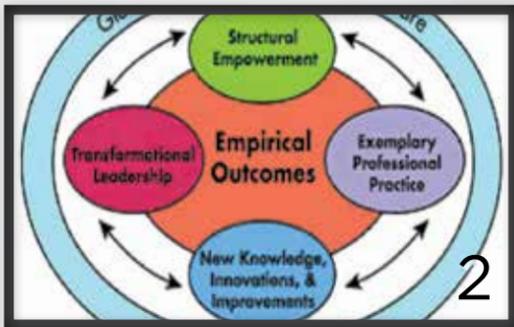




# WYOMING NURSE

The Official Publication of The Wyoming Nurses Association

Quarterly publication distributed to approximately 10,000 RNs and LPNs in Wyoming.



**Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Achieves Magnet® Recognition**



**A Wyoming Nursing Experience - Containing the New Coronavirus (COVID-19)**



**2020 WNA Nursing Summit & Convention**

## President's Message



**Kathy Luzmoor, MS, RN, CNE**

Winter weather was the biggest concern in the last edition of *The Wyoming Nurse*, so as to not impact the attendance at Nurses Day at the Legislature. Sunshine and blue skies prevailed, allowing all participants to attend. The evaluations suggested that most persons enjoyed the conference; lessons were learned and taken into consideration.

This edition will come out following Nurses Month; the celebrations were probably different, but hopefully still enjoyable. WNA staff worked diligently to offer members ways to engage throughout the month. Hopefully, you found that they were meaningful. Remember, 2020 is the Year of the Nurse and Midwife! ***The Wyoming Nurses Association Board and Staff hope you feel valued and supported!***

The world, as we know it, has changed quickly in March. As nurses, you have faced challenges no one could have imagined. COVID-19 has wreaked havoc on every aspect of life, none more than that of nurses. As you read this, some aspects of our world will be opening back up and trying to find a new normal. There are so many things that we can reflect on, but let's think about the positive things this pandemic brought us.

Nurses and health care workers across the world are gaining recognition for the amazing jobs they do, unselfishly, every day. Nurses were always respected, but this pandemic has amplified it many times over. Caring has always been a primary attribute of the profession. Nurses being the ones to care for patients when family members could not has always been a challenge, but also a blessing and one of the reasons to keep going back to work each day. Nurses take care of their patients, and then most go home and take care of their families, including children's learning needs while not in school. You have been rightly praised by your communities and had more meals and goodies provided in these months than probably in all your career.

Wyoming Nurses Association was blessed with a generous donation from Lamar Advertising that included digital and static billboard recognition of nurses. Have you seen them in your communities? The Hilton corporation stepped up and offered hotel rooms for members who did not want to go home to their families while caring for COVID 19 patients. In some communities, other hotels and entities offered rooms for healthcare workers.

Long term care and assisted living staff are to be commended. Not only have they had to deal with the fear of the virus infecting their very vulnerable residents, but they also are now filling in as the only persons these residents are able to see. They are getting creative using video calls and window meetings to help their residents keep in touch with friends and family.

Public health, public health nursing, and epidemiology have become much more visible and have taught us so much. Those workers deserve expanded respect from all. We are proud that these nurses have taken the lead in their communities to ensure the job is done and done well. They worked tirelessly to obtain PPE for their communities and provide transparent information to the public. Public health partners with law enforcement, EMS, hospitals, and all involved in patient care to see that we are safe.

Home health and hospice nurses, school nurses, nursing faculty, and students have all been affected. You have all stepped up and done what was needed to get the job done.

There have been endless educational opportunities both from the ANA and others on caring for COVID 19 patients and ourselves. Nursing has been talking about self-care and resilience for many years, but never has it been more important. WNA ran several weeks of a program called Networks of Support. WNA Staff and members opened a Zoom webinar for nurses who wanted to gather and discuss the current situation. Thank you, Tobi Moore and Andrea Starmer, for initiating and the WNA board members who helped as moderators. We hope you have used whatever self-care techniques work for you on a regular basis. We pray that our family of nurses will survive this trauma physically and mentally in the months to come.

Telehealth has taken on a much-needed new life. Previously used for those specialty visits, for when it might have been hard to have an in-person meeting, it is now frequently used. This practice is an opportunity that needs to continue. The issues around telehealth usage had both provider reluctance and reimbursement reasons not to expand. The CARES Act took care of the reimbursement issue.

The CARES Act also enabled Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and Physicians Assistants the ability to **permanently** order home health services. This legislation has been an effort ANA and other nurses' associations have been lobbying for many years. Many states also authorized APRNs to have full practice authority. Wyoming's APRNs have had this for decades.

***Please advocate with legislators to ensure the continuance of these crucial areas of health care.*** Let us not lose the ground we have gained!

Nurses are in a great position to use their voices to continue progress in health care. Many difficulties that plagued us in this pandemic should never be allowed to happen again. You may wonder how the individual nurse can do this – **volunteer for committees and boards in your workplaces and communities.** Attend the board meetings of your hospitals or other decision-making boards. One advocate asked, "Do the people making decisions about you look like you?" In the case of nurses, do they have your background and understanding of health care? Become more involved in the WNA, calls for open offices will be coming out in the summer. Open positions on city and county boards, as well as applications for consideration, can be found on their websites.

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# Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Achieves Magnet® Recognition

Magnet recognition is the highest national honor for nursing excellence.



**Tracy Garcia CRMC**  
CNO and VP of  
Clinical Services



**Sam Bass CRMC**  
Magnet Program and  
Patient Experience  
Director

Cheyenne, WY — Cheyenne Regional Medical Center officials announced April 24, 2020, that CRMC has achieved Magnet recognition as a reflection of its nursing professionalism, teamwork and superiority in patient care.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center's Magnet Recognition Program® distinguishes organizations that meet rigorous standards for nursing excellence.

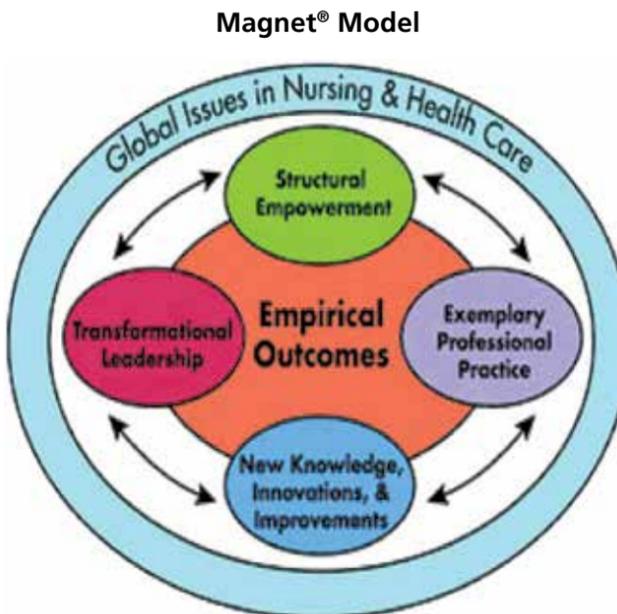
With this credential, CRMC joins the global community of Magnet-recognized organizations. Just 520 U.S. healthcare organizations out of over 6,300 U.S. hospitals have achieved Magnet recognition.

"Magnet recognition provides our community with the ultimate benchmark to measure the quality of patient care," said Tracy Garcia, CRMC's Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Clinical Services. "Achieving Magnet recognition reinforces the culture of excellence that is a cornerstone of how we serve our community. It's also tangible evidence of our nurses' commitment to providing the very best care to our patients, of which we are extremely proud."

Research demonstrates that Magnet recognition provides specific benefits to healthcare organizations and their communities, including:

- Higher patient satisfaction with nurse communication, availability of help and receipt of discharge information
- Lower risk of 30-day mortality and lower failure-to-rescue rates
- Higher job satisfaction among nurses
- Lower nurse reports of intentions to leave their positions

Magnet recognition is considered the gold standard for nursing excellence and is a factor when the public judges healthcare organizations. U.S. News & World Report's annual showcase of "America's Best Hospitals" includes Magnet recognition in its ranking criteria for quality of inpatient care.



Magnet® Model

American Nurses Credentialing Center.  
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The Magnet Model provides a framework for nursing practice, research and measurement of outcomes. Through this framework, ANCC evaluates applicants across a number of components and dimensions to gauge an organization's nursing excellence.

The foundation of this model comprises various elements deemed essential to delivering superior patient care. These include the quality of nursing leadership and coordination and collaboration across specialties, as well as processes for measuring and improving the quality and delivery of care.

To achieve Magnet recognition, organizations must pass a rigorous and lengthy process that demands widespread participation from leadership and staff. This process includes an electronic application, written patient care documentation, an on-site visit and a review by the Commission on Magnet Recognition.

### About ANCC's Magnet Recognition Program

The Magnet Recognition Program — administered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the largest and most prominent nurses credentialing organization in the world — identifies healthcare organizations that provide the very best



The "WYOMING NURSE" is the official publication of the Wyoming Nurses' Association, a constituent member of the American Nurses Association, published quarterly every March, June, September, and December.

### WNA Executive Director

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in nursing care and professionalism in nursing practice. The Magnet Recognition Program is the highest national honor for nursing excellence and provides consumers with the ultimate benchmark for measuring quality of care. For more information about the Magnet Recognition Program and current statistics, visit [www.nursecredentialing.org/magnet](http://www.nursecredentialing.org/magnet).

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### Board Member Highlight

**What made you get involved in WNA?**

I wanted to connect with other nurses across the state and become involved in making positive changes for the health of our state.

**What has been most fulfilling from your experience with WNA?**

The connections that have been made.

**What other Boards or Committees are you involved in, either associated with nursing or in your community?**

I have previously been on the Board for Sweetwater County YWCA.

**Why do you think it's important that nurses get involved in their communities?**

To make positive changes in the health of the individuals residing within our state and to advance the profession of nursing.

**Ann Marie Clevenger, MSN, RN**  
WNA Secretary

### Board Member Highlight

**Why did you get involved in WNA?**

I got involved in WNA because I feel that we have too many people making decisions for nurses that have no or a limited medical background. As nurses we are our patients advocates and some of the rules being put into place are not good enough or don't make sense for what is best for us and our patients health, safety and general well being; so I can either sit back and just let things happen or I can try to be a part of the solution. Being a part of the WNA has been an amazing opportunity so far. I sit at meetings in awe of the smart, brilliant, talented nurses that make up the WNA board. I have learned so much from them and I look forward to the journey ahead. I know that we need more nurses to get involved in our communities. We need them to educate the public and law makers as to what we feel works best for everyone. We need to have them reach out to their local government officials and share the needs of those they serve. I have learned the importance of having a lobbyist and I have enjoyed learning about the legislature. We need to stand together and keep fighting for those we serve. Happy Year of the Nurse!

**Shawn Wyse, RN**  
WNA Southeast Region President

# Executive Director's Message

Where do I start? COVID-19, development of resources and our Networks of Support series for Wyoming Nurses, advocating on your behalf with elected officials, distributing PPE donations, billboards, Nurses month activities, a special gift to our members to Celebrating Nurses Month... The past 90 days feels like it has been a year!

