Call for Nominations

The NJSNA Nominating Committee has called for member suggestions for the 2020 election. Nominations are due before August 10, 2019.

In November 2019, members will be elected for 2020:
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Director 3 Year Term (2)
- Director 3 Year Term Staff Nurse (1)
- Nominations (4)
- Congress on Policy/Practice (2)

NJSNA Regional Ballots will be included with the NJSNA Ballot. Nominations may be submitted at the same time as nominations for NJSNA officers. All nominations are due to NJSNA before October 10, 2019. Individuals can also be nominated at the NJSNA Annual Meeting, October 10, 2019.

Note that both the nominator and nominee for the NJSNA 2019 elections must be NJSNA members in good standing. Call NJSNA at 609-883-5335 if you would like more information on any of these positions. Please contact Jennifer Chanti at jennifer@njsna.org or 609-883-5335 ext 111 for a nomination form. Forms may also be obtained at www.njsna.org.

2019 Official Call for Suggested NJSNA Bylaw Revisions

Please consider this the official call for any suggested NJSNA bylaw revisions for consideration at the 2019 NJSNA Annual Meeting on October 10, 2019. All proposed revisions must be submitted to NJSNA before October 10, 2019. Please forward to NJSNA Bylaws Committee 1479 Pennington Road | Trenton, NJ 08618.

FAX: 609.883.5343
Email: njsna@njsna.org

Call for Resolutions

Any NJSNA member may research, write and submit resolutions for consideration by the 2019 NJSNA Annual Meeting. Resolutions should be submitted in form for printing to the Reference Committee through NJSNA at 1479 Pennington Road, Trenton, NJ 08618. Resolutions are due before August 10, 2019.

We all make mistakes but when a nurse makes a mistake it often results in loss of income and self-esteem. Nurses who are found with a substance abuse problem or mental illness that contributes to impaired practice can find themselves in this very situation. The New Jersey State Legislature passed a bill in 2005 called the “Alternative to Discipline” Law. This act gave the New Jersey Board of Nursing the authority to develop a program which would allow the nurse with a substance use issue or other impairment to confidently disclose this issue and enter into a treatment and then recovery and monitoring program.

The Institute for Nursing was awarded a grant from the Division of Consumer Affairs (New Jersey Board of Nursing) to be that Recovery and Monitoring Program. That program is called RAMP. RAMP has had hundreds of nurses enter the program and be successfully discharged to return to safe nursing practice. In addition, RAMP has participants that are actively working in nursing roles. One such participant is Kevin Leyden.

Kevin Leyden, has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Thomas Edison University. He is also a certified Addictions Registered Nurse (CARIN). In January of 2017, Mr. Leyden worked at Integrity, a treatment facility in Newark, NJ, as a nurse for the BATE Adolescent Program. He then transitioned into the Newark Medical Department in June of 2018. His RAMP facilitator Dr. Phyllis Preikopa states “Kevin demonstrated, in both roles, the responsible management of multidisciplinary treatment plans and crisis intervention while also providing and evaluating resident’s care and organizing client health education sessions.”

As you can see, nurses can recover successfully from substance use and or other impairment issues and continue a successful career in nursing. It just takes a belief in yourself and the support of your peers to be able to accomplish this.
MEMBERSHIP

NJNSA/ANA Membership Activation Form

Essential Information

First Name (M/L) Last Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
City/State/Zip
County

Professional Information

Employer
Type of Work Setting (ag hospit)
Practice Area (ag, pediatrics)

Ways to Pay

Monthly Payment $15.00

Checking Account: Attach check for first month's payment. 
Billing frequency and record of any outstanding balance will be the same as the NJNSA/ANA billing cycle. 
Billing cycle occurs on the 15th of each month. 

Credit Card

Credit Card Number
Credit Card Expiration Date
Credit Card Signature

Membership Dues (Price just reduced $15/monthly! $174 annually!)

Type:

American Nurses Foundation Contribution

Total Dues and Contributions:

Credit Card Information

Credit Card Number
Credit Card Expiration Date
Credit Card Signature

Printed Name

Monthly Electronic Deduction Payment Authorization Signature

ENHANCE the practice of professional nursing by fostering quality outcomes in education, practice and research.

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ENHANCE the practice of professional nursing by fostering quality outcomes in education, practice and research.
Carol Germain

Carol Hanley Germain, EdD, RN, FAAN, Associate Professor Emeritus, University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing and distinguished nurse ethnographic researcher, educator and author died on May 10, 2019. For several decades, Germain was a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing, retiring in 2001 as Associate Professor. Among the first nurses in the US who was awarded a doctoral degree, Germain has taught generations of nursing students at the pre-licensure to the doctoral level.

Germain was a lifelong nurse leader who participated in the American Nurses Association and the New Jersey State Nurses Association throughout her professional career. In remembering Germain, Jean Marshall, RN, MSN, FAAN, NJSNA Past President said, “My remembrance of Dr. Germain will always be as a giving, compassionate nurse who advocated for me when I became President of NJSNA. She always shared what and how I could improve in a kind and gentle manner. We have lost a quiet giant who commanded our trust and respect while advancing the profession of nursing. Rest In Peace, Carol.”

According to Joanne Robinson, RN, PhD, FAAN, Rutgers University-Camden, School of Nursing, former professor and founding Dean, “Trailblazing has been the reward for what they gave.” – Florence Nightingale (as cited on AZQuotes.com)

The Institute for Nursing celebrated the Divas and Dons Gala on April 6, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency in Princeton. The accomplishments of a distinguished class of thirteen nursing scholars, educators, administrators, entrepreneurs, and managers were celebrated in grand fashion. As the IFN is a not-for-profit, your generosity financially supports advancing nurses, nursing, and healthcare. It was with great pride that we came together for a wonderful evening of gratitude, networking, dancing, and celebration. Once again, on behalf of the IFN, we were proud to celebrate the awardees and their accomplishments!

On April 9th, the IFN held the Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon. We were joined by colleagues, friends, and family to a wonderful awards celebration. Awarding scholarships for undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate studies helps provide financial support. It is at the luncheon where we have an opportunity to speak with you, New Jersey nurses and nursing students, and congratulate you on your achievements thus far. The Institute for Nursing wishes the scholarship awardees continued success and, please, do keep in touch. Are you a past scholarship awardee? We’d love to hear from you, too. Feel free to contact me at MaryEllen@NJSNA.org

The Board of Trustees is working diligently to put together an event for the Fall of 2019. Stay tuned and look for more to come. Also, take notice of the opportunity to bequest a donation to the Institute for Nursing. It is our hope to continue to meet the needs of New Jersey nurses and nursing students through our efforts. Thanks, in advance, for your support. Join in this era of giving to nursing and let us never stop learning!

A Nursing Legacy

Donations to the Institute for Nursing are a gift of support to the advancement of the nursing profession. A bequest, no matter how large or small the amount, forwards the IFN mission to preserve the heritage, principles, values and practices of our healing profession through the support of scholarship, education and research. Donations can be made by mailing to the Institute for Nursing, 1479 Pennington Road, Trenton, NJ 08618 or online at https://njsna.org/institute-for-nursing/donate

The Institute for Nursing is a 501-C3 not for profit foundation.

Applications Open for Fall 2019!

