition to Caring for Colorado was awarded. A total of $55,000 in scholarship monies was awarded, raised in the past year by donations to FON, special events, investments and member dues. Two new scholarships were presented in memory of Joseph and Ann Pfost by their daughter, Greta Pollard, and another honoring Don Pollard by his wife, Greta. The overflow crowd luncheon was held in the ballroom of Lakewood Country Club on April 8. For more information please contact Gris Finn, President FON. cfinn@regis.edu

Adams State University, Alamosa
Jessica Worker  Olga S. Miercort Scholarship
Colorado Christian University, Denver
Susan Adamson  Georgia Imhoff Memorial Scholarship
Ana Nielson  Friends of Nursing Scholarship

Colorado State University, Pueblo
Terra Chambers  Joseph & Ann Pfost Memorial Scholarship
Stacie Gray McCue  Friends of Nursing Scholarship
Olivia Navarro  Wayne T. “Dusty” Biddle Memorial Scholarship

Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction
Lexie Sutcliffe  Ruth Harboe Memorial Scholarship

Metro State University of Denver
Laura Batch  Friends of Nursing Scholarship
Elizabeth McDonald  President’s Scholarship
Rita Zerfoss  Fern Howard Award

Regis University, Loretto Heights School of Nursing, Denver
Jenna Euler  Friends of Nursing Scholarship
Toni Johnson  Verda Richie Memorial Scholarship
Mirabel Usongo  FON/Leila B. Kinney Scholarship

University of Colorado, Helen & Arthur Johnson/ Belle-Eli College of Nursing, Colorado Springs
Isabel Kirk  Donald Pollard Scholarship
Elizabeth Schneider  Friends of Nursing Scholarship
Kate Wogan  St. Luke’s Alumnae Scholarship

University of Colorado, College of Nursing, Denver
Jill Bastman  Viola Baudendistel Memorial Scholarship
Kimberly Lowdon  Georgia Imhoff Memorial Scholarship
Amy Lynde  Greta Pollard Scholarship

University of Northern Colorado, Greeley
Claudia Gomez Betancourt  Shirley Rarey Memorial Scholarship
Alexandra Lessem  Josephine Ballard/Presbyterian Scholarship
As the Colorado General Assembly wrapped up the 2017 Legislative Session, and Spring turned to Summer, many issues relevant to nurses took shape at the Department of Regulatory Agencies’ (DORA) Division of Professions and Occupations (DPO). On April 6, 2017, Governor John Hickenlooper signed Senate Bill 17-146 Concerning Access to the Electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). The new law allows prescribers and pharmacists to now check the PDMP database for reasons apart from controlled substance prescription considerations, including drug-drug interactions, dangerous side effects and possible abuse or diversion issues. As an effort to improve clinical decision making, the law went into effect immediately upon the Governor’s signature and was supported by DORA as part of the Governor’s Agenda. DPO will conduct outreach to all prescribers and pharmacists over the next several months to explain the new, broader access and encourage use of the PDMP. In July, the State Board of Pharmacy will hold a Rulemaking Hearing in September to approve rules that will help implement the new law. In addition, Governor Hickenlooper signed Senate Bill 17-33 on March 3, 2017. This bill clarifies that a person who has been appropriately trained is not prohibited from dispensing over-the-counter medication to a minor, as long as the person has written instructions from the minor’s parent or guardian, and there is a physician’s standing medical order. The bill is not intended to affect the authority of a professional nurse to delegate nursing tasks. The State Board of Nursing will hold a Stakeholder Meeting and a Rulemaking Hearing to fully implement this bill. Dates for these meetings have not been set, but please be sure to watch the State Board of Nursing website for updates.

At its April and June meetings, the Nurse Physician Advisory Task Force for Colorado Healthcare (NPATCH) continued its review of how the Colorado Medical Board and the Board of Nursing fulfill their statutory requirements to provide peer health assistance services for licensees. The NPATCH first heard presentations from DPO staff regarding the regulatory structure surrounding these services. Several stakeholders followed including Peer Assistance Services, COPIC, the Colorado Physician Health Program, and the Colorado Nurses Association. The NPATCH will hear additional presentations at its next meeting on August 4, 2017, at 1500 Broadway, Room 1100, Denver, Colorado. A webinar will be available for those unable to attend in person.