Thank you. Those words barely do the justice deserved by the amazing women and men across our state, risking it all to help others. During these extraordinary times, we have not forgotten that 2020 is the *Year of the Nurse*. Your unwavering commitment to patients, dedication to your profession, and overall bravery truly made this year all about the Nurse.



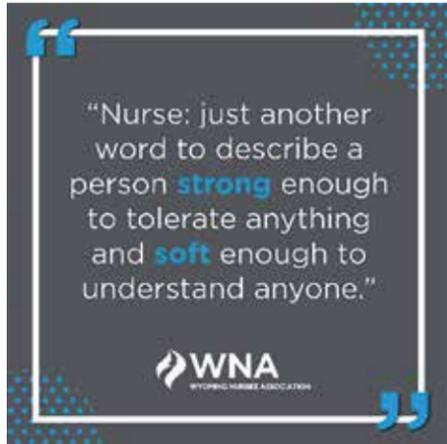
**Tobi Lyon Moore, MBA**

With our nurses working countless hours on the front line of the COVID-19 pandemic, Wyoming Nurses Association wanted to ensure that nurses had resources at their fingertips. We have worked to provide opportunities to

share your experiences in a safe place for open discussion across our network. We are continuing our social media efforts, encouraging you to "Share Your Selfie," and advocating for you by highlighting your experiences with elected officials. Your openness inspires us.

We created a platform for virtual meetups via our Networks of Support: Connecting Wyoming Nurses series; sessions continue to be facilitated by WNA leadership but are an open forum for sharing experiences, ideas, and questions. Additionally, we have held webinars specifically dealing with self-care to mitigate stress – these were recorded sessions and are available on our website

(along with the slide decks). These resources are not limited to WNA membership as we are encouraging our members to invite colleagues across their network.



**Topics have included:**

- Sharing of stories and experiences (chicken soup for the nurses' soul)
- Mental health (techniques to mitigate PTSD, Psychological First Aid triage)
- Impact on our nursing programs, nursing students & program/clinical requirements
- Nursing retention & practice (nurses not wanting to be nurses anymore)
- Aligning/unifying all nursing organizations
- Advocacy
- Trauma Among Healthcare Workers
- Stress Management and Self Care for Nurses



WNA has pivoted aggressively with innovation to support nurses in this time of need and crisis. We will continue to adapt and advocate for members and all nurses across the great state of Wyoming.

**2020 YEAR OF THE NURSE**  
**Ways to Celebrate**

Amid the national crisis and spotlight on our front-line healthcare providers across the country, many haven't shined light on the fact that 2020 is the Year of the Nurse. With the brave work, our nurses are doing across Wyoming, we want to ensure you are recognized, inspired, and celebrated!

Throughout the rest of the year, WNA will provide resources to our members, encouraging opportunities and activities to promote nursing excellence. Here are a few ideas to start:

**GET SOCIAL**

Get social with WNA and share your story about what makes you proud to be a nurse in 2020. Share a picture of you, and we'll highlight you on our social media! Now more than ever, we want to recognize our amazing nurses.

Share here: [bit.ly/WNA\\_Selfie](https://bit.ly/WNA_Selfie)

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**BE A MENTOR; THANK A MENTOR**

Take the time to reach out to a colleague, friend in nursing, or former instructor who you've been inspired by. Tell them your story and how they've helped you along the way... write a note, buy them a coffee or just let them know what they've meant to you. On the flip side of things, you can engage with a newer nurse and ask them how things are going; be a sounding board during these crazy times and help them navigate with your real-life experience.

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**MAKE SELF-CARE A PRIORITY**

Have some "you time"; consider some yoga postures, get a good night's sleep, binge watch a whole season on Netflix ... whatever it is that helps you unwind. You can also join Healthy Nurse, Healthy Nation's Grand Challenge and connect with other nurses across the country focusing on physical activity, nutrition, rest, quality of life and safety.  
*(www.healthynursehealthynation.org)*

WNA is proud of the work nurses across the country are doing. We will keep you updated on all #YON2020 activities on our new Year of the Nurse pages on our website. There might even be a few surprised or two in store! Thank you for truly making 2020 the year of the nurse.

#YEAROFTHE**NURSE**

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# Legislative Update

There are many reports and studies that go on during interim – which is the period between Legislative sessions. This period is also the best time to make connections with legislators. Emails or personal invitations to events are excellent ways to communicate with the people that will be making legislative decisions. Invitations to coffee or lunch can be an opportune time to visit with them on a one-to-one basis. The more they know and understand, the easier it is for them to make decisions about issues. Committee meetings are open to the public, and the agenda is posted on the website: [www.wyoleg.gov](http://www.wyoleg.gov).



**Toni Decklever,  
MA, RN  
WNA Lobbyist**

The Labor, Health and Social Services (LHSS) is planning on having their first meeting on May 28-29 in Casper. The agenda will be available on the website. This meeting will be primarily to hear reports from various agencies and to begin a discussion about potential legislation for the 2021 general session.

The Committee has a priority list of issues and topics they are researching during the interim. These include the following:

### Priority #1: Mental Health and Substance Abuse

The Committee will examine mental health and substance abuse issues to identify better health outcomes and savings to the state. The Committee will consider mental health workforce needs, suicide prevention, sources, and structure of funding and placement for prevention services, community services, and residential services for children and adults, and will follow up on Department of Corrections (DOC) issues and the transition of incarcerated individuals to

community service providers upon release. In part of consideration of this topic, the Committee will appoint members to a joint subcommittee, also comprised of members appointed from the Joint Appropriations Committee. This joint subcommittee will seek to address mental health funding concerns and will consider sources and structure of funding for prevention services and community services to include:

1. Provider reimbursement rates
2. Streamlining reimbursement and delivery systems to ensure priority patients are receiving appropriate services
3. Following up on DOC mental health and substance abuse issues concerning reduction of recidivism rates and improving the successful transitions for incarcerated individuals to community service providers upon release

Any legislation developed by the joint subcommittee shall be forwarded to the Joint Appropriations Committee or Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Interim Committee consistent with the substantive jurisdiction and oversight role of each committee.

### Priority #2: Telehealth

The Committee will examine options available to further utilize broadband and telehealth services to increase access to and reduce the costs of healthcare services. The Committee will consider the following:

- Existing barriers to the implementation of a robust telehealth system and develop legislation that may be necessary to eliminate those barriers.
- Availability of FCC and USDA funding for Wyoming Business Council Broadband Development Program grants, for broadband and telehealth services in rural areas.
- Options to assist small health care providers with IT resources.
- Integration of electronic health records into telehealth services, including a stroke registry.

### Priority #3: High Costs of Health Care in Wyoming

The Committee will continue to examine options for addressing the high cost of health care in Wyoming. The Committee will:

- Identify options to address high fixed hospital capital expenses, including utilizing certificates of need or other means for addressing this issue.
- Follow up on the 2019 hospital and health care cost reports, including DOC health care expenditures, and cost of state employee group insurance.
- Consider the impacts of regulation and price transparency.
- Follow up on the report required under 2020 HB 0113 (Importation of prescription drugs–study).

### Priority #4: Wyoming's Aging Population

The Committee will examine options to address the growing aging population in Wyoming. Among other proposals, the Committee will consider:

- Changes to Medicaid or community programs to support individuals in need of long-term care.
- Regulation of long-term care facilities, including financial viability and service availability, and rebasing of long-term care facility reimbursement rates.
- Existing long-term care workforce issues.

### Priority #5: Responses to Federal Actions, Litigation, and Reports from State Agencies

The Committee will respond to federal actions, litigation and reports from state agencies as follows:

- Monitor possible federal executive or court actions regarding but not limited to air ambulance services, electronic health records, the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act (See Texas v. United States, 340 F. Supp. 3d 579 (N.D. Tex. 2018)), multiple employer welfare arrangements, health care sharing ministries, and Medicaid block grants.
- Receive updates on state health facilities and agency reports resulting from 2020 and 2019 legislation. Consider requests from agencies for statutory changes in response to federal actions, including possible changes to Department of Corrections statutory definitions.
- Follow up on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' actions regarding telehealth in response to COVID-19 pandemic. (See Priority #6 below).
- After-action report from agencies, providers and other stakeholders regarding necessary actions or statutory changes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Priority #6: Global Review of Programs for Indigent Citizens

The Committee will review statutory programs in the Department of Health, the Department of Family Services, and other agencies to evaluate the cumulative effect of funding changes over the past five years on the indigent population and to determine whether any rebalancing is appropriate.

Our legislators work all year long, looking at solutions and strategies for the betterment of the state. Unpopular decisions are not uncommon, but the goal is to hopefully make decisions that will benefit the majority rather than the minority. When the public connects with legislators, this assists them in reaching that goal. Legislator contact information is at [www.wyoleg.gov](http://www.wyoleg.gov).

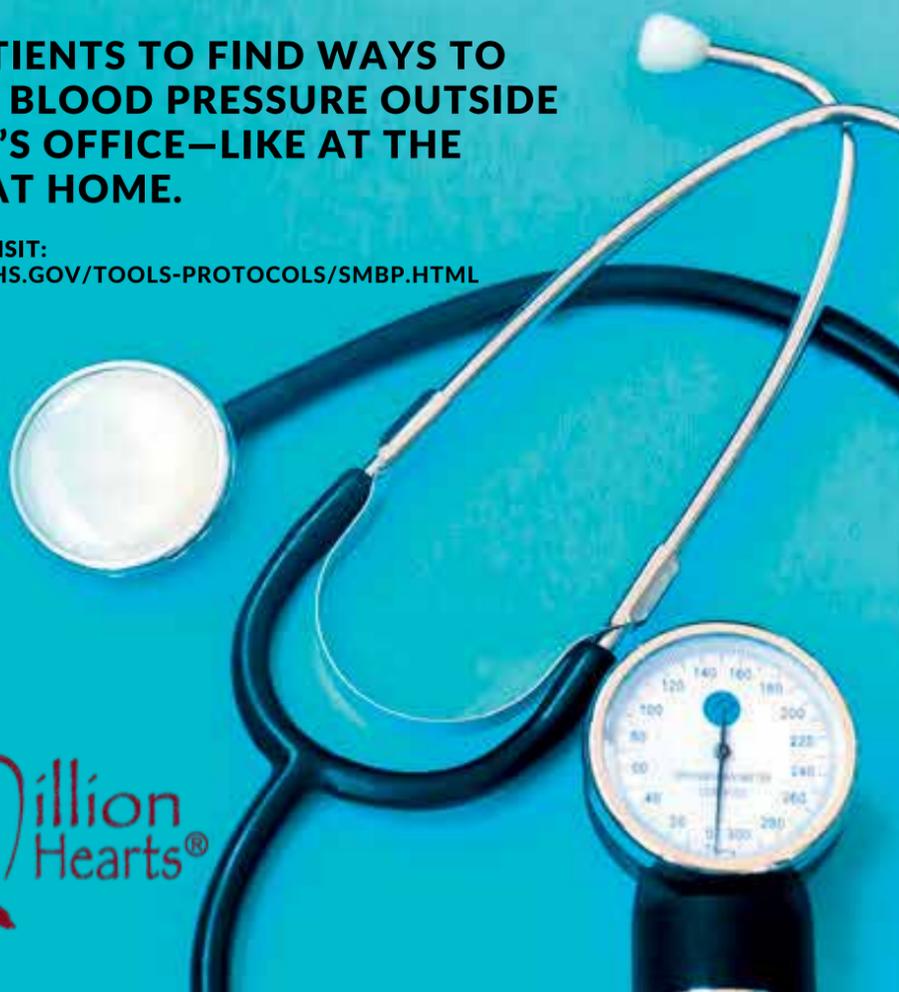
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# “Notes” on Nursing

## Recognizing Nursing Issues: 1850 and 2020

Florence Nightingale: ‘The Founder of Scientific Nursing,’ was born May 12, 1820, to an aristocratic family in England. As a young woman, she had an excellent education: languages, science, current events, art, math, and statistics. She was also trained to manage a large household, hiring and training staff, budgeting, purchasing, and working with public leaders.