The Montclair State University School of Nursing is pleased to invite qualified applicants to be part of our innovative online Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Degree program.

Two pathways:

- Post-Baccalaureate MSN for RN’s with BSN degrees
- Bridge to MSN program for RN’s with bachelor’s degrees in a non-nursing discipline

Our progressive curriculum will prepare you to advance your career in Nursing Administration, Education, or Clinical Research.

Our online format lets you earn your degree — in your time — in your way.

The future of nursing is yours to lead, montclair.edu/nursing
Greetings from Region 1:

Sandy Foley, DNP, MSN, RN
President

Mark Your Calendars:
10/1/19: Guardians of the Ribbon Northern NJ Chapter, Autism Speaks: Union and Morris County Walk, Nomahegan Park
10/6/19: American Foundation of Suicide Prevention WALK Waterloo Village Stanhope
10/26/19: General Business Meeting 11 AM-1PM Hackensack Regional Medical Center, Cafeteria Conference Room

Community Service:
- NJSHA President Elect Mary Ellen Levine spoke at NJ Nursing Students Association annual meeting about her doctoral nursing research.
- Thank you to Morris County Coordinator Josie Sanchez for connecting Region 1 with the Faith Kitchen in Dover, NJ. On 4/1/19 nurses had opportunity to prepare and serve a meal for 90. The next opening for Region 1 to serve is Monday 9/2/19. To participate please contact Josie (973)979-2727.

Congratulations to our post BSN Graduates of 2019 Jackie Galante, Master’s in Nursing Education from Drexel University and Sandra Foley, with a Doctor of Nursing Practice from William Paterson University. These nurses are worthy of our honor as we all can recall the rigor of nursing school and the tenacity one must demonstrate to graduate. If you are graduating with a post RN degree, please contact Francesca Nordin fan.pnp@gmail.com so we can celebrate with you.

Your nursing skills are valuable during a disaster.

How will you help during the next emergency?

MRC Volunteers support local public health & emergency response efforts in the community.

Interested in joining?
Apply online: https://mrc.njlns.net/signup/

Somerset County Department of Health
www.co.somerset.nj.us/health
908-231-7155
Region 4

Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset, Lower Bucks

Beth Knox, DNP, APN, President
Region 4 Meetings/Programs for 2019

Annual Meeting:
The annual meeting was held on Saturday, May 4th at the historic Cranbury Inn in Cranbury, NJ. Donna Cardillo, RN, FAAN, a nationally known speaker shared her thoughts about “Nurse Power” to more than 60 nurses and their guests. In addition, we welcomed all nurses to their contribution for our nursing profession.

A Day at the New Jersey State House in Trenton:
The day at the Statehouse was held on June 24, 2019. President Kate Gillespie, President-elect Mary Ellen Levine, and Judy Schmidt, CEO reported on the NJSNA legislative agenda. This has been an interesting year of legislative activities that have and will affect nursing practice. The Region 4 Board encourages each of our members to engage in dialogue and correspondence with your state Senate and Assembly representatives, as well as keeping abreast of the activities of INPAC and COPP throughout the remainder of the year. Please see the NJSNA website for ongoing information.

Region 4 members: Keith Hovey, INPAC chair, and Erica Edfort, COPP chair continue to provide strong leadership for these NJSNA units.

Stay Connected:
We continue to encourage Region 4 members to contact your Region 4 County Member-at-Large to promote any programs, nursing activities in your county, and to join/attend. In addition, we welcome members to share any honors that you have received (pictures included). We will post the information on the Region 4 website. Contacts:

Hunterdon: Yvette Shangold vshangold@comcast.net
Mercer: Robin King kingsinnj@aol.com
Middlesex: Marge Drozd mdrozd@saintpetersuh.com
Somerset: Megan Allen mcaupallen21@gmail.com

VP Communication: Susan Rux ruxsusan@gmail.com (Facebook and NJ Nurse posts)

Scholarship:
The first ever Region 4 Educational Scholarship for $1,000 was awarded to Hilda Aluka, APN, on May 4. NJSNA Region 4 member, Hilda Aluka is currently enrolled at Rutgers University, School of Nursing, DNP program. Congratulations and continued success for the remainder of the year (see the NJSNA 4 website for ongoing information). Region 4 members: Keith Hovey, INPAC chair, and Erica Edfort, COPP chair continue to provide strong leadership for these NJSNA units.

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Region 5:

Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem

Summer Valenti, BSN, RN-BC President

NJSNA Region 5 supported The Institute for Nursing (IFN) by purchasing a table at the 2019 Divas and Dons Institute for Nursing Awards and Scholarship Gala. Ten NJSNA Region 5 members enjoyed attending the event which recognized nurses and community engage with leaders. Do you want to be more involved? We currently have a vacancy in the position of Director of Education and are hoping an interested candidate will make him or herself known. The nurse who fills this role must have a BSN or greater. If you are a candidate, please email summer.valenti@gmail.com

We are looking forward to a busy year of activity and we hope to see you at our events. Please connect with us on social media via Facebook and Twitter @ NJSNARegion5. If you are not receiving emails from NJSNA Region 5, please log into your account on the NJSNA home page and ensure that the correct email address is listed. Also, check your spam folders for messages from njsna@njsna.org since these might be blast emails from NJSNA or NJSNA Region 5.

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Region 6:

Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, Ocean

Kathleen Mullen, DNP, MA, RN, CNE, VP Communications

The Region’s Facebook page continues to gain likes and followers! Each week several posts about nursing or healthcare in varied practice settings are shared, and our educational meetings are posted as events. It’s a great way to stay connected to the Region. Find us at New Jersey State Nurses Association Region 6. Follow our page, like and share our posts!

This year the Region’s education programming is focused on increasing political advocacy by nurses with local politicians and within the state legislature. NJ legislation impacts nursing practice and the provision of patient care across the healthcare industry across the state. Nursing professionals need to become conversant in legislative processes and grassroots activism to influence legislation. To that end an education program titled, “Political Advocacy and You, the Nurse” was presented at AtlanticCare in Atlantic City in April and at the Annual Meeting at Captain’s Inn in Ocean City in June by Anne Ugrovics MSN, RN and Kathy Mullen, DNP, RN. The program featured a role-play between Anne and Judy Schmidt, as a legislator learning about the Nurse “Title” bill.

New graduates of the prelicensure RN programs at antic Cape May Community College, Brodhead Community College, Georgian Court University, Jersey City State University, Ocean County College, and Stockton University, were invited to attend the Annual Meeting at a discounted rate. Lucky region members and guests won prizes from the annual Executive Board gift basket auction which benefits the scholarship fund. The recipients of the annual Beulah Miller Scholarship for Nursing Education were announced: Maryann Martirano attaining an AAS at Ocean County College. Caitlin Ophirhony, attending Villanova University RN to BSN program.

Call for Nominations: please contact Colleen Nauta at colleennauta@tail.com to learn more about leadership positions within the region. This year the term off of office is expiring for the position of Treasurer. Vice President Membership, Vice President for the Institute, Nominating Committee, and Chairperson for Atlantic and for Cape May counties.

Region 6 members:
If you did not receive an email blast from NJSNA about the Region’s educational meetings this year, please contact jennifer@njsna.org to verify and update your membership information. Emails will come from njsnnnews@njsna.org.