Thank you to all who celebrated and honored our scholarship recipients this year. We awarded $9,000 in scholarships to the following students:

- **Colorado Christian University**
  - Susan Adamson - CCU BSN Scholarship
  - Rikki Haskins - CCU BSN Scholarship
  - Tiffany Parsons - CCU BSN Scholarship

- **Regis University, Loretto Heights School of Nursing**
  - Mackenzie Laird - Margaret Metzger Scholarship
  - Margaret Metzger Scholarship

Congratulations to these wonderful nursing scholars. If you have questions about scholarships for next year please contact the committee chair Dr. Cris Finn at cfinn@regis.edu.

---

**Updates from the Department of Regulatory Affairs**

**Jo Donlin, Director of Regulatory Outreach and Education, Director’s Office**

Shalom Park is a continuum-of-care retirement community in Aurora, CO established 25 years ago to care for the elders in our community. We are looking for talented, innovative and friendly people who believe in providing caring and compassionate services to our nursing home residents.

**If you are an Eden Associate or desire to become one, this is the place for you!**

- Create caring partnerships and relationships with colleagues and residents
- Provide support, structure and teamwork to your nursing home neighborhood
- Monitor trends and changing needs of our elders while building trust with them
- Empower colleagues and elders to do what they can and help them when they need or want it

Excellent benefits including Education Reimbursement Program.

Email resumes to HR@ShalomCares.net or pick up an application at 14800 E Belleview Dr in Aurora, CO 80015.

---

**INFINITE COMPASSION**

**THAT’S NURSING TO THE POWER OF REGIS**

Regis University is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The most recent comprehensive evaluation is in 2018-2019. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science degree in Nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs at Regis University’s Loretto Heights School of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

---

**Colorado Nurse • Page 13**

**Alpha Kappa Chapter at Large Scholarship Awards**

---

**DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE**

- Advanced Leadership in Health Care Specialization
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Specialization

**M.S. IN NURSING – LEADERSHIP IN HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS**

- Education or Management Focus

Flexible online, eight-week courses.

Classes start soon. Waive your application fee by using offer code REGNURSING.

---

**Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing**

---

Thank you to all who celebrated and honored our scholarship recipients this year. We awarded $9,000 in scholarships to the following students:

- **Colorado Christian University**
  - Susan Adamson - CCU BSN Scholarship
  - Rikki Haskins - CCU BSN Scholarship
  - Tiffany Parsons - CCU BSN Scholarship

- **Regis University, Loretto Heights School of Nursing**
  - Mackenzie Laird - Margaret Metzger Scholarship
  - Margaret Metzger Scholarship

Congratulations to these wonderful nursing scholars. If you have questions about scholarships for next year please contact the committee chair Dr. Cris Finn at cfinn@regis.edu.
August 2017 Update

The diverse profession of nursing provides us with extensive knowledge and experience of how the ACA has dramatically improved access to care and quality of care in Colorado. We can also see the potential effects of the ACA’s repeal. CNA is committed to ensuring access to affordable, high quality care for all of Colorado’s citizens. With the health and well being of all Coloradans in mind, we ask that you do not simply repeal the ACA. Instead, we ask you to collaborate with your Senate colleagues and other health care stakeholders to improve the ACA. Please remember the following Colorado-specific statistics from the Economic Policy Institute, Kaiser Family Foundation, and U.S. Department of Health & Human Services:

- Repealing the ACA would increase Colorado’s uninsured rate by 134%, as 588,000 Coloradans would lose their health insurance (EPI, 2017);
- Repealing the ACA may also result in 35,217 Colorado job losses (EPI, 2017);
- Up to 2,250,003 Coloradans have a pre-existing health condition that could have caused them to be denied coverage prior to the ACA (HHS, 2016), and;
- Approximately 40,000 of Colorado’s young adult population have benefited from the ACA provision that allows children to remain on their parents’ health insurance up to age 26 (HHS, 2016), and;
- Up to 2,250,003 Coloradans have a pre-existing health condition that could have caused them to be denied coverage prior to the ACA (HHS, 2016), and;
- Up to 2,250,003 Coloradans have a pre-existing health condition that could have caused them to be denied coverage prior to the ACA (HHS, 2016), and;
- Approximately 40,000 of Colorado’s young adult population have benefited from the ACA provision that allows children to remain on their parents’ health insurance up to age 26 (HHS, 2016), and;
- Approximately 40,000 of Colorado’s young adult population have benefited from the ACA provision that allows children to remain on their parents’ health insurance up to age 26 (HHS, 2016), and;