**Susan M. Howard,  
MSN, RNBC**

Florence had a calling to be a nurse. She attended a nurse training program in Germany. In 1853 she was hired as Superintendent of Nursing at a small woman’s hospital. While there, she invented call lights (bells), utilized dumbwaiters to move supplies, installed hot water on the wards, developed infection control policies, designed bulk purchase contracts, negotiated pricing, and stressed the need for customer service and kindness.

In 1854, she was asked to hire and train nurses to serve the Barrack Hospital in Scutari, Turkey, during the Crimean War. Enduring a shortage of trained nurses, she only hired 38. She had to define the role of nurses in the military. As the war ended, she returned home with chronic back pain and spent the next 30 years in her home, where she was very productive, evaluating data and statistics as well as guiding healthcare reforms. Her life experiences and vision led to the development of principles of nursing, which are still respected today. Ironically, many of these issues still impact patient care. What would Florence think?

Notes on nursing then and now:

- **In the 1840s and today, no one could agree on the appropriate length of time for nursing education.** Florence had six weeks of training and then later repeated that training, becoming one of the most highly educated nurses in the world.
- **In England in the 1800s, healthcare was not a right; it was a privilege, only for the wealthy and upper class.**

- **Throughout the history of the profession, nurses have volunteered to go where they were needed.** That included the treacherous trip to Crimea to care for soldiers from all over the world. Recently, nurses volunteered to go to New York and several other places to care for patients from many states and countries.
- **In the 1850s and still today, nurses had trouble convincing professionals and the public to wash their hands.**
- **In the 1800s, Florence worked to keep nurses administering patient care, not leaving the unit for other jobs and meetings.**
- **In the 1850s, as in 2020 with COVID-19, nurses struggled to deal with unknown infections that had no known treatment.**
- **In the 1850s and 2020, nurses were forced to deal with shortages of supplies necessary for patient care.** In Turkey, nurses sewed clothing and bandages for the soldiers. Patients were bathed every 80 days, often reusing the same sponge all day.
- **In London and Turkey, Nightingale nurses were involved in making hospitals ‘clean’ places and disinfecting supplies and rooms.** In our current environment, infection prevention is critical to patient care.
- **Nurses developed processes for purchasing needed supplies for hospitals in large quantities.**
- **In the 1850s and 2020, nurses were often the only person to sit with a dying patient.**
- **Throughout history, nurses have died in service.** Florence took 38 nurses to Turkey, and six died there. May God bless the nurses who have died in service to COVID-19 patients.
- **Florence Nightingale began to record data, to develop statistics and track outcomes.** The development of applied statistics to the health care environment and public health led

to informed decisions and improved outcomes. Nightingale designed pie charts to explain the results of data collection.

- **In the hospitals in London and the Crimea, nurses proved the impact of putting distance between patients and distancing the sick from the healthy population.**
- **The nurses in the 1800s and 2020 were often misrepresented in the media, yet, their patients depended on them and trusted them.** London poets called Nightingale “the Lady with the Lamp,” but they showed her with the wrong type of lamp!
- **In the 1800s and today, nurses work with legislators and regulators to ensure quality care and public safety.**
- **In the 1860s and 2020, Nurses worked to be involved in the design of hospitals.**

*In the 1800s and today, Nursing is both an art and a science. Quality nursing care leads to improved patient outcomes. Today, as always, patients are being discharged following horrific illnesses because of knowledge, caring, and compassion.*

*Thank you, nurses, for all you do!*

Susan M. Howard is a past WNA President and is currently vice president of the Wyoming State Board of Nursing.

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- Use sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher, and both UVA and UVB (broad spectrum) protection.



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# A Wyoming Nursing Experience - Containing the New Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Wyoming Behavioral Institute (WBI) in Casper is a busy 85-bed acute care psychiatric hospital serving children, adolescents and adults, with an attached psychiatric residential treatment program for 10- to 16-year-olds and an onsite school. Referrals come from all across Wyoming and sometimes other states. Patients are housed two to four per room, depending on the Wyoming Department of Health's guidelines, unless contraindicated. WBI's priority and focus is always the safety of our patients and staff. The new coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic provided new, but not unsurmountable, challenges for protecting everyone in our hospital.

WBI's Chief Nursing Officer knew that COVID-19 positive patients would be admitted to our hospital and that prevention of the virus' spread would necessitate new precautions. Preparation was made in mid-March for early identification of coronavirus symptoms and immediate isolation. All patient visitation was suspended. A single point of entry was created for all individuals where screeners checked temperatures and asked a CDC-determined set of questions to assess risk of being a virus carrier.

WBI worked closely with Natrona County Public Health Officers as new information about the virus developed and recommendations were amended – for example, by the end of March, the upper temperature limit was lowered from 100.4 to 99.5 and masking was required for all staff. Patients were screened for elevated temperature and other COVID-19 symptoms at minimum twice daily, resulting in quarantines when indicated. The cafeteria and rooms with insufficient social distancing space were closed. Staff meetings were downsized. Court hearings, group and family therapy and patient-family visits were facilitated electronically. Handwashing reminders and extra surface sanitizing and social distancing requirements were activated and monitored.

The search for additional PPE began immediately and our CNO was successful in identifying a local non-medical supply to tap, supplemented by contributions from Corporate Supply Chain. Our pharmacy was able to facilitate the production of hand sanitizer. Some of what WBI acquired was shared with other area hospitals.

In the interest of identifying and containing the virus the moment it arrived, local public health department testing was requested for patients meeting the criteria for risk of being COVID-19 positive. The first positives – staff and patients – were identified in late March. Symptoms reported mimicked those of allergies, not severe illness. Tracing was difficult because the positive cases were identified in different parts of the hospital. Staff testing positive were quarantined at home. Isolation areas for symptomatic patients were created; all new patients were quarantined. Some team members elected to work from home or take leaves of absence to avoid risk of exposure. Employees self-isolated at home to avoid family contact. Some employees were housed in a hotel that was willing to allow potentially exposed workers to stay there.



**Miranda Blajszczak,  
RN, MSN**

Parents were notified that COVID-19 cases had been identified at WBI. Most chose not to discharge their teens from residential treatment, and communities resisted accepting adults ready to leave inpatient care. Efforts to decrease the total number of patients and create greater distance between them were stalled by the inability to facilitate safe discharges. Admissions were stopped temporarily despite continuous community demand for patient care. Capacity was eventually reduced to less than half of WBI's licensed beds.

All staff and patients were required to wear masks by early April. Patients' masks were modified for prevention of potential ligature and self-harm risk. Scrubs were ordered for all staff to wear entering patient care areas, and only patient care staff were permitted to enter hospital bed areas. Staff also were asked to abide by the CDC recommendation to mask and social distance when in the community, particularly when shopping.

Nurses willingly layered themselves in protection and found creative ways to care for isolated patients already suffering from anxiety, frustration and sometimes psychosis. They collaborated with therapy teams to assure the most intensive treatment possible could be delivered in spite of the absence of usual group and milieu approaches. Nursing staff facilitated individualized care and psychiatrists' telehealth visits. More than 85% of employees tested for COVID-19 were negative. However, some were still required to quarantine for 7 to 14 days following testing.

The state Department of Health invited the CDC for an on-site visit, and public health officers also reviewed WBI's COVID-19 prevention and intervention protocol. WBI's control of the virus's spread was applauded as meeting and exceeding the known best practices for COVID-19 outbreak containment.

Meanwhile, few people became gravely ill. Only two patients were transferred to Wyoming Medical Center for a higher level of care, and only two staff and one exposed staff's relative were known to have been treated there. There were no new confirmed patient or staff cases and nearly everyone testing positive had recovered within two weeks of the initial positive case confirmation. Hypervigilance developed in tandem with growing awareness that the virus might be entirely asymptomatic in some people for weeks. The unpredictability of the virus resulted in a need to clean the hospital continuously and a contracted service was brought in to sani-fog the entire building. New ways of protecting against viral spread were explored, including acquisition of shoe sole sanitizing devices to be used when entering the facility.

As soon as COVID-19 cases were found at WBI, public health officials reported the cases to the news media and then provided daily updates on the number of individuals testing positive at or traced to WBI. For more than a week, WBI was the focus of local, state and national attention as being home to a COVID-19 "cluster" responsible for a significant percentage of Natrona County's positive cases. Late night media inquiries were added to the list of unexpected situations encountered by nurse managers and their staff.



A lingering side effect of the media reporting on COVID cases at WBI was stigma. Employees who happened to wear clothing with WBI's logo were asked to leave and shop elsewhere; WBI employees' spouses were asked to stay home; daycare providers stopped caring for employees' children; physicians refused to see WBI employees or patients' relatives in their offices; law enforcement officials stated they would only provide assistance if summoned in instances of staff or patient injury; dually employed nurses reported not being permitted to work at other healthcare facilities; and a few vendors declined to meet contractual agreements that required them to be on-site. People in the community posted on social media that they were afraid to drive by or live near WBI for fear of contracting the virus.

Now, with no new COVID-19 cases identified at WBI or in the community and businesses reopening, the nursing team knows the lull is temporary – it is possible the virus will resurface. Its silent and unexpectedly symptom-light appearance in March has resulted in the knowledge that new cases may exist without detection. Some mental health treatment programs are requesting COVID-19 testing prior to admission and discharge but, because acute care is provided at WBI and testing supplies are not plentiful, public health officials do not support those requirements. Treatment stays at WBI for acute stabilization are usually less than seven days in length. Admissions have resumed and capacity is slowly expanding. Patients are screened for COVID-19 exposure or symptoms and may be tested at WBI if there is concern. All of the precautions taken at the outset of the virus are still in place. Patient and staff safety are the first priority at WBI.