Join Us For An Open House

Industry leader with 70+ years experience providing quality nursing education.

LPN to RN Associate Degree Program
Tuesday, June 18, 2019, 11:30 am

RN to Bachelor of Science Degree Program
Monday, June 17, 2019, 11:30 am

Generic Bachelor of Science Degree RN Program (no nursing experience required)
Thursday, June 20, 2019, 11:30 am

To register, please contact Allie Ittlop at 212-616-7282 or Allie.ittlop@helenefuld.edu
The New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA) honored 13 nurses for outstanding professional career accomplishments at its Divas and Dons Gala on Thursday, April 4, 2019, at the Hyatt Regency Princeton Hotel in Princeton, N.J.

Through its Divas and Dons in Nursing celebration, the Institute for Nursing, the foundation of NJSNA, calls attention to the outstanding achievements of accomplished New Jersey nurses. Proceeds from the event fund scholarships for nursing students and nurses who are advancing their education. The Institute also provides quality continuing education programs and grants for nurses involved in research.

‘The mission of the Institute for Nursing is to preserve the heritage, principles, values and practices of our health profession through the support of scholarships, education and research,’ said Mary Ellen Levine, MSN/Ed, RN, CPHN, chair of the Institute for Nursing, the foundation of NJSNA. ‘Our goals include raising money to expand scholarship and research programs. We want to bring more nurses into the profession and continue to develop quality educational programs to keep nurses current on major advances in health care. This effort is vital to improving the quality of patient care in New Jersey.’

The 2019 honorees are: From Left to Right

Diana Tocko, MSN, RN-BC, NE-BC
Director of Quality, Clinical Practice and Education, Deborah Heart and Lung Center

Alana Cueto, MSN, RN, CNL-C
President-elect, National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Nurse Fellow, New York Academy of Medicine

William Holzemer, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Dean & Distinguished Professor, School of Nursing, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Nicholas Blanck, MSN, CRNA, APN-Anesthesia
Executive Director, Legislative Affairs, New Jersey Association of Nurse Anesthetists

Lori Herndon, MBA, BSN, RN
President and Chief Executive Officer, AtlantiCare Health System

Vivek Agnihotri, DNP, RN, APN, CCRN
Associate Professor, County College of Morris, William Paterson University, Hospitalist/Advanced Practice Nurse, St. Clare’s Health System

Robert Atkins, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Associate Professor, Rutgers School of Nursing-Camden, National Program Director, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Jersey Health Initiatives Program

Mary Ellen Levine, MSN/Ed, RN, CPHN
Chair, Institute for Nursing, the foundation of NJSNA

Dely Go, DNP, RN, LNHA
President & Owner, Nursing Network Institute, LLC, Adjunct Faculty, William Paterson University

Rebecca Graboso, DNP, MBA, RN, APN, CRNP, CCRN
Vice President of Nursing/Chief Nursing Officer, Hackensack-Meridian Health Riverview Medical Center

Marie Foley, Ph.D., RN
Dean & Professor, Seton Hall University College of Nursing

Norma Rodgers, BSN, RN, CCRA
Past President, NJSNA, Senior Clinical Research Associate II, Clinical Solutions, Syneos Health

Mary Pat Sullivan, MSN, RN, CNS
Chief Nursing Officer, Atlantic Health System’s Overlook Medical Center

Judy Colorado, MSN, MA, RN, NE-BC
Chief Nursing Officer & Vice President, Patient Care Services, RWJ Barnabas Health Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus

About NJSNA
The New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA) represents the interests of 125,000 registered nurses and advanced practice nurses as an advocate for the nursing profession. NJSNA, which was established in 1901, is a constituent member of the American Nurses Association. NJSNA’s lobbying arm continues to protect the nursing profession through legislative victories. Its nonprofit foundation, Institute for Nursing, helps nurses further their careers by providing continuing education, scholarships and research grants in addition to invaluable networking opportunities. For more information, nurses can visit www.njsna.org or contact NJSNA at njsna@njsna.org or (609) 883-5335.
We think it is fair to assume that no one’s quintessential images of summer include the workplace. However, summer is finally here, and we can fortify our minds, bodies and spirits by getting the most out of the season—whether it’s a workday or a day off, we ought to try to spend some of that day outdoors. If you are able, why not get up a wee bit earlier to enjoy your morning beverage outdoors? Before the cicadas start humming and the neighbors start their cars, take a few minutes to center yourself. Sit quietly and focus on the sounds of the birds communicating. Feel the warmth of the early morning sun on your face. Remind yourself that each day is an opportunity to show compassion towards others and to your self. If you are working the night shift, make some time before work for some late afternoon sun, a natural source of vitamin D. Enhance your sleep experience with a little lavender on your linens and a soft sleep mask to block out natural light and get that pineal gland to produce more melatonin. Make good, uninterrupted sleep a priority. You deserve it!

Summer is a great time to enjoy fresh fruits and vegetables. We are in the Garden State, and there’s nothing like sweet Jersey corn added to a salad or some juicy melon and cool and crispy cucumbers to nourish and hydrate your body. Bring enough healthy snacks for your entire shift and a little something for the way home. You don’t have to eat everything in your “lunch box” but having the right foods available can save you from making some unhealthy choices. The oils of citrus fruits can awaken our senses and peeling an orange for snack can be a lovely aromatherapeutic experience. Also, don’t forget to keep hydrated at work. Remind yourself and your colleagues to drink water throughout the shift. If you are a coffee or tea drinker, be sure to follow any caffeinated beverage with a glass of water.

Don’t underestimate the power of a day off. No one is going to tell you to schedule time for yourself—especially when units are short staffed, and some people are going on vacation. It doesn’t matter whether you take days here and there to organize your life or to sit in a hammock with your feet in a kiddie pool, whatever brings you peace is what you should be doing in that “me time.”

The Healthy Nurse Healthy New Jersey Team invites you to enjoy the season, so you can nurture your mind, body, and spirit. To learn more about ways to nourish your health and wellness, join us at NJSNA’s website: https://njsna.org/healthy-nurse/. You can also find Healthy Nurses on Facebook and Pinterest – New Jersey State Nurses Healthy Nurse. We hope to see you there!

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Minds Advancing Medicine

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New Leadership for American Association of Indian Nurses of America

Submitted by: Puspha Abraham, MSN, CPNP, RN, CCRN, AAIN-J2, Editorial chair

The American Association of Indian Nurses of New Jersey, Chapter 2 installation ceremony took place on February 10, 2019. The event hosted at RWJ Barnabas Health-Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, was facilitated by Dr. Munira Wells, PhD, RN, outgoing Vice President of the Association.

During a somber ritual, outgoing President Dr. Softy Velson handed over the charge to incoming President, Sandra Emmanuel, MA, RN-BC, an Education Specialist at Hackensack University Medical Center. The officers were sworn in by past president, Dr. Rachel Koshy.