While the ACA is far from perfect, it has helped provide coverage to thousands and thousands of previously uninsured and underinsured Coloradans. At the same time, it has slowed the growth of insurance premiums and improved Colorado’s health care system. Please do not simply wipe away the benefits provided to our state by the ACA. We ask you to work to preserve the gains we have made in insurance coverage and quality of care by seeking thoughtful and targeted legislative improvements.

Thank you for your consideration, Colorado Nurses Association
The Colorado Nurses Association is excited to announce a new Awards Program which will be initiated at the 2017 Annual Conference. The new awards are:

**Margie Ball-Cook Award**
Award for contributions to advancing equal opportunities in nursing for members of minority groups.

**Sara Jarrett Award**
Award for contributions to nursing practice and health policy through political and legislative activity.

**CNA Leadership Award**
Award to recognize a nurse who has served as a leader in CNA through service on the Board of Directors or on a Committee or Task Force.

**Emerging Leader Award**
Award to recognize an individual who has been a nurse for no more than 10 years and who is emerging as a leader in CNA or a DNA.

The DNA Nurse of the Year Awards will continue, with each DNA establishing its own criteria and making its own selection. The DNA Nurses of the Year will be recognized at the Annual Conference. The CNA Hall of Fame Award will be re-established in 2018. The 2017 Awards, other than the DNA Nurses of the Year, have been selected by the Awards Committee with input from the CNA Board. A nominations process for the 2018 Awards will begin in Spring, 2018.

Please contact Carol O’Meara, Awards Committee Chair, at carolomeara@aol.com for any questions about the awards program.

---

**Proposals for 2017 CNA Membership Assembly**

Carol O’Meara, Secretary Chair, Bylaws and Reference Committee

The CNA Membership Assembly will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2017. Bylaws Amendment Proposals must be in the hands of the Secretary two months prior to the meeting.

Please send your suggestions for amendments to info@coloradonurses.org. Do not worry about wording—just let me know what it is you would like to propose, and I will put it into appropriate bylaws language and format.

Reference Proposals are also welcomed for discussion at the Membership Assembly. Here is the suggested format for a reference proposal:

**Format for Proposals for Action for CNA Membership Assembly**

Subject: Title of Report

Action Report or Informational Report

(Informal reports do not make recommendations or require action, do not include suggested activities, do not include fiscal impact estimates and do not have suggested champions)

Introduction by:

Recommendations:

Report:

Suggested Implementation:

Estimated Fiscal Impact:

References:

Suggested Champion:

A sample proposal can be sent on request, or I can help you format your ideas.

Thanks in advance for your proposals!

---

**In Memory...**

Eve Hoygaard, MS, RN, WHNP
Membership Chair, Colorado Nurses Association

We honor the memory and acknowledge the work of recently deceased nurses in our state. Sharing the names and other information about our nursing colleagues is one way we honor their memory.

Adrian, Elsa, RN (73) passed away in May 2017. Her professional career included being a nurse manager at Poudre Valley Hospital in Ft. Collins.

Buddinger, Terry Ann (Finley), RN, BSN, (70) passed away in April 2017. She was a very active volunteer in many community institutions and organizations during her career. From 2005 until her retirement in 2012, she was the Director of External Relations at the University of Colorado College of Nursing.

Brock, Patricia M. (Scheer), RN, BSN, (70) passed away in June 2017. She was a 1954 graduate of Loretto Heights College in Denver. Her nursing career included being a critical care nurse at Swedish Medical Center, Englewood.

Bucholtz, Judith M., RN, a graduate of Barnes Jewish College/Goldfarb School of Nursing in St. Louis, MO passed away in May 2017.

Hill, Elaine Kinghorn, RN, BSN (99) passed away in June 2017. She was a graduate of Mercy Hospital School of Nursing and later received her BSN at the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley. She was a RN at Spalding Hospital prior to her retirement at age 72.