"Nursing staff at WBI were incredible in their response to an illness that, while new and frightening, was expected to surface in our community and in our facility," said CNO Mandy Blajszczak. "Our staff were prepared and confident that we were doing everything possible to meet our patients' psychiatric needs while continuing to keep staff and patients safe. We continually applauded our nursing staff for their work as healthcare heroes on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic containment effort. We placed a huge emphasis on ensuring that our patients continued to feel safe and cared for during this challenging time. We acquired a variety of additional devices to ensure that they were able to maintain connections such as cell phones, tablets and laptops. As we saw only a slight dip in our April patient satisfaction scores it appears that our efforts were successful," she said.

"This pandemic continues to create a difficult and challenging time within our doors and we continue to adapt to changing circumstances. While we know that the war against COVID 19 is far from over, we are confident in our ability to meet the challenge head on as we continue to provide an essential service to our patients, community, and state."

## Marianne Madariaga, MSN, RN WNA President Elect



### Who has been a mentor to you?

I think I would have to say it is Kathy Luzmoor that has mentored me the most. She has told me what I need to pay attention to and keeps me informed. She is guiding me in my role as President-Elect. She has cheered me on in the process.

### How has personal development helped you in your career?

Personal development has helped me in my career by setting goals on what is important to me and then finding easy to achieve them. For example, becoming a WNA member, then serving in my 3rd time on an executive board. I have also attended ANAI and learned nursing advocacy from a political standpoint. In the process, I have met so many amazing people that have contributed to my growth as an individual and as a nurse.

# RN2LEADER



## Crisis Leadership

The world we live in has changed. The introduction into our lexicon of the term "Coronavirus" has changed our lives and how we live. As leaders, our strength, resolve, and dedication to our people and mission must be very visible, steadfast, and determined in times like these.

Through my experiences leading through disasters, I have observed several behaviors from leaders which we should avoid during this time. As a leader, your professionalism will be tested during a crisis. Many will look to you to set a course forward through a very inconsistent and confusing time. Leaders don't have a day off, so as you continue through this season of Coronavirus, avoid these pitfalls of crisis leadership.

The first issue: leaders under pressure decompensate to low level professional behavior and actions. It's almost a natural evolution. When stressed, you disengage your critical thinking and resort to emotional and many times, unprofessional behaviors. These are exhibited in flip-flopping in direction, lack of clarity and transparency in responses, emotional outbursts at inappropriate times, and alienation of staff, peers, and supervisors.

Next is a leader who becomes paralyzed or immovable in their thinking. They fall back into one way of thinking, unable to adapt to the changing environment or instructions. They keep trying to put everything back into their view of normal without consideration for the evolving direction. This replicates itself in poor decision making, pushing conflicting agendas, and adding confusion to the crisis.

Third is the behavior to stop collaboration. This leader goes into survival mode; "It's all about me or my mission." The ability to cooperate and collaborate is gone, or they lose focus on the power of teamwork, believing they will only be successful if they take care of themselves. This usually manifests as a leader who spreads discontent, becomes suspicious of superiors and followers, and they usually separate themselves from others, becoming a lone wolf.

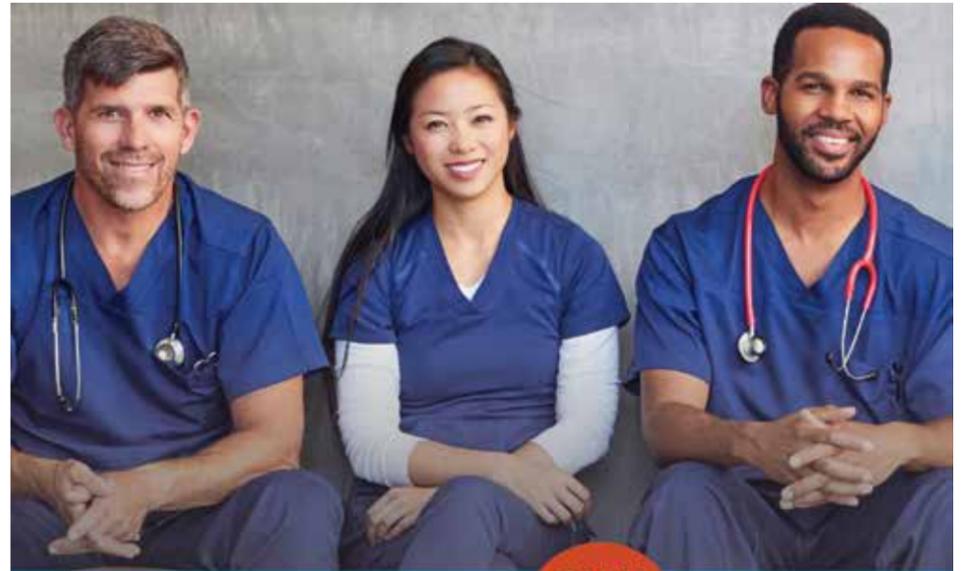
In my days of crisis management, I learned several things leaders need to do to stay engaged, relevant, and professional. Know your organization and personal disaster plans. Engage them early during the crisis. Take detailed notes of things working well and not working well while you are experiencing them. When this is done, there will be many lessons learned so we can improve for our next response. This is your job as a leader.

Finally, keep yourself informed through reliable sources. We have seen how the information during this crisis is constantly evolving. Steer away from unverified social media sources and focus on organizations with more reputable information that is updated and respected. Now is not the time to pass along "this helpful article," which may encourage misinformation at best, and can be harmful by increasing unnecessary panic.

Your professionalism is under your control. During a crisis, you need to protect all of you: your body, your mind, and your spirit. Take breaks, get respite downtime, and ensure you follow healthy coping skills. Remember to speak less and listen more. When you act, do so with an objective mind, filtered through another trusted leader, and remain flexible in thought and action. Those who you lead deserve the best of you in these times. I know you can do it!



**Dr. Dean L. Prentice, Colonel (Ret), USAF, NC, DHA, MA, BSN, NE-BC**



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My Life, My Quit is operated by National Jewish Health. More resources are available at [www.mylifemyquit.com](http://www.mylifemyquit.com).

# Wyoming Center for Nursing Report

by Mary Behrens and Jeannie Neimoller

The Wyoming Nursing Center is a now an Independent 501 C3 Organization. Our Mission: To promote a culture of health that promotes the development of a diverse workforce by transforming education, advancing the health of Individuals, and improving communities through fostering collaborative partnership. We support the National Coalition of Nurses on Boards and a strong workforce in Wyoming.

## The 2020 Wyoming Nursing Education Summit "Staying Ahead of the Curve"

The summit has been delayed until August 12-13, 2020 due to COVID 19. As in the past, this summit is free to participants. This year it is due to the generous support of our community colleges and university, as well as sponsors and vendors. The program will begin on Wednesday August 12 at Casper College with ReNEW committee meetings and convene at 2pm for statewide ReNEW information and updates. On Thursday we will begin our day with Next Generation NCLEX® (NGN) presented by NCSBN®, Emily Petersen, MS, MJ, RN, APRN, CPNP. The remainder of the day will be a workshop by Nurse Tim Owner Tim J. Bristol, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF, Lead Faculty Consultant titled Next Generation Learning and Assessment. Registration will be done by Nursing Schools for their faculty and through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

## Donation of scrubs to Sheridan Memorial Hospital

"As the maker of Cherokee and Dickies scrubs, we at Careismatic Brands are so honored to have donated \$1 million in scrubs to hospitals whose nurses are on the front lines of caring for patients with COVID-19 throughout the U.S. Our donation of scrubs to Sheridan Memorial Hospital is a reminder of our immense gratitude and admiration for nurses and all caregivers who give of their best always, including at the most difficult times," Mike Singer, CEO, Careismatic Brands.

"When I shared the opportunity with our NOBC State Contacts, Mary Behrens, WY, responded immediately and introduced us to Dee Gilson, BSN, RN, CNOR, Director of Surgery, Sheridan Memorial Hospital. This donation is personal to me, as I have

attended the Wyoming Nurses Association in the past, where I met many of the dedicated nurses who serve in urban and rural communities across the state. It is very rewarding to provide "behind the scenes" support to Dee and all those serving patients and families at Sheridan Memorial Hospital, made possible through meaningful connections. We are indeed, all in this world, together!" Laurie Benson, BSN, Executive Director, NOBC

Dee Gilson, Immediate past president of WNA was very pleased to receive this donation.

"Thank you so much for this generous opportunity. We received our donated scrubs of 100 from Wendell (Careismatic Brands) this week. I cannot express to you how important this is to our staff. The impact of the COVID-19 has stressed not only our staffing but our resources to their maximum here at Sheridan Memorial Hospital.

Today staff who are in direct patient care in our ICU and their teams have been eager to receive these donated scrubs; this will help them as we have encouraged hospital laundry when performing Isolation care. To be able to help the nurses who are providing this direct care has been very meaningful and we will always be grateful for the communities that support nurses on the front lines. I am more than proud than ever at this time to be a nurse and to serve."

# Report on Nurses on Boards Coalition April 9, 2020

To summarize Coalition-wide progress as of April 9, 2020:

- 17,664 individuals registered
- 7,308 counting boards
- 11,639 nurses want to serve
- 3,650 nurses already on boards who are interested in serving on an additional board

To summarize the state of Wyoming progress as of March 2020:

- Total Board Service: 64
- Board Service & Want to Serve: 17
- Want to Serve: 27
- Counting Board Service: 64

The original goal for Wyoming is 23, so with 64 boards counted, Wyoming has reached 278% of its 23 nurses on boards goal. In the November 2019 report, Wyoming was at 183% with 42 counting boards. Congratulations on exceeding your goal!

Please go to the Website: [nursesonboardscoalition.org](https://nursesonboardscoalition.org) and register or see if there is a board you would like to serve on. Wyoming cities and counties will also post board appointments on their websites.

Don't forget to "Like" the Wyoming Center for Nursing Facebook page! The Wyoming Center for Nursing website: <https://www.wynursing.org/> will soon be updated!