The motivational speaker was Sheri Cleaves, MSN, RN, Administrative Director of Professional Development at Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus. Cleaves demonstrated the Nightingale Honor Guard of New Jersey, explained its significance, and shared the chapter’s history. The incoming board members are as follows:

- Vice President, Molly Jacob, MSN, APN, CCRN
- Secretary, Uma Sulli, MSN, RN
- Treasurer, Kavita Natarajan, BSN, RN
- APN Forum Chair, Rashmi Aggarwal, MSN, APN, RN
- Education Chair, Maya Joseph, MSN, RN, CCRN
- Membership Chair Siby Varghese, MSN, RN
- Cultural Chair Niti Patel, BSN, RN
- Website Chair, Felce Cabral, MSN, RN, CCRN
- Newsletter Chair, Puspha Abraham, MSN, RN, CPNP, CCRN
- Awards and Scholarship Chair, Vivek Agnihotri, DNP, APN
- Public Relations Chair, Merlin Mendonca, BSN, RN

In her address, President Emmanuel highlighted the importance of networking, teamwork, and collaboration with nursing organizations such as NJSNA, Black Nurses Association, Filipino Nurses Association, and the Hispanic Nurses Association. She also emphasized the joint efforts that these minority associations are willing to undertake to improve population health through participation in health fairs, education and preventative services in communities which are most affected in New Jersey.

In attendance at this event were the friends and families of AAIN-J2, including Norma Rodgers, NJSNA past President and Judy Schmidt, NJSNA CEO. It was an honor to have them as the organization’s biggest supporters.

Hessels receives $1.86 million AHRQ Grant

Dr. Amanda Hessels, NJSNA Region 6 member and Assistant Professor of Nursing at Columbia University, School of Nursing has been appointed as a Nurse Scientist at the American Association of Indian Nurses of America (AAIN-J2), AAIN-India chapter. Hessels has assembled a diverse interdisciplinary investigative team including experts in infection prevention and epidemiology and quantitative and qualitative research methods (Dr. Hessels), academic simulation design and implementation (Dr. K. Bryant and Ms. N. Spear Owen); clinical simulation design and implementation (Dr. C. Hader and K. Monia), patient safety (Dr. Hessels), industrial engineering and operations (Dr. D. Yao); and biostatistics (Dr. H. Jia). They are supported by an External Advisory Board with expertise in occupational and safety research epidemiology (Dr. R. Gershon), occupational nursing health and policy (Dr. B. Rogers), and communication and team science (Dr. M. Manolovich). Here in New Jersey, Jersey Shore University Medical Center was selected as a subcontract site and Dr. Hader and Dr. Monia will serve as site PI and Co-I.

"Despite well-established guidelines and training, standard precautions are not reliably practiced, with self-reported adherence among nurses, who have the most direct patient contact in acute care, at less than 50 percent," Hessels explains. "HAIs are a substantial public health problem affecting approximately two million patients annually, and every year one in 25 registered nurses are exposed to blood-borne pathogens. We think simulation training may improve standard precaution adherence and ultimately improve health care quality and safety for patients and providers."

Hessels earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Rochester, Master of Science in Community Health Nursing and Master of Public Health from the City University of New York, Hunter College, and her Doctorate in Nursing from Rutgers University, College of Nursing, then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Columbia University, School of Nursing in the training in Interdisciplinary Research to Prevent Infections (T32) program led by Dr. Elaine Larson. Among other service and leadership contributions, Dr. Hessels is an invited member of the ANA sponsored Sharps Injury Prevention Stakeholders Workgroup, serves in developing The National Occupational Research Agenda for the Healthcare and Social Assistance industry sector (NIOSH/CDC), as a Research Council member for the Association for Professionals in Infection Control, and as a member of the Editorial Board and Section Editor of the American Journal of Infection Control. Hessels has an emerging portfolio of peer reviewed publications and has presented her research to numerous audiences locally and nationally and is earning recognition as a pacesetter in the field.
Innovation in Professional Nursing Education: Kim Dimino

Renee Pevour

The Institute of Medicine 2010 report challenged nursing to alter current educational programs to better meet the changing realities of healthcare. One model to effect these changes is to provide student learning on a specific hospital unit which is dedicated to quality patient care and enhanced student learning. This model is known as the Dedicated Education Unit (DEU). NJNSA member, Kim Dimino, DNP, RN, CCRN, took the challenge to explore this model in her Doctor of Nursing (DNP) Project.

Nursing leaders from William Paterson University and St. Joseph Regional Medical Center collaborated in 2011. Plans were formulated to outline a clinical teaching process that would address the medical center’s commitment for excellence in patient care and afford a new and more realistic experience for the senior nursing students. A partnership began.

The first nursing unit provided enough positive experiences for patients, staff and students that expansion to a second unit was implemented. This next unit would be a pediatric unit. Dr. Dimino was the clinical faculty for the pediatric unit and began exploring the best ways to change the traditional clinical teaching model to a dedicated educational unit format. The initial steps were to identify roles and responsibilities of the academic course coordinator, nurse manager, staff RN’s who would be now called clinical instructors (CIs), other clinical and non-clinical staff and students. The institutional CIs role in precepting and evaluating nursing students’ learning was a new role, so, a standardized evaluation process was formulated.

William Paterson University BSN students were selected. The criteria consisted of needing a GPA of at least 3.0 and must include a faculty recommendation. The orientation day on the unit was an eight hour day. After that the students accompanied the CIs during their twelve hour shift. All staff were invited to “coach upward.” This philosophy highlights the significance that all members of the health care team have a direct impact on the quality of learning and are expected to contribute to the students learning.

Dr. Dimino continues with active involvement as the Clinical Faculty Coordinator to ensure and monitor success of these students. She found in her DNP project that the DEU students transitioned to the role of professional nurse quicker than other graduate nurses. Currently, two former DEU students have become unit CI’s themselves.

The impetus for changing the method of clinical nursing education came from the IOM report; although the work of that change was initiated by previous academic clinical and practice nurse leaders. Currently, the ongoing promotion and assessment is carried on by nursing leaders such as Dr. Kim Dimino. She quotes a nursing leader in describing her faculty role. “Innovation never occurs in isolation or by a single individual - it requires a team of dedicated individuals passionately committed to making a difference.” The cooperation of academia and practice leaders have come together to make a difference. Dr. Kim Dimino is one of those nurses passionate about this process of learning.

More information about Dr. Kim Dimino’s work in helping to shape this new nursing education model, can be found in the American Nurse Today, September 2018 edition.

A Culture of Compassion is the Healthy Nurse Way!

Kiki Magno MSN, RN-BC, Nurse Manager
Hackensack Meridian Health, Hackensack University Medical Center, NJSNA Region 2 Member and Healthy Nurse
Healthy New Jersey team co-lead

The Healthy Nurse Healthy New Jersey (HNHNJ) initiative aims to promote health and wellness for all New Jersey Nurses. As HNHNJ’s team co-lead, my ideals as a Healthy Nurse foster health and wellness in my organization. My workplace is committed to creating a culture that brings people together to enhance the patient experience. Our teams collaborate daily with one another to provide a continuum of care that is truly innovative. As a nurse manager in my organization, I helped to focus our first quarter on compassion in the workplace.

We integrate compassion in our work every day as we strive to make people healthier. By showing kindness and empathy we create memorable, personal connections. The 30-day Compassion Challenge allowed all team members to show various expressions of kindness and compassion throughout the month. Each team member was encouraged to write someone a kind note, show their appreciation to a colleague and give a smile sticker to a person who made them smile. Notepads bearing an inspirational quote were distributed to team members. Uplifting messages were written on them and posted in the break room as a display of mutual kindness.