Monsees, Harriet Gaul, RN, BSN (97) passed away in Greeley, CO May 2017. After graduation from Kansas University she was commissioned in the United States Army Nurse Corps in 1946. She spent two years in France healing wounded servicemen and women. She later was employed at North Colorado Medical Center, Greeley until she retired in 1982 as a nursing supervisor.

Reeves, Roger, RN, MS, BSN, (64) 1986 BSN graduate of the University of Portland and a 1996 MS at the University of Utah in Nursing Informatics, passed away in May 2017. He was a Board Certified Informatics nurse at the University of Colorado College of Nursing.

Roth, Velma Schmidt, RN (84) passed away in May 2017. She received her diploma in nursing/graduated from BethEl School of Nursing in Colorado Springs in 1953. She then joined the Colorado Nurses Association. Her 41 year career at Weld County Hospital (later North Colorado Medical Center) included working in many specialties including the Emergency Room and the Operating Room. Her greatest professional accomplishment was the development of the blood donor program in Weld County. Yes, it included a “blood mobile!” Volunteer work was part of her retirement.

Salud, Aida, RN, MS, PhD (74) passed away in June 2017. Her education included Mt. Sinai School of Nursing, Chicago as well as a MS in Nursing Science from the University of California in San Francisco, and a MS and PhD in Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley. She taught in many universities and colleges. Dr. Salude was the Director of the Nursing Program at Adams State University in Alamosa.

Yotaw, Diana Mae, LPN (74) graduated in Ponca City, OK in 1969. She provided loving care to elderly residents for 27 years.

We received information about the death of those nurses honored above. All of them lived in, worked in and/or were educated in Colorado. Membership in the Colorado Nurses Association is not required for inclusion.

To honor a deceased nurse, RN or LPN, in the Colorado Nurses Association, please send basic information (as full name, city, town or area of practice) to Eve Hoygaard (hoygaard@msn.com). We reserve the right to edit material submitted and endeavor to verify all information included in this column. If you note an error, please advise us and a correction will be published. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

---

**CNA Announces New Awards Program**

The Colorado Nurses Association is excited to announce a new Awards Program which will be initiated at the 2017 Annual Conference. The new awards are:

Margie Ball-Cook Award
Award for contributions to advancing equal opportunities in nursing for members of minority groups.

Sara Jarrett Award
Award for contributions to nursing practice and health policy through political and legislative activity.

CNA Leadership Award
Award to recognize a nurse who has served as a leader in CNA through service on the Board of Directors or on a Committee or Task Force.

Emerging Leader Award
Award to recognize an individual who has been a nurse for no more than 10 years and who is emerging as a leader in CNA or a DNA.

The DNA Nurse of the Year Awards will continue, with each DNA establishing its own criteria and making its own selection. The DNA Nurses of the Year will be recognized at the Annual Conference. The CNA Hall of Fame Award will be re-established in 2018. The 2017 Awards, other than the DNA Nurses of the Year, have been selected by the Awards Committee with input from the CNA Board. A nominations process for the 2018 Awards will begin in Spring, 2018.

Please contact Carol O’Meara, Awards Committee Chair, at carolomeara@aol.com for any questions about the awards program.
Join a leader in QUALITY patient care excellence!

Vivage Senior Living is looking for skilled RN’s, LPN’s, & CNA’s!

**YOU Choose Your Career Path!**

- Full time, part time, and PRN positions
- Develop and practice a wide range of clinical skills
- Opportunities for advancement into DON, NHA and other management positions

Visit us at [www.Vivage.com](http://www.Vivage.com) and apply today! • 303-238-3838

Autumn Heights Care Center | Denver, CO
Cambridge Care Center | Lakewood, CO
Clear Creek Care Center | Westminster, CO
Harmony Pointe Care Center | Lakewood, CO
Highline Rehabilitation & Care Center | Denver, CO
North Star Care Center | Denver, CO
Parkmoor Village Care Center | Colorado Springs, CO
Parkview Care Center | Denver, CO
Uptown Care Center | Denver, CO
Arbor View, a Senior Living Community | Arvada, CO
University Heights Rehabilitation & Care Center | Aurora, CO

New graduates and experienced professionals with an interest in Long Term Care and Skilled Nursing Facilities are encouraged to apply. EOE

Visit us at [www.Vivage.com](http://www.Vivage.com) and apply today! • 303-238-3838