**CONGRATULATIONS TO WYOMING'S NEWEST NURSES,  
THE GRADUATING CLASS OF SPRING 2020!**

**Gillette College**

**ADN Graduates**

- Kayla Allguer
- Bevan Beck
- Marcy Bowling
- Melissa Cantu
- Brooke Cargal
- Christin Cockerum

**PN Graduates**

- Leslie Bierema
- Kortni Brown
- Baylee Englebert
- Carly Fuller
- Niesha Hanzlik
- Trey Hendrickson



- Sarah Crawford
- Tim Cudmore
- Amanda Fairbairn
- Stephanie Farley
- Sue Hanretty
- Angela Hodge
- Cheyenne Kapptie
- Tonya Karr
- Tori Long
- Hope Lyon
- Stephanie McConnell
- Kylee McGowan
- Hannah Lloyd
- Samantha Mager
- Holly Matovich
- Katie Meron
- Leah Moberg
- Hien Nguyen

**Sheridan College**

**ADN Graduates**

- Emily Adams
- Variya Baldwin
- Kristy Buckley
- Kara Campbell
- Samantha Cheeney
- Elizabeth Christensen

**PN Graduates**

- Hannah Adriaens
- Wilma Baldesco
- Joelle Borden
- Kaitlyn Bornman
- Gregory Bush
- Mollie Caiola
- Alissa Ferullo



- Anna Crabb
- Kevin Dow
- Taylor Fulfer
- Brett Garden
- Diane Gentry
- Kara Golphenee
- Breann Hansen
- Thomas Hardesty
- Rhonda Hartman-Gallegos
- Jeremy Hunter
- Casi Morgareidge
- Teah Pettit
- Lyn Phipps
- Nury Quevedo
- James Rhodes
- Taylor Robertson
- Zebulon Rose
- Kara Sampey
- Tami Starbuck
- David Stine
- Kaycen Townsend
- Itealya Vilhauer
- Karen Wolf

**Northwest College**

- Amanda Ambrose
- Amanda Capps
- Samantha Chambers
- Diana Coombs
- Landon George
- Sandra Gifford



- Patrick Ginst
- Sia Grovenstein
- Otilia Hoffman
- Emily Joy
- Whitney Koehler
- Justin Marchant
- Gudelfina Mendez
- Claire Miner
- Chelsea Moger
- Kerry Norris
- Lindsey Olsen
- Alyssa Schneider
- Casey Shively
- Andrew Smith
- Marcello Henriques Souza
- Karryann Stanly
- Janeen Varian
- Kelsey Wardwell
- Brittani Hunter
- Cassandra Jolley
- Isabel Mendez
- Brenda Silva

**Eastern Wyoming College**

- MacKenzie Altaffer
- Roberta Burley
- McCall Garner
- Brooke Gudahl
- Carolynn Heaton Raedel
- Kellogg
- April Klava
- Hannah McReynolds
- Kayla Read



- Danielle Porter
- Chad Schmitt
- Khrystina Snyder
- Allegra Wagner
- Samantha Watts
- Sindy Wisser
- Rachel Bull
- Antoinette Baca
- Reba Barnes
- Abigail Calhoun
- Phoebe Clark
- Tyler Davis
- Konea Dory
- Alycia Edee
- Jessica Ernst
- Jordan French
- Jesse Gerber
- Jon Gerber
- Ilene Gosch
- Sarah Graham
- Alexis Hall
- Lackana Hartshorn
- Tayler Havner
- Kari Long
- Rachael McGhee
- Erin McIntyre
- Simone Morales
- Katrina Neely
- Miranda Nunley
- Karli O'Brien
- Madison Reiber
- Karley Robinson
- Justin Sanchez
- Shelby Schreiner
- Jesse Screeton
- Madison Snyder
- Heather Spencer
- Bennie Tozer
- Jopardy Wagner
- Paden Waller



# Have You Considered Running for a Wyoming Nurses Association Board Position?

**Serving on the WNA Board is a great way to get involved, network, and make a difference in Wyoming nursing. Bring your skills to influence nursing and healthcare in the state and your region. Deadline to submit your consent to serve is Friday, August 7th!**

**Open Board positions:**

**State WNA Executive Board:**

- **President-Elect**
- **Treasurer**

**Duties of WNA Executive Board:**

The **President-Elect** shall assume the President's duties in his/her absence or at the President's direction. The President-Elect will become President of WNA in the fall of 2022 for a two-year term following their term as President-Elect. The President-Elect shall serve as an ANA Membership Assembly Representative and attend the Membership Assembly held in the month of June in Washington, D.C. In addition, the President-Elect will serve as the Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee, with the Vice President. One of the Legislative Committee's responsibilities is to plan the Nurses Day at the Legislature event held Wednesday,

January 27, and Thursday, January 28, 2021, in Cheyenne.

The **Treasurer** shall be responsible for monitoring the fiscal affairs of the Association and shall provide reports and interpretations of WNA's financial condition to the Board of Directors and the WNA membership. The Treasurer shall serve as chairperson of the Finance Committee. The Treasurer shall serve as the elected Second Alternate for ANA Membership Assembly.

**All Five (5) Regions:**

- **Vice President**
- **Secretary**

**Duties of Region Officers:**

The **Region Vice President** assist in planning region activities, engaging members at the region level. They shall assume the duties of the Region President in the absence of the President. WNA Board of Directors meets five (5) times a year. Two meetings are held by video conferencing, one is before Nurses Day at the Legislature in Cheyenne, one meeting is before the conference, and the other meeting is an all-day strategic planning retreat held in the fall in Casper.

The **Region Secretary** shall be responsible for ensuring that records are maintained of region meetings. The Secretary will send out communication to the region membership. Provide articles for WNA publications that showcase region members and activities.

All candidates for office must submit a "Consent to Serve" form by the end of the day, Friday, August 7th. "Consent to Serve" can be found at [www.wyonurse.org](http://www.wyonurse.org). Each candidate is also required to submit a headshot to [nurse@wyonurse.org](mailto:nurse@wyonurse.org) by Friday, August 7th.

If you have any questions, please contact Nominations Chair, Dee Gilson at [deeser@live.com](mailto:deeser@live.com), or by phone at 307-752-0934.

Elections will occur in early September, and the winners will be announced at the annual meeting on Friday, September 25th, held in conjunction with WNA Nursing Summit and Convention at the Clarion Inn in Casper, WY.

**Why you should consider:**

- **Personal and Professional Development** – If you are interested in advancing your career or taking on more leadership responsibilities, WNA's Regional or State Executive Board offers personal and professional growth opportunities. There are committees to serve on as well as social and political causes to support that need volunteers. You will gain visibility, increase your confidence, and have the opportunity to sharpen your communication and leadership skills.
- **Influence** – Are you comfortable with having others make decisions for you, dictate how you will work, and determine where your profession is going? Although it's not always easy to speak up and express your views on issues important to you, be assured that if you don't do it, others will speak for you and the nursing profession. You can influence how our profession practices, whether in hospitals, schools, clinics, or the many diverse areas nursing can practice based on your experiences. It's time to get out and **join the WNA professional board** by opening the door to the bigger picture of nursing, issues affecting nursing, and where nursing fits into healthcare overall.
- **Networking** – Serving on the WNA Board is a great way to meet people who share common interests with you, stay in touch with what's going on at other facilities around the state, and participate in the legislative process, allowing you to get to know your legislators. WNA is well respected and one of the highest connected professional nurses' organizations with legislation. It is also an opportunity to get a lead on new employment opportunities if you are looking.
- **Education** – Serving on the WNA Board allows you to stay on top of the latest issues and continuing education through meetings and workshops.

If you are unsure of the Region you belong to, email the WNA office at [nurse@wyonurse.org](mailto:nurse@wyonurse.org).

**Casper College**

**Casper College**

- Amanda Adair
- Mica Barlow
- Elizabeth Booth
- Brenden Bustos
- Jessica Charron
- DeLani Cunningham

- Katie Deiter
- Kara Dyess
- London Hultman
- Shantel Johnson
- Taylor Johnstone
- Jessica Koch

- Taran Kuntz
- Lacey Lewis
- Stephanie Macormic
- Sarah McKinney
- Lauren Menter
- Chandler Moore

- Jessica Myhre
- Abigail Orr
- Christie Pace
- Lydia Pereira Rocha
- Luiz Pereira Rocha
- Leah Stover

- Adriana Terrazas
- Pacheco
- Sable Walton
- Karli Widiker

**Central Wyoming College**



- Keyera Bonella
- Jacque Carlino
- Stormi Cassidy
- Juli Conder
- Erin Craft
- Ben Dueweke

- Brynn Franks
- Kyrstin Gardner
- Shaquell Hedegaard
- Amber Howell
- Helen Johnson
- Samantha Kitchen

- Brittany Kleinknecht
- Talia Kusmin
- Kay Lepine
- Kate Linnan
- Whitney Matson
- Katie Mulderrig

- Brianne Neiswanger
- Beatriz Paul
- Hannah Raper
- Jessica Raymond
- Mike Robinson
- Rachael Scheidemante

- McKenzie Thompson
- Sarah Trembly
- Greg Van Gilder
- Mac Whittington
- Jordan Wilkes

**University of Wyoming**

**Master of Science**

**Nurse Educator**

- Nicole Becker
- Margot Bonifas
- Danielle Johnson
- Rachel Smith
- Kylie Tucker
- Marie Uzpen

**Nurse Leader**

- Crystal Hamblin
- Meredith Hein
- Colleen Lang
- Chelsey Petersen
- Rebecca Specht

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN Completion)**

- Theresa Argentina
- Emily Artzer
- Jody Bailey
- Alexandra Balph
- Mary Banaszynski
- Mary Barnes
- Amber Beckwith
- Jade Belknap
- Chris Bentsen
- Rachel Binder
- Dakota Bollinger
- James Britton
- Drake Broadbent
- Kaci Cole
- Kimberly Conner
- Cameron Devitt
- McKaela Edwards
- Katherine Elkind
- Mary Ferguson

- Kelsey Gillett
- Jalen Gravett
- Christy Griess
- James Hanna
- Sonya Haptonstall
- Nicole Harnden
- Lynette Hartman
- Courtnie Haskell
- Hannah Helvey
- Gabrielle Hirsch
- Trigger Jaggi
- Princika KC
- Kara Lafollette
- Angelica Lopez
- Samantha Lubenow
- Giavanna Marchetti
- Hannah Mayhew
- Leisa McDonnel
- Shelley Meier



- Alissa Mikesell
- Melissa Miller
- Amanda Mitchell
- Nichole Montoya
- Madelon Morgan
- Kara Munsey
- Kayla Nadon
- Sha'Laine Nelson
- Kaci O'Grady
- Ivan Olson
- Nicole Opitz
- Janet Paek
- Nicholas Palczer
- Priscilla Parker
- Megan Perkins
- Jennifer Pfisterer
- Payton Pontillo
- Callie Riotto
- Chelsea Rodekuhr

- Allison Stevie
- Heather Thoma
- Tanner Thorfinnson
- Sara Tripp
- Michelle Turner
- Taylor Tygum
- Elizabeth Van Horn
- Andrew Weaver
- Kaylei Weed
- Megan Welch
- Kai Wentz
- Rose Westbury
- Kaycee Will
- Emily Williams
- Noel Williams
- Cori Woods
- Elizabeth Yang

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Basic)**

- Ashlee Baldwin
- Bryanna Barrus
- Brianna Beale
- Monique Bjornson
- Elsa Blankenburg
- Kayla Boelsterli
- Elise Brooke
- Emma Brown
- Jordyn Cox

- Emily Dyson
- Joanna Farrell
- Shelby Hegdal
- Haylee Hoffman
- Mercedes Hovland
- Paige Hutton
- Shaylee Jelinek
- Paige Jewkes
- Jennifer Johnson

- Jenna Kindt
- Kelsey Kolkman
- Bailey McCoy
- Ty Mumford
- Morgan O'Connor
- Chelsea Olson
- Allison Orr
- Makayla Pzinski
- Hannah Rivera

- Krista Schaff
- Katie Schratel
- Courtney Schrock
- Megan Scott
- Kayla Sherrodd
- Jayson Simpson
- Torey Skaar
- Alexandra Smith
- Hayley Stromberg

- Nicole Tedesco
- Nicole Thiele
- Jordyn Vereecken
- Jessica Wiechman
- Lance Wilde

**University of Wyoming: Summer 2020 Graduates**

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BRAND Accelerated)**

- Jared Bloomston
- Austynn Brenize
- Megan Cartwright
- Traci Cole-Moench
- Amanda Cuevas
- Stephen Dunn
- Chelsey Ellis
- Hannah Greenwald
- Kimberly Gulbrandson

- James Hartman
- Tyrell Kirchhefer
- Sandy Kontour
- Ashly Moeller
- Lindsey Myers
- Kailee Nazminia
- Anne Peick
- Daniel Petrus
- Caitlin Reimer

- Emily Rosing
- Colby Shytle
- Nicole Simone
- Jesi Skretteberg
- Tyler Troy
- Emilie VenJohn
- Audrey West
- Kevin West
- Amelia Woodside

**Doctor of Nursing Practice / Family Nurse Practitioner**

- James Clark
- Justin Johnston
- Taylor Lenz
- Jenna Nazminia
- Jessica Rodriguez
- Greta Skagen
- Crysta Sullivan
- Lara Vanden Hoek

**Doctor of Nursing Practice / Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner**

- Jayme Donaldson
- Susan Finn
- Heather Judkins
- Travis Williamson

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# WELCOME WNA NEW MEMBERS!