During daily huddles, this peer-to-peer challenge raised awareness and acknowledged team members’ strengths and positive attributes. These positive messages reminded us that we were blessed with the tools to get us through our most challenging shifts. Being an example of compassion inspired others and created a strong team support system.

Compassion Champions partnered together and displayed a monthly calendar onto which daily acts of kindness were written and displayed for all to see. Our month-long Compassion Challenge concluded with a Cafeteria Compassion event. The Presidents of our organization visited the event and wrote their interpretations of “compassion” on the newly created notepads. Their messages were shared with the teams.

Aligning with Jean Watson’s Theory of Human Caring, I have created a Wellness Wall on 3pe to benefit all team members. The Wellness Wall displays various healthcare tips for skin and sun safety, information on breast cancer awareness and cardiovascular health, as well as various other self-care strategies to inspire the team to take healthy action steps. My passion for wellness and self-care in my team member has inspired me to create visual awareness within the organization. Having the Wellness Wall encourages every team member to adopt healthy habits that lead to a healthy work-life balance. Consequently, being engaged this way with my colleagues has helped to raise awareness of the importance of self-care. It is also helping to me to reach my goal of designing a future of wellness for all healthcare organizations.

A culture of compassion is the Healthy Nurse way! Are you a Healthy Nurse? Let HNHNJ help you make health and wellness a priority! You can find support for your Healthy Nurse journey on NJSNA’s website; https://njsna.org/healthynurse/. You can also find Healthy Nurses on Facebook and Pinterest – New Jersey State Nurses Healthy Nurse.

Reference: https://www.watsoncaringscience.org/jean-bio/caring-science-theory/
Exploring the re-initiation of the NJSNA LPN Forum

Kathleen Pinto PhD, RN
NJSNA LPN Forum Committee Member

The New Jersey State Nurses’ Association (NJSNA) is exploring the re-initiation of the Licensed Practical Nurses’ (LPN) Forum. Recognition of LPNs as an integral part of the healthcare team and the crucial role they play in the delivery of quality patient care has inspired the idea for recreating the forum. A needs assessment survey conducted by NJSNA in 2018 received a total of 983 responses from LPNs working in New Jersey. Results of the survey reported that LPNs desire an organization that provides support, networking, educational updates, and social gatherings that are specific to LPNs. If you are an LPN or healthcare provider interested in more information about the re-initiation of the LPN Forum, please email jennifer@njsna.org.

Balancing the Scales: Graduation and Retirement of New Jersey Nurses

Edna Cadmus, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN and Susan H. Weaver, PhD, RN, CRNI, NEA-BC

Do we have enough nurses in New Jersey? The New Jersey Collaborating Center for Nursing (NJCCN) Annual Data Report (2019) answers this question with detailed information on the supply (educational capacity and workforce data) as well as demand data across settings.

Nurses Entering the Workforce

New Jersey (NJ) nursing schools provide information to NJCCN about their nursing programs, students, graduates and faculty. The Nursing Graduation table shows the trend over the four-year period in pre-licensure graduates with a 22.5% decline in LPN graduates and a 1.5% increase in RN graduates. However, the biggest concern for NJ is having adequate faculty to prepare nurses. There has been a 29.4% increase in full-time faculty vacancies from 2014 and 2017. With 50% of nurse faculty over the age of 56, the nursing faculty shortages will continue to trend upward. Aging faculty and the increasing risk of retirement impacts the ability to train a more highly educated nursing workforce.

Nurses Leaving the Workforce

NJCCN receives information about the current nursing workforce from the NJ Board of Nursing licensure renewal data. Nurses are eligible for retirement at age 62, so nurses age 56 and older will be eligible for retirement in 2025. A projection of the rates of retirement for nurses from now through 2025 creates the following expectations: a 22% decline in the RN workforce, an 11% decline in APN workforce, and a 15% in the LPN workforce. In order to maintain an adequate supply of nurses in the workforce, the number of new graduates must be equal to or greater than the number of retirees each year. As shown in the Projected Trend of the Nursing Workforce table, if the number of graduates continues at the current rate, it is expected that there will be a deficit in RNs (-3%) and in APNs (-1%) by 2025. For LPNs, sustaining current rates of graduation may lead to an excess of LPNs. Additionally, certain settings including Academia, School Health, Correctional Facilities, Occupational Health and Home Health may have an increased need for nurses because these settings have the greatest number of retirement age nurses.

Thus, the NJCCN data shows that the scales are currently in balance with an adequate supply of nurses in NJ. For this balance in the supply and demand of nurses to continue through 2025 the nursing schools must continue to produce their current number of graduates or greater through 2025 and the healthcare needs remain the same or improve.

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Improving Behavioral Health Nurse Diabetes Literacy in Acute Psychiatric Emergency Management Services (PESS)

Angela Brathowe, DNP, RN, BC, HNB-BC

Behavioral health nurses working in the emergency psychiatric setting identified knowledge deficits in caring for diabetic patients, e.g., removal of non-locking insulin pumps to prevent intentional overdosing and insulin pump education. Barriers to making this change included not having access to insulin coverage, carbohydrate counting, and perceived nurse efficacy with diabetic protocol. Evidence suggests that behavioral health nurses working in the psychiatric setting can be more comfortable and competent in caring for diabetic psychiatric patients (McBain, et al., 2017). Inadequate knowledge of diabetes management topics, such as care of the behavioral health patient, insulin pump education, and peer to peer education through sharing of resources obtained from a diabetes symposium during the project time frame was completed. The nurses participated and pre- and post- diabetes education survey measuring behavioral health nurses’ knowledge in the areas of comfort and competence in providing care to patients with serious mental illness and diabetes. The pre- and post-diabetes education survey identified that the nurses continued to have concerns regarding diabetes knowledge deficits and concern for patients with severe mental illness and the patient’s ability to self-manage their diabetes due to the nature of their psychiatric illness. Although this survey tool measured behavioral health professionals’ comfort and competence caring for patients with serious mental illness and diabetes, it might not have considered in particular setting previously, including integrating stabilizing and evaluating the immediate psychiatric crisis while supporting the patient’s care and management of their psychiatric illness and diabetes (De Hert, et al., 2011).

Barriers and facilitators to patient self-management identified in the psychiatric emergency setting can be categorized as patient related, environment related, and provider related. A major barrier for behavioral health nurses in the nursing care plan (American Diabetes Association, 2018) improving diabetes literacy for behavioral health nurses is the lack of education and educational content in this area. The American Diabetes Association (2018) recommends that the overall level of behavioral health care can integrate reinforcement of diabetes self-management education and monitoring into the treatment plan. Finally, in quality improvement project, behavioral health nurses identified their own learning deficits and sought out learning resources to bridge the knowledge gap to improve their professional nursing practice. (Hemingway, Trotter, Stephenson, & Holdich, 2013). Collaboration with experts in the field of diabetes, seeking evidence based resources increasing competence and confidence in diabetes care, partnership with behavioral health nurses in different behavioral health settings to address and support the challenges that patients with severe mental illness and co-morbid diabetes face improves efficacy and literacy at all care levels.