NORTHEAST	NORTHWEST	CENTRAL	SOUTHWEST	SOUTHEAST
Hollie Kreul Sharon Monreal DeShannon Shore Annette Smith Abigail Youngs	Anna Atkinson Sophie Hood Brandy Kottman Marsha Sensat Michelle Wagers	Elisa Bauer Heather Jones Tiffany Larramendy Ingrid Long Christina Marchant Sheri Mead Catherine Monhollen Dianna Steinberg	Rachel Ball Carly Byrd Jennifer Roger Ashley Hall Shannon Thomas Keri Wiggins	Elissa Adkins Megan Beach Tracey Causey Michelle Crow Jeannete Daniel Elise Hilton Paula Kihn Jennifer Kreuter Holly Miller Amanda Taylor Charlotte Ward Georgena Worden

## WNA 2020 Awards

Wyoming has many nurses whose outstanding contributions should be recognized. Wyoming Nurses Association (WNA) has established several awards to recognize excellence in Wyoming nursing. Plan to nominate a nursing colleague. There is no easier way to bring the honor that they deserve. Award nominations are due to the WNA office by Friday, August 7, 2020.

The award committee will be reviewing nominations in August and award winners will be notified by August 21, 2020. The celebration and presenting of awards will be held during an awards luncheon on Friday, September 25, 2020, at the Clarion Inn in Casper, WY. The luncheon will begin at 1:00 p.m. followed by the awards presentation.

### Nomination Procedures

**Nominations should be emailed to:**

[nurse@wyonurse.org](mailto:nurse@wyonurse.org),

“Subject: Award Nomination” by **August 7, 2020.**

Nominations may be submitted for an individual, group or an organization.

### Each nomination must include the following:

1. Completed nomination form which can be downloaded from [www.wyonurse.org](http://www.wyonurse.org).
2. A narrative statement by the nominator outlining the accomplishments of the nominee and how these meet the established criteria for the award. The statements should describe the nominee’s compliance with the established criteria for the award as explicitly and concisely as possible.
3. At least one letter supporting the nomination, but no more than three letters of support for the nomination.
4. All nominations must be typed.

All nominations become the property of the WNA. WNA reserves the right to request further information related to a nomination. Incomplete nominations will

not be considered. Awardees will be notified of the Committee’s decision by **August 21, 2020.**

### NURSING LEADERSHIP IN THE WORKPLACE

This award is conferred on a Registered Nurse who has developed an innovative and unique approach to nursing theory and knowledge in any practice setting. They will be recognized as a role model of consistent high-quality nursing practices. This nurse will have created an environment of professional autonomy and control over their nursing practice. The nomination can come from a peer, patient, or supervisor. A letter of one page or less describing the attributes and examples of quality, professionalism, or a description of a specific event in which the nurse was exceptional will nominate the nurse for this award.

### NURSING LEADERSHIP IN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

This award is conferred on an Advanced Practice Nurse who has developed an innovative and unique approach to the provision of nursing in their practice setting. The APRN can be nominated for providing a positive impact to patients or peers in the work setting, or for the provision of autonomous practices. This nurse will have served as a role model for other APRNs. A letter of one page or less describing the attributes of the nurse will be required to nominate the Advanced Practice Nurse.

### EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP-LIGHTING THE WAY

This award is conferred on a WNA member who, during their career, has provided support to the values of the Wyoming Nurses Association and the profession of nursing in the state of Wyoming. A letter of nomination should include examples of the activities of the nominee which would show lifetime achievement in quality,

caring, service and/or dedication to innovation or provision of patient care.

### FACES OF OUR FUTURE NURSES

This award is given to one nurse from each Wyoming Region who has been licensed as a Registered Nurse for five years or less. The nominee will have become known in that time of practice since graduation for innovative practice, service in the community, or a specific program that will serve the public in the area where they practice. At least one nominee will be suggested by the leaders of the WNA Region and other nominees can be solicited from peers, nursing supervisors, or patients of the nominee. A letter of one page or less describing the attributes of the nurse will be required to nominate a new nurse for this important award. The five (5) Faces of our Future recipients will receive a one-year membership.

### INSPIRING OUR FUTURE NURSES

This award is given to a WNA member nursing instructor who has been a positive influence on the future nurses of Wyoming. A letter of nomination should include information about innovative teaching practices, instructional materials developed, new courses developed, major course improvement projects, grants or awards relating to teaching, and assessments of teaching by both students and peers. Instructional activities outside the classroom will also be considered. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, advisory activities, instructional activity in the community, and/or presentations related to teaching made at professional meetings.

### COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE AWARD

The Collaborative Practice Award will identify a health system or individual hospital for a collaborative project which shows an interdisciplinary approach to best practices that resulted in improved patient outcomes, or cost savings. The nomination letter should include the names of the project champions, and examples of how the project improved patient incomes or resulted in cost savings.

**SAVE THE DATE!!**  
**October 22, 2020**



### Topics to include:

- Nursing Ethics
- Spectrum of OSA
- Bariatric Patients
- Supportive Care
- Hot Topics in Pharmacy
- Neuro Disorders
- Alcohol Withdrawal
- Burnout & Self-care

For more information, please contact Patty Walker at 307-996-4736 or [patricia.walker@crmcwy.org](mailto:patricia.walker@crmcwy.org) for further details





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*Amber Salmon, RN  
Emergency Dept.*

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CURRENT POSITIONS go to: [conversehospital.com/nursingcareers](http://conversehospital.com/nursingcareers)

# Approved 2020 WNA Strategic Plan

The strategic plan gives the Board a frame work to continue to follow our mission of promoting the profession of nursing, provide a unified voice for nurses, and advocate for a healthier Wyoming.



## STRATEGIC PLAN 2020

**Mission:** To promote the profession of nursing, provide a unified voice for nurses, and advocate for a healthier Wyoming.

**Vision:** Wyoming Nurses Association will collaboratively lead to advance nursing practice through the distribution of resources, influence and advocacy for the promotion of healthcare in Wyoming.

### POLICY



**Goal:**  
We serve as the voice of nursing on important issues and policies that impact the nursing community. We are at the table with local, state, and federal officials advocating for the profession.

**#1 Strategy:** Activate the Legislative Committee per our Bylaws.

**#2 Strategy:** Legislative Committee to develop a process for creating, updating, and reviewing our legislative agenda. To be completed by August 30, 2020, and presented at the annual membership meeting.

**#3 Strategy:** Lead in legislation and health policy by recommending positions on current legislative issues to the Board while keeping members informed on legislative affairs.

### HEALTHY NURSE



**Goal:**  
We will continue to lead efforts that foster a safe, ethical environment that supports the health and wellness of nurses in all settings.

**#1 Strategy:** Promote a work environment that encourages a healthy and safe workplace through educational opportunities.

**#2 Strategy:** Incorporate membership health activities and food selections in WNA sponsored events.

**#3 Strategy:** Host a fitness event or activity that promotes self-care.

### MEMBERSHIP CULTIVATION



**Goal:**  
Grow (net) membership by 15% (65 members) by the end of 2020.

**#1 Strategy:** Create a communications committee that is chaired by the Vice President.

**#2 Strategy:** Communications committee to work with staff in developing messages that drive membership through various channels and audiences.

### PROFESSION OF NURSING



**Goal:**  
Advance the nursing profession to be a leader in WY healthcare.

**#1 Strategy:** Each Region will highlight a nursing event, member, or story in a community publication before August 30, 2020.

**#2 Strategy:** Request WNA Region leaders to research and communicate to members openings on local boards.

**#3 Strategy:** WNA to include ANA staff in an event in 2021 or 2022 to focus on nurses as healthcare leaders.

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DCN is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), (www.hlcommission.org) (800-621-7440). Our associate and baccalaureate programs are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326 (404-975-5000).

FOR CONSUMER INFO VISIT [WWW.DENVERCOLLEGEONURSING.EDU](http://WWW.DENVERCOLLEGEONURSING.EDU)

## HEALTHY U online

an evidence-based health self-management program for people with chronic health conditions.

Healthy U is a FREE, 6 week health workshop that is now being offered ONLINE to residents of Wyoming. Participants learn a variety of strategies to improve their health. Refer patients so they can learn how to better manage their chronic conditions.

Offered in partnership with the Department of Health Aging and Public Health Divisions.



[healthyuwyo.org](http://healthyuwyo.org)

[dduhamel@uwyo.edu](mailto:dduhamel@uwyo.edu)

307-766-2765



Wyoming Center on Aging



Stanford MEDICINE



Wyoming Department of Health

# Region News



## Northwest Region President

### Linette Johnson, MSN, RN

We'd like to thank those nurses and healthcare providers in the northwest region that are continuing to work during this time. We thank those fighting the elements, working in tents at testing sites for COVID-19. We thank schools and public health nurses for coordinating vaccinations so students can prepare for a return to school in the fall. And we're thankful for the many nurse educators that are finishing their semester strong, ensuring quality education for nursing students soon to graduate. Each of you is a vital part of our team, and we value your commitment to this organization and community.

We would also like to share some of the fantastic things that nurses in our Region are doing. Nursing is innovation! We are pleased to recognize Park County Public Health Nurses and PCSD#1 Nurses for thinking outside the box and doing what nurses do best!

Due to the current pandemic, many end-of-year activities have been cancelled and or postponed. Realizing the significance of childhood immunizations and the ongoing changes in the availability of resources, these nurses collaborated to find a workable solution to assist parents/students in meeting TDap requirements for middle schoolers. Traditionally, the two entities would hold a clinic at school to assist parents/students in meeting this requirement. School closures and social distancing eliminated this approach. These nurses have stepped up; they are working to provide a drive-through TDap clinic that complies with social distancing guidelines, and they are using electronic paperwork to reduce the risk of cross-contamination and surface exposure that is present with the exchange of traditional paperwork. Outstanding work, and way to go, PCSD#1 and Park County Public Health!



**Edy Homan, RN and Courtney McRann, RN**



**Emma Groteluschen, RN**



**Liz Knap, Crystal Smith, and Kristen Hepp at Johnson County Health**



**Kristina Duarte, RN at Johnson County Health**



**Mary Litzel, RN, DON at Johnson County Health**



**Lacey Johnson, MSN, RN at Johnson County Health**



**Allison Gagliano, RN at Johnson County Health**

## Northeast Region President

### Lacey Johnson, MSN, RN

Happy Nurses Month from the WNA Northeast Region. The last few months have been a whirlwind for all our organizations. There are daily unknowns, paired with changes that occur with what our teams are preparing for because of COVID-19. Most of us have either had discussions about Incident Command or practiced in roles for an incident. However, most of us have never had experience with planning for a true pandemic. Changing the "norm" is difficult for most, especially nurses. We worry about how we are going to adequately care for our patients, worry about our patients not having family members to visit, and worry about our own health and families. We watch the news and hear the stories of the areas being impacted so significantly that the nurses don't have PPE to stay safe.

When we, Wyoming Nurses, worry about these things, we remember our partners in the state. We think about our peers and what they are experiencing at their facilities. We wonder if we can help the state "hot spots." We ask ourselves what else we can do. Why do we do this? It is simply because we are nurses and we care about each other. During these times we realize that we are all in this together. There is communication between hospitals and nursing homes, as well as communication between hospitals across the mountains asking, "What are you doing to get ready, and what can



**Stephanie Painter, CNA at Johnson County Health**



**Meghan Reinemer, RN**



**Jennifer Cramer, Jessica Nyberg, Cary Durham, Lisa Lyles, Tandie Garland, and Kim George at Sheridan Memorial**

we do to help?" Wyoming is a strong state that cares for each other; we are western living.

Many of our nurses have also become teachers at home! This situation is a challenge and, for most, a new concept. Juggling being a full-time nurse during a pandemic and being a home school mom or dad adds a little excitement to the day. Hang in there; summer break is coming.

The nursing homes in our region are working hard in preparation and planning for COVID-19. Their challenges come with keeping the residents healthy and occupied. When a family cannot visit the nursing home resident, it



**Lisa Lyles, Marilyn Wasson, Jeanna Duncan, Hanneah Passini, and Kenya Stewart at Sheridan Memorial**

## Kathy Luzmoor, MS, RN, CNE WNA President



Nursing has been an amazing career and way to achieve personal development. I graduated from a Michigan ADN program in 1977. I began working on my BSN from the University of Wyoming in 1981 and graduated in 1985, it was when distance education meant waiting two weeks for snail mail to return your course work! I worked in many areas and enjoyed them all until I became a hospital case manager in 1994. I loved that job, nursing and patient advocacy all rolled into one! I was certified as a case manager. In 2006 I made the jump to nursing education, in part because I knew I would need to get a master's degree and I was ready for more. I received a master's degree in nursing education from UW in 2009. I remained in nursing education until I retired in 2017 from full time employment. I am certified as nurse educator. As nurses we must always be growing. There is no reason to ever become bored, there are too many opportunities. Seeking further education and certifications was a way for me to keep growing. It was a path I will never regret. My personal development is closely tied to my involvement with WNA, joining because it was suggested by my BSN faculty in 1985. I have had great opportunities and met amazing people in my WNA/ANA journey.

Don't be afraid of new things, new positions, new employment, further education or volunteer opportunities. They will all help you to grow as a person and a nurse!

is a whole new challenge. Being productive and working together to develop new ways for the residents to occupy their time has been a positive outcome for their teams.

I wanted to share some great stories from our region:

At Johnson County Health in Buffalo, teams have been working hard to prepare and plan for an influx of patients. Their community has stepped up, and they have volunteers helping with door screening. Their nurses are working together and caring for each other as a strong team.

Sheridan Memorial Hospital is also working in its facility to prepare for an influx of patients. The clinic staff has been redeployed to inpatient areas to orient in preparation for a potential increase in cases. The team has been very willing to go wherever the needs are to orient and offer a helping hand. One of the great collaborative events that took place was the team that

# Region News



developed the donning and doffing process for all areas of the organization. Thanks to Jennifer Rasp-Vaugh, RN for her work in developing the team, implementing the training, and completing face to face training with CAPR 364/370 staff in eleven days!

We continue to work to prepare, and as time goes on and things go back to "normal," we will continue to think about our peers across the state. We are all in this together and look forward to summer weather and healthy communities.

## Southeast Region President Shawn Wyse, RN

When trying to decide what to write about, I came across this quote from Clara Barton: "How very little can be done under the spirit of fear." It rings true as we are living in very uncertain and scary times. I want to share a recent experience. I was asked to go to California to provide COVID-19 testing on first responders, health care workers, government staff, and the at-risk population. At first I thought, "Gosh, do I want to do that with all the risks?" So, I held off answering for a day. I received a call the next day and learned they were having a challenging time staffing the event because of fear. I thought, "I am a nurse. This is what we do; we see a need, we fill the need. We give and do for others." So 48 hours later, I was on a plane to California. I brought my mask, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes on the plane with me. I wore a mask; I cleaned my seat tray table, armrest, seat, air vents, and anything else I would touch. The airline required everyone to wear a mask on the plane. When we landed, I found half of the people wore masks and were concerned, while the other half were living daily life as usual.

At the event, people were asked to sign up online for the testing and given an appointment time. Social distancing was used as people lined up outside to wait for their appointment. An admin staff member checked each person in and gave them a test kit, which they then took back to my station. I verified their information as I sat in full PPE behind a screen. They then sat in a chair, and I administered the test. Most of those who received tests ranged from having no symptoms to having only minor cold-like symptoms. We only had a handful that concerned us.

The coronavirus has made cities and towns throughout the whole country panic. As nurses, people look to us for direction; if we panic, they panic. So we have to stay calm and educate to the best of our ability. The media seems to be provoking panic. I find it interesting we have a security guard for crowd control, yet everyone has been orderly. I expected to have people panicking and coming in large numbers, overtaking us, but that hasn't happened. If we hear misinformation shared, we need to educate the truth.

Am I scared of this virus? Yes. Am I worried about becoming infected at work? Somewhat. However, I know the PPE and the precautions I am using will help protect me and bring my chances down. I want to remind everyone that if you need guidance or resources to get supplies. You can reach out to anyone on the WNA board, and we will help find resources to fill your needs. I admire those in our regions and our state who are working on the front lines and treating positive patients. You are giving yourself; you're giving up your time with your families, and you are truly my heroes. I am confident that we will educate the public and continue to share the necessary knowledge to keep everyone safe as we face the spirit of fear from COVID-19.

## Southwest Region President Carla Lee, MS, RN, CNE

Nurses Week 2020 is quite different from years past. We have missed gathering for brunch, celebrating the wonderful nurses in our Region.

Nurses week is a time for recognition, and time for nurses to be honored for the great work that they do.

I believe that now, more than ever, nurses are being regaled as heroes. COVID-19 has brought devastation. However, there is a silver lining with it as well. Nurses, and other healthcare professionals, are being acknowledged for the hard work and dedication that comes with the profession.

Various Sweetwater County entities (hospice, hospitals, long term care facilities, Western Wyoming Community College, etc.) came together to ensure planning for COVID-19. We have seen an outpouring of support from the community. Donations have been made to healthcare workers at these locations. During this time, we have seen how the little things mean so much, whether that is a free cup of coffee, masks, mask clips, or a meal.

I hope that during this time you remember to take care of yourselves as the demands of your job have changed. Taking a walk, doing yoga, reading a book, or simply just taking a few cleansing breaths might get you back to center and able to carry on with your day.



Local long-term care facilities have been creative with keeping families connected to residents. Arranging meetings through windows, as well as Mother's Day drive-by parades, are some of the ways that facilities have worked to keep families connected. (pictured: Mission at Castle Rock)

Southwest region would also like to acknowledge our newest members: Carly Byrd, Jennifer Roger, Keri Wiggins, Shannon Thomas, and Ashley Hall. We are happy to have you!

Southwest Region Board of Directors wants to thank you all for doing great work. You are appreciated. Stay healthy!

## Central Region President Aubrey Bremer, MSN, RN

First, I'd like to express my gratitude for each and every one of you. Nurses are the hub of patient care, and in many of our lifetimes the role of the nurse has never received more acknowledgment than it has in the past few months. Frankly, I am in awe at the incredible support and recognition from our communities, our state, our nation, and even the world. Daily, nurses are making a difference on so many levels and are being consulted to help make decisions about how best to handle this unprecedented pandemic. While we work through many emotions from anxiety to exhilaration, we need only to look to our education and training as nurses to become grounded and find the best way to provide safe care. This uncertain time has presented us with an incredible opportunity to showcase and advocate for the value that the nursing profession brings to enhancing care for patients, while promoting for the safety of all involved. While some of our care team partners are working to identify the cure for COVID-19, nurses are on the front lines focusing on those currently affected and keeping those that haven't been infected healthy. There is no other profession positioned to provide the hands-on holistic care the way that nurses can and for that I am very proud to be a part of this incredible profession.

The WNA and the ANA have created tools and resources available to their members to help navigate the pandemic, not only for patient care but also for your personal self-care. If you're not taking care of yourself, it can be difficult to provide the best care for your patients. I hope you will take a few minutes to learn more about these resources.

Last, I'd like to welcome the newest members in the Central region since the beginning of the year:

Please help me in welcoming...Angela Johnston, Michelle Hoffman, Ingrid Long, Catherin Monhollen, Sheri Med, Tiffany Larramendy, Health Jones, Dianna Strindberg, Cristina Marchant, Elsie Bauer, and Sheri Mead.

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**2020**  
YEAR OF THE NURSE

**CELEBRATING WYOMING'S NURSES**



**2020 WNA NURSING SUMMIT & CONVENTION**

September 24-25, 2020 | Clarion Inn, Casper, WY

2020 is the year of the nurse, Florence Nightingale's 200th birthday, the year of the coronavirus pandemic. Nurses have been the backbone of 2020, making sacrifices of their own personal health and well-being to care for COVID-19 patients, and stepping up with new innovations to improve patient care and safety for patients and providers in during the pandemic response. Join us September 24 & 25, 2020 to recognize and celebrate you and your fellow Wyoming nurses.

This year's conference and annual meeting will take place Thursday, September 24, and Friday, September 25th at the Clarion Inn in Casper, Wyoming.

For more information, visit [www.wyonurse.org](http://www.wyonurse.org). If you have any questions, please contact the WNA office at [nurse@wyonurse.org](mailto:nurse@wyonurse.org) or (307) 462-2600.