References


It’s a Cinch by the Inch

Cynthia A. Miller, MSN, MSNSA, RN-BC, Past President
Linda Janelli, EdD, Chair Newsletter Committee
Sigma Theta Tau, Theta Chapter

In today’s environment, it is difficult to recruit and then retain actively engaged nurses into organizations. It seems that there are always a small group of nurses who keep a future in mind for their endeavors. The Theta Sigma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing was formed at Stockton University 30 years ago. Sigma Theta Tau is a small chapter of 135 members. Like other nursing organizations it suffers the same issue of how to engage members today.

Theta Sigma has used the motto, “It's hard by the yard, but a cinch by the inch” to maintain a viable organization. We attempt to work on membership development to keep our numbers growing. Five years ago, the chapter began the Annual June Dinner in order for members to network, enjoy a good meal, and raise money for our scholarship. In addition, we try to have a speaker present on global or research topics. In June 2018 Theta Sigma awarded an educational scholarship.

The chapter celebrated its 30th anniversary in June 2016. Dr. Cheryl Eise gave an historical presentation of Theta Sigma which included the chapter’s contribution to the nursing community. Graduate of our nursing program, Erica Einstein and Melissa Ehrie (class of 2015) developed a pictorial slide show of the chapter’s history.

In 2017, Dr. Mark Adulug presented a slide show and video on his medical mission to Haiti; supported by the chapter. In 2018 Theta Sigma also supported the Norwegian Nurses Association’s (NNSA) “Lived Experience of Parenting the NICU Infant Perinatal Loss.”

For the small step the chapter has taken is to encourage mentoring of new members by having them work alongside “seasoned” members with fundraising efforts and producing the quarterly newsletter. The quarterly newsletter attempts to include all members even if they are unable to attend meetings and chapter events. The newsletter contains tips in small steps: Ways to keep connected to the local community without making a big dent in their wallet.

The next chapter event is our Induction Ceremony October 2019.

If you are interested in any further information about our chapter and mentoring as a Nurse Leader member, please contact Paula Gruccio at pgruccio1@verizon.net.

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for nursing professionals in your area.
Your online resource for nursing jobs, research, and events.

It’s a Cinch by the inch, but hard by the yard.”
**Civility Training: A New Frontier**

Nursing is at the vanguard of the health care system, with a significant role in the delivery of safe patient care. Research has demonstrated to improve overall patient safety and decrease the risk of error. Uncivil behaviors amongst nurses can have a direct impact on the delivery of safe patient care (Longo, 2010). Patient safety literature has well documented that the provision of safe patient care occurs in high-quality nursing environments (Institute of Medicine (IOM), 2003). The American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics and Interpretative Statements (2015) described a provision related to the nurse’s responsibility to collegial colleagues and others to include a responsibility to preserve integrity and safety.

In July 2018, The Joint Commission (TJC) issued a Sentinel Event Alert identifying disruptive and intimidating behaviors as widespread in health care. TJC urged all health care organizations to take action to promote evidence-based civility training in their organizations as uncivil behaviors were believed to result in poor patient outcomes, increased medical costs, and decreased patient satisfaction (Institute of Medicine (IOM), 2003; 2004; 2011). Almost one decade later, the organization responsible for accrediting health care facilities, has issued a new Sentinel Event Alert to provide hospitals and other health settings with resources to improve communication between caregivers (TJC, 2017). Clark (2019) identified that from disrespect is the first step in patient harm to incivility. The effects on individuals, teams, organizations, and patients, to include life-threatening mistakes and preventable complications, occur due to uncivil behaviors in healthcare settings. Evidence-based strategies to promote a culture of civility and respect in healthcare are needed to break the incivility cycle. The impact on the patient care environment yields ethical, legal, regulatory, and educational implications. Incivility between peer registered nurses has negative sequelae on the delivery of patient care. Nurses, working in a collaborative manner, are hindered due to incivility negatively impacting patient safety. Rosenberg and O’Daniel (2016) affirmed that within a culture of safety, communication and teamwork are vital. Positive social change for the nurses through promoting evidence-based civility training has the potential to positively influence the health care delivery at the pracitcums site. A nurse skilled in addressing and managing an uncivil peer to peer encounter in the workplace will benefit from increased job satisfaction found in high-quality nursing environments, as well as the ability to deliver safe and effective care to our patients (Institute of Medicine (IOM), 2003, 2004, 2011).

References:


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**National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD)**

**Megan Allen, MSN, RN-BG, CCM, CCDS**

In recognition of National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD), the Palliative Care Committee led a massive effort at RWUH Somerset to champion the importance of advance healthcare planning. NHDD is a national effort to promote conversations about healthcare decisions before tragedy occurs, and the person’s wishes are unknown leaving loved ones to guess about the care they may have wanted. The theme, “See one, Do one, Teach one” highlighted our efforts for the week in offering employees and providers the opportunity to identify their wishes and the role to bring advance directives to the healthcare providers. We ask every patient about their advance care plans when they enter our organizations but how well are we prepared? This past week’s celebration provided employees the opportunity to lead by example, to educate themselves to understand advance care planning by extending the opportunity to identify their wishes and address “the elephant in the room.” An exhibit about NHDD displayed articles outside of the cafeteria along with a representation of members of the Palliative Care Committee, and the Palliative Care Team provided information about advance care planning and importance of having a conversation with loved ones. Without a solid understanding of what is involved in completing an advance directive, how can we as healthcare providers advocate for our patients to complete it? Tackling our discomfort with advance care planning is essential as healthcare providers in order to engage in meaningful discussions with their patients is too late. Discussion around advanced care planning belongs outside of the hospital with people we love before it is too late. Lead by example, understand and make advance care planning a priority in 2019. www.nhdd.org

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**Amy Quartararo, public relations and media manager**

Ten New Jersey nurses were recently awarded more than $13,000 in educational scholarships from the Institute for Nursing (IFN), the foundation of the New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA).

“The mission of the Institute for Nursing is to preserve the heritage, principles, values and practices of nursing through the support of scholarships, education, and research,” said Mary Ellen Levine, MSN/Ed RN CNRN, chair of the IFN, at a luncheon held at the New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA) headquarters in Ewing on April 7, 2019. “We want to bring more nurses into the profession (NJSNA) headquarters in Ewing on April 7, 2019. We want to bring more nurses into the profession lead by example, to educate themselves to understand advanced degrees. This effort is vital to improving the quality of patient care in New Jersey and the practice of nursing.”

The IFN complements the work of NJSNA, the largest nursing organization in the state, by raising funds and developing and managing grants to support advances in research, education and clinical practice. It provides tuition assistance for students enrolled in entry-level nursing, career mobility and advanced nurse research in both clinical and academic settings. Since 1989, the IFN has awarded more than a half million dollars in scholarships to individuals who are looking to become Registered Nurses (RNs) and RN’s seeking to acquire their bachelor, masters or doctoral degrees in their respective fields.

Learn more about the IFN. https://njesn.org/institute-for-nursing/

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**From left to right:**

**Megan Allen,** a Bridgewater resident working on her Doctor of Nursing practice degree at Loyola University, was presented with the Dr. Anna Gallagher Scholarship.

**Lorrie Murdock,** a Randolph resident earning her Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree at Rutgers College, was presented with the Dr. & Mrs. Agnihotri/New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute Scholarship.