**DEMOGRAPHICS OF THOSE WHO ATTEND**

This conference is designed to support nurses in all stages of their career. The purpose of the conference is to celebrate, honor, and learn from the sacrifices and contributions nurses make every day.

**CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES:**

1. Identify ways and the importance to get involved at the state or local level to impact issues that affect nursing and healthcare.
2. Understand a nurses vital and diverse role in a pandemic response.
3. Identify ways to improve self-care during stressful times.

**EDUCATION EXHIBITOR & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

WNA invites interested vendors to share product expertise with us during the conference. For more information on these opportunities, contact WNA Office by email at [nurse@wyonurse.org](mailto:nurse@wyonurse.org) or please call, (307) 462-2600.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS**

This activity has been submitted to the Ohio Nurses Association for approval to award contact hours. The Ohio Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. (OBN-001-91) Pending approval, participants can receive a maximum of 6.0 contact hours for attending this activity.

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**AGENDA**

<b>Thursday, September 24, 2020</b>	
<b>6:00 – 8:00 pm</b>	Thursday night reception: Celebration of Wyoming's Nurses
<b>Friday, September 25, 2020</b>	
<b>7:45 – 8:30 am</b>	WNA Annual Membership Meeting
<b>8:30 – 9:00 am</b>	Visit with Exhibitors & View Posters
<b>9:00 – 10:00 am</b>	Innovation in Nursing
<b>10:00 – 10:30 am</b>	Break with Exhibitors & Poster Presenters
<b>10:30 – 11:30 am</b>	Public Health Lessons Learned
<b>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</b>	Panel Discussion: Calm in the Midst of Crisis
<b>1:00 – 2:15 pm</b>	Awards luncheon & visit with exhibitors and poster presenters
<b>2:15 – 3:15 pm</b>	The Voice of Nursing
<b>3:15 – 3:45 pm</b>	Break with Exhibitors & Poster Presenters
<b>3:45 – 5:00 pm</b>	How to Be an Unforgettably Positive Nurse <i>Tena Brown</i>
<b>5:00 pm</b>	Closing Remarks

*\*Agenda is still being finalized, sessions may be added or changed depending on speaker availability.*

**ATTENDEE REGISTRATION**

**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:**  
**AUGUST 31, 2020**

Register online at:  
[www.wyonurse.org](http://www.wyonurse.org)

**HOTEL INFO**  
Individual attendees making reservations for the event directly with the Clarion Inn's reservation department, can do so by calling 1-307-439-2074.

- Cut-Off Date:** 9/3/2020
- Check-In Time:** 3:00 pm
- Check-Out Time:** 11:00 am

At the cut-off date, Clarion Inn will release the unreserved rooms for general sale. Any reservation received after the cut-off date will be accepted at the best available rate.



**CALL FOR POSTER ABSTRACTS**  
**DEADLINE: AUGUST 3, 2020**

Have a great Research and Evidence-Based, Information or Quality Improvement Project? Present it in a poster during the Wyoming Nurses Association (WNA) Nursing Summit and Convention on Friday, September 25, 2020 at the Clarion Inn in Casper, Wyoming. Posters are open to nursing professionals and students. The following types can be submitted:

- Research
- Quality Improvement—pilot projects, clinical innovation, and change projects
- Informational

**Submit to present today**  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/WNA2020Posters](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WNA2020Posters)

\$250 prize money will be awarded to the top presenters! All applications need to be submitted electronically by Friday, August 3, 2020. Notification of poster acceptance will take place by August 14, 2020.

Each poster presenter must register for the conference and be available to present on Friday, September 25. Posters must be displayed on a trifold, free-standing poster board no larger than 3'X4'.

For more information, visit: [www.wyonurse.org](http://www.wyonurse.org). If you have questions regarding poster abstracts, contact the WNA office at (307) 462-2600 or [nurse@wyonurse.org](mailto:nurse@wyonurse.org).

**POSTER SCHEDULE**

<b>Thursday, September 24, 2020</b>	
<b>6:00 – 8:00 pm</b>	Networking Reception: Celebrate Wyoming's Nurses
<b>Friday, September 25, 2020</b>	
<b>7:00 – 7:45 am</b>	Poster set-up
<b>7:45 – 9:00 am</b>	Breakfast with exhibitors and poster presenters
<b>10:00 – 10:30 am</b>	Attendee break with exhibitors and poster presenters
<b>1:00 – 2:15 pm</b>	Lunch with exhibitors and poster presenters
<b>3:15 – 2:45 pm</b>	Afternoon break with exhibitors and poster presenters
<b>4:00 pm</b>	Poster Teardown

**SHIPPING PROCEDURES**

Upon request of the hotel, when shipping packages to the hotel, they ask that packages be shipped to arrive no more than four days prior to the event. All packages must be addressed as follows:

**Clarion Inn**  
Attn: WNA Event 9-24-9/25  
(Exhibitor Company Name & Contact)  
123 W E St. Casper, WY 82601

CELEBRATING WYOMING'S NURSES





**CELEBRATING  
WYOMING'S  
NURSES**



## 2020 WNA NURSING SUMMIT & CONVENTION

September 24-25, 2020 | Clarion Inn, Casper, WY

Wyoming Nurses Association (WNA) invites your organization to participate in a celebration of leadership and innovation. This year's conference and annual meeting will take place Thursday, September 24 and Friday, September 25, 2020 at the Clarion Inn located at 123 W E St., Casper, WY 82601.

All sponsorships over \$500 include a FREE exhibit booth (the fee of \$300 will be waived)! As an exhibitor, you can showcase your company's products and services for one day in a high-traffic area where attendees gather between sessions and enjoy their meals.

We look forward to hearing back from you before the application deadline of September 9, 2020. For more information, visit [www.wyonurse.org](http://www.wyonurse.org). If you have any questions, please contact the WNA office at [nurse@wyonurse.org](mailto:nurse@wyonurse.org) or 307.462.2600.

### Exhibitor Scavenger Hunt

Exhibitors/Sponsors are asked to donate a prize item that will be given away during each break with Exhibitors. Conference attendees must be present to win. Conference attendees will be encouraged to visit each exhibitor. Participants will be tracked via our conference app, and those will be used to draw names for the raffle prizes. To participate, please note your raffle item in addition to indicating your exhibitor level on the online registration form.

## EXHIBITORS

Exhibit Hall open on Friday, September 25, 2020. We invite exhibitors and sponsors to join us for the Wyoming Nurses Celebration from 6-8 pm on Thursday, September 24.

### Exhibit Table – \$250

- Company name on mobile app with clickable link
- Two company representatives at exhibitor table
- Breaks and lunch included
- 8-foot linen-draped exhibitor table with two chairs
- Exhibit space centrally located in meeting area where food will be served
- Booth placement will be determined by WNA staff with priority given in order of sponsorship levels

### Video Add On – \$300

- Add a short video to your listing on our mobile app



## SPECIALTY SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Celebrate Wyoming Nurses Reception Sponsor – \$1,000 (five available)

Exhibit level, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link, social media recognition, one social media post, podium shout outs, one push notification, one banner ad, opportunity to address attendees during the reception on Thursday, September 24 and two complimentary conference registrations.

### Poster Sponsor – \$500 (one available)

Exhibit level, exclusive signage in poster area, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link and social media recognition.

### Lanyard Sponsor – \$500 (one available)

Exhibit level, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link and social media recognition.

### Audio/Visual & Wi-Fi Sponsor – \$500 (one available)

Exhibit level, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link and social media recognition.

### Attendee Gift Sponsor – \$1,250 (one available)

Company logo on attendee conference gift, exhibit level, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link, social media recognition, podium shout outs, two push notifications and one banner ad.

### Banner Ads – \$250 (five available)

Clickable banner app on mobile app.

**Exhibitors and Sponsors register online at:**

**[www.wyonurse.org](http://www.wyonurse.org)**

## MEAL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Harvest Lunch Sponsor – \$1,250 (one available)

Exhibit level, exclusive signage at lunch, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link, social media recognition, podium shout outs, one push notification, one complimentary conference registration.

### Coffee Break or Energy On-the-go Sponsor – \$750 (two available)

Exhibit level, exclusive signage at breaks, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link, social media recognition, podium shout outs and one push notification.

*\*Energy On-the-go break will be available during and after membership meeting.*

## EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Keynote Sponsor – \$1,500 (two available)

Exhibit level, exclusive signage at front of general session room, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link, podium shout outs, one push notification, one banner ad, three customized social media posts during August/September, one complimentary conference registration.

### Education Session Sponsor – \$500 (one available)

Exhibit level, exclusive signage at front of general session room, company name on mobile app and WNA website with clickable link, social media recognition, podium shout outs, one push notification, four customized social media posts in September and one complimentary conference registration.

## EXHIBITOR SCHEDULE

### Thursday, September 24, 2020

**3:00 – 5:00 pm** Exhibitor and poster set-up

### Friday, September 25, 2020

**7:00 – 8:00 am** Exhibitor and poster set-up

**8:30 – 9:00 am** Breakfast and exhibit area open

**10:00 – 10:30 am** Attendee break with exhibitors and posters

**1:00 – 2:15 pm** Lunch with exhibitors

**3:15 – 3:45 pm** Afternoon break with exhibitors

**4:00 pm** Exhibitor Teardown



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# DID YOU KNOW?

## 1. Chlamydia and Gonorrhea infections can occur in three different sites?

Genital tests can be negative yet the patient could still be infected and able to transmit from extra-genital sites of infection.

To find out more about three-site (extra-genital) testing go to:

<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/communicable-disease-unit/sexually-transmitted-disease/health-professional-resources/>

## 2. The CDC recommended treatment for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea are:

- Chlamydia: 1g Azithromycin (four 250mg tabs) in one dose, once
- Gonorrhea: 1g Azithromycin (four 250mg tabs), one dose, once  
AND  
250 mg Ceftriaxone IM, one dose, once

To view the CDC 2015 STD Treatment Guidelines go to:

[health.wyo.gov/publichealth/communicable-disease-unit/hiv-prevention-program/](https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/communicable-disease-unit/hiv-prevention-program/)

## 3. The KnowWyo Program offers low or no cost HIV, STD, and hepatitis testing at testing sites across Wyoming.

KnowWyo also offers free condoms dispensers throughout Wyoming and a free condom mailer program.

For more information go to: <https://knowyo.org/>

Prevention messaging can also be found on the KnowWyo Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/knowyo/](https://www.facebook.com/knowyo/)

## 4. PrEP is a daily prescription pill for HIV-negative people who are at risk of getting HIV and it decreases the chance of acquiring HIV by 90%.

For more information go to: [wyprepmatters.com/](http://wyprepmatters.com/)

Please contact our Wyoming Communicable Disease Unit (CDU) Prevention Program Manager, Leslie Fowler, BSN, RN, at [leslie.fowler@wyo.gov](mailto:leslie.fowler@wyo.gov) for additional information regarding CDU programming.



[health.wyo.gov/publichealth/communicable-disease-unit/](https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/communicable-disease-unit/)

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