**Erin Angstadt,** a Haddonfield High School senior who plans to attend Clemson University to study nursing, was presented with the Valerie E. Yahm Scholarship.

**Peter Tosca,** a Linden resident earning his Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree at Caldwell University, was presented with the Newark City Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association Scholarship.

**Amy Quartararo,** a Hopatcong resident is a certified nursing assistant working on her Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree at Rutgers University School of Nursing was presented the Centennial Scholarship.

**Krauss Jordan,** a Lawrence resident earning her associate degree in nursing at Mercer County College, was presented with the Region 2 Memorial Scholarship.

**SaraJurado,** an Annadale resident working on her Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree at New Jersey City University to become a registered nurse, is presented with the General Scholarship.

**Jillian Fasulo,** a West Orange resident earning her Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree at Rutgers University School of Nursing was presented the Dr. Anna Gallagher Scholarship.

**Shani-Qua Martin,** an East Orange resident working on her Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree at Bloomfield University, was awarded the Sylvia C. Edge Endowment Scholarship.

**Nicole Wrobel,** a Wallington resident and RN working towards her master's degree at Felician University. She was awarded the Region 2 Memorial Scholarship.
Ready to Run

Rachel Koshy, DNP, ANP, NP-C, RN

On March 15 and 16, I was sponsored by NJSNA’s Interested Nurses Political Action Committee (INPAC) to attend READY to RUN, a two-day conference presented by the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. CAWP is located at Rutgers’ Eagleton Institute of Politics. I served as an INPAC Region 1 member.

The conference was phenomenal. I met with many women leaders interested in politics and ready to run this year and next year. Nationally recognizes leaders shared their best knowledge about how to raise funds, attract voters and what it is like to be a woman in politics. Women are so powerful, unbelievable, unimaginable and unthinkable.

On the first day, our New Jersey Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver was the welcome keynote speaker. She was filled with vigor and enthusiasm and motivated us in taking a stand in politics. She stated that “we should always show up.” I think if she can do it, we all could.

Also, a diversity initiative program was held which aimed at increasing the participation of women of color in NJ politics. There were three sessions offered:
1. Rising Stars: Educating Asian American Women in Politics
3. Eleccion Latina

Tara Dowdell, founder of Tara Dowdell group, presented a plenary session which included digital strategies for candidates, campaigns and advocates. She gave us varied ideas for creating your brand, creating an online campaign, a website, fundraising tools and much more.

Cate Gormley, Vice President of Lake Research Partners, conducted a session on “What Women Candidates Need to Know.” Surprisingly, she pointed out that in their research they found a strong preference of people being qualified and being likeable. Voters will vote for the man they think is qualified and don’t like, but not for a woman. So, women need to be qualified and likeable.

Two optional tracks were offered:

Track 1: Launching Your Campaign, by Eva Pusateri, President and Founder of Expert Communication and Training, Inc. This session provided the key elements of a campaign including assessing and establishing oneself as a candidate, developing a campaign plan, structuring a campaign organization and voter contact.

Track 2: Finding your Political Voice and Influence was a panel discussion, designed for those who were not yet ready to run, but want to have some impact on certain key issues. The session offered the nuts and bolts of government and political parties in the state, basically getting active with the political party.

Through this experience, I attained a wealth of knowledge about the different aspects of running for a political position; it isn’t easy and requires lot of money. The money could be generated slowly but steadily. Always remember where there is a will, there is a way. If someone has the desire or determination to do something, she/he will definitely find a method to achieve it.

YOU JOINED NJSNA! NOW WHAT?

Eleanor Withington-Dietrich, BSN, MA

Recently at a meeting of the Directors of Membership for each region of NJSNA we discussed the challenges of membership engagement. Regardless of the area of the state, all of us recognized that membership engagement is a challenge. What can we do to promote our members to become active in our respective region’s activities?

In terms of numbers, NJSNA is generally well represented by New Jersey professional nurses. The recent dues reduction has encouraged more nurses to join the organization. This is a good thing, of course. No argument on that point. But what happens when a nurse pays their dues, for perhaps the first time? What expectations does that new member have?

According to the Why Join NJSNA brochure, there are five main benefits:

EDUCATION: Examples of programs presented at various region meetings- Donna Cardella-The Inspirational Nurse, Political Advocacy and You. Legislation and Nursing. Transforming the Technology Dependent Adult from Hospital to Home. Additionally, the Foundation of NJSNA awards scholarships, research grants and has a career center.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT: Examples: NJSNA is lobbying for legislation protection for the title of the Nurse; Board of Nursing Compact; staffing to be determined by Nursing. In addition, studying the proposed legislation on End of Life and legalization of marijuana and how these bills would affect nurses and nursing.

LEADERSHIP: Mentoring relationships for nurses who aspire to leadership and for new members to the organization in order to assist them in maximizing the benefits of belonging.

PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATION: NJSNA staff attend various professional and other health care association programs to keep nurses and nursing in the forefront.

WORKPLACE ADVOCACY: Members and staff of NJSNA network with other nursing associations to advocate healthy workplace environments. Meetings are also held with legislators to keep them informed of nursing concerns. Staff and the President of NJSNA also have been interviewed for TV and for newspapers.

But let’s face it, these benefits will not be realized if the individual members do not engage themselves.

So then, what efforts can be made in each region to draw our members in helping them to see that their participation will enhance what they each get out of their membership?

Possible approaches to increasing engagement, retaining members and recruiting new members.

1. Send a welcome card, letter and/or email to each new member. Include contact information for the Region Board members and list Region meeting dates.
2. Develop a Region newsletter to be sent by each County Coordinator to members in their respective county. Topics for this newsletter could be Region news, member accomplishments, upcoming Region and NJSNA events along with contact information for the County coordinator.
3. For any member who may hesitate to become involved, there are resources and mentoring efforts to assist members as they step into new roles by those with experience.
4. Comments, concerns, suggestions or the need for further information may be sent to the membership committee at membership@njsna.org

Thank you to all NJSNA members for their hard work and anticipated participation in these efforts to engage our members.

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BECOME A LEADER IN NURSING AND HEALTHCARE MSN IN POPULATION HEALTH

INFORMATION SESSION FULLY ONLINE

JULY 17 • 6:30 PM

Rachel Koshy, DNP, ANP, NP-C, RN

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Join us!
Future of Nursing 2020-2030
Town Hall Meetings

The Committee on the Future of Nursing 2020-2030 is holding three regional meetings to hear from you.

The committee is interested in your insights on how to advance the profession of nursing to help our nation create a culture of health, reduce health disparities, and improve the health and well-being of the U.S. population in the 21st century.

Each meeting will feature panel discussions around a specific topic, followed by time for public comments.

We hope you can join us in person!

Can’t attend? The events will be webcast, and select online comments will be read aloud.

To learn more about the study, watch the video of the first public meeting, and register, please visit nam.edu/FutureofNursing2030.

Register to attend online or in person

Meeting Locations:

Chicago
Theme: Education, Research and Practice
Friday, June 7
8:30-12:30 pm CDT
Malcolm X College
Register to attend or watch online

Philadelphia
Theme: Vulnerable Populations and Paying for Care
Wednesday, July 24
8:30 am-12:30 pm EDT
UPenn School of Nursing
Register to attend or watch online

Seattle
Theme: High Tech, High Touch
Wednesday, August 7
8:30 am-12:30 pm PDT
University of Washington
Register to attend or watch online

Learn about regional town hall meetings, coming this summer, at nam.edu/FutureofNursing2030.

Assemblywoman Jasey: A Nurse Champion in the State House

Mila Jasey was interviewed by this writer and Mary Cullen-Drill APN in October 2012 for the NJ Nurse. It’s been six years since that interview and Asw Jasey is still championing education and health issues for New Jersey residents.

Assemblywoman Mila Jasey was first elected to the New Jersey General Assembly on November 6th, 2007. She is serving her fifth term representing District 27 which includes 14 towns in Morris and Essex Counties.

Prior to serving in the New Jersey Assembly, Asw. Jasey served as a member of the South Orange/Maplewood Board of Education for three terms, including two years as President.

Educational and professional practice experiences which prepared Asw. Jasey for her role in the legislature started as a history major at Barnard College. She then went to Pace University for her master’s degree in Nursing. Her interest in nursing was spurred by a summer study program in West Africa where she was influenced by a public health nurse. She worked in rehabilitative nursing at Montefiore hospital in the Bronx and the Ruak Institute for Rehabilitative Medicine at New York Hospital in Manhattan. Asw. Jasey was also a lactation specialist at both Newark Beth Israel and Orange Memorial Hospital and was a La Leche League Leader in Essex county for over twenty years.

Asw. Jasey supports New Jersey’s First Lady Tammy Murphy’s Nurture NJ statewide awareness campaign which is trying to reduce infant and maternal mortality. The campaign seeks to ensure equitable care among women and children of all races and ethnicities. The First Lady is championing the coverage for doula care services to expectant mothers receiving Medicaid. Doula services refer to the physical and emotional support for a mother before, during and after childbirth provided by a trained individual. More information about doulas can be found at https://www.dona.org/what-is-a-doula/. Another important healthcare issue Asw. Jasey has addressed is with her sponsorship of a bill to eliminate the vaccination exemption which can help prevent outbreaks of serious transmittable diseases.

In addition, Asw. Jasey is focused on ensuring affordable housing for New Jersey residents. She is keenly aware of the state’s housing needs, particularly those of the mentally ill and the disabled. Reducing the stigma of mental illness and making sure services are available for those who need them is also a priority.

In contrast to posting armed guards in the school systems, she is supporting more mental health care within schools to identify students who need help. She is in support of PreK education for all. Her nursing background has contributed to her awareness of the importance of early childhood intervention and how it promotes long range success. “Why wait to have children fail?” Asw. Jasey is also a sponsor of AB54 which is the “Consumer Access to Health Care Act.” This bill eliminates the requirement of a joint protocol with a physician for advanced practice nurses to prescribe medication. A list of all of the bills she has sponsored or co-sponsored in these is available at https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/bio.asp?Leg=284.

Mila Jasey is one of 37 women in the 2018 New Jersey Legislature. There is a total of 120 seats; women serve in 27 of the 80 seats in the Assembly and 10 of the 40 seats in the Senate. She and Asw. Nancy F. Munoz are the only women on the state’s Board of Education for three terms, including two years as President.

Prior to serving in the New Jersey Assembly, Asw. Jasey

Save the Date!!
NJNNA and the Institute for Nursing Professional Summit

Thursday, October 10, 2019
The Cranbury Inn, Cranbury, NJ

Theme: “It’s Your License: Do You Know How to Influence Legislative Decision-Makers?”
Assemblywoman Munoz: A Nurse Champion in the Legislature

Suzanne Drake, PhD, APRN, BC

Background
NJ Assemblywoman Nancy F. Munoz, RN, MSN, CN, a longtime advocate of the nursing profession, was sworn into office on May 21, 2009, filling the unexpired term of her late husband, the late Assemblyman Eric Munoz, MD. On November 3, 2009, she was elected to a two-year term representing the 21st Legislative District, re-elected to four subsequent terms and in the Assembly leadership, she serves as Republican Whip. She serves on five committees including Health and Senior Services and Women and Children.

SMD:
A graduate of Skidmore, and earning your MSN at Hunter College, CUNY, you worked at Yale New Haven, Mass General and Sloan Kettering Hospitals. How did you, a former ICU nurse become a lawmaker and a leader in New Jersey Politics?

ASW MUNOZ:
My life changed when Eric died suddenly on March 30, 2009, from a ruptured aortic aneurism. Eric and I had five kids at home. One day about two years before he died, we were talking about my nursing career direction. He said, "In case something happens to me, you should run for Assembly." So I did.

SMD: What is it about being a nurse that has uniquely prepared you for the legislature?

ASW MUNOZ: Nothing could have prepared me more for the legislature than my nursing background. I loved taking care of patients and now I love taking care of the people of NJ. I also loved being part of a team working toward the same goal, an asset in the Assembly as I am really good at working in a team working toward the same goal, an asset in the healthcare delivery system. Nurses must be at the table when the decisions are made. We are the largest number of professionals in healthcare in the US. That’s a powerful force! Nurses are the backbone of the healthcare delivery system. Nurses must be at the decision-making table or others will make the decisions. Get involved in public policy. Nurses need to understand how important it is to be involved politically. You are the nurses on the front lines dealing with health issues. Legislators need to hear from you. I want to hear from you!

SMD: Although tragic circumstances brought you to the Statehouse, you discovered that you have been prepared for this role and are now in a pivotal position to truly create change. Your personal loss has been profound, and yet your ability to be open to the rich possibilities inherent in the present moment bears evidence of your exceptional resiliency. Thank you so much for your inspiration.

ASW MUNOZ:
Academic progression for one; there is an increasing impetus for the BSN to be a minimal level of entry into our profession. Rapidly expanding technology and practices place greater demands on nursing competencies. The Institute of Medicine has recommended that 80 percent of the nursing workforce have a bachelor’s degree by 2020. Creating a more highly educated nursing workforce will help address the increasing complexity in our healthcare system.

SMD: There is a rumor that you are against Safe Staffing because you voted against it. Can you explain your position on that?

ASW MUNOZ: Nothing could be farther from the truth. I am NOT against Safe Staffing! I am against the way the bill stated nurse to patient ratios and safe staffing should be based on the need of the patient, not about a specific number.

SMD: What can New Jersey nurses do to make a difference in the current healthcare conundrum?

ASW MUNOZ: We are the largest number of professionals in healthcare in the US. That’s a powerful force! Nurses are the backbone of the healthcare delivery system. Nurses must be at the decision-making table or others will make the decisions. Get involved in public policy. Nurses need to understand how important it is to be involved politically. You are the nurses on the front lines dealing with health issues. Legislators need to hear from you. I want to hear from you!

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SMD: How does having a nurse in the legislature improve nursing, health care and access to care for New Jersey Residents?

ASW MUNOZ: I am a most important voice in Trenton because I’m one of nursing’s biggest advocates in the State House. I am not anti-physician! However, nurses are critical to the delivery of healthcare and we need to be part of the policy decisions to improve delivery and access to care in NJ.

SMD: What is your main concern with the nursing profession today, and do you think you will continue to be able to make inroads from your position in the statehouse?