

# West Virginia Nurse



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May, June, July 2011

*“Nurses working together for a healthy West Virginia”*

Quarterly circulation approximately 35,000 to all RNs, LPNs, and Student Nurses in West Virginia.



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Coach, I'm  
Ready to Play**  
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**Unity Day 2011 - Nurses  
Light the Way!**



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## President's Message

Warm Sunny Days ahead, this is my vision for all of West Virginia Nurses and our professional association, with the cold winter and wet spring blooming into a sunny future. As the beautiful mountains lands, that we call home, under goes the changes of the seasons so has the West Virginia Nurses Association. So let me up date you on all the transitions that have developed over the last few months.

First the West Virginia Nurses Association is pleased to have a new executive director Ruth Blevins. If you have a chance, please give her call and welcome her to our professional nursing family. Ruth is a nurse and will now be the sole employee of the association running the office and managing the day to day affairs of the West Virginia Nurses Association (WVNA). We are very pleased and lucky to have her aboard and know we are in good hands. We have had to say a sad good bye to Monique Fortson when the decision to down size was made. We wish her the best. We



Elizabeth Baldwin

also saw our trusted past Executive Director Steve McElroy move up to a very exciting and promising position as chief of staff to the senate president. We are very excited by this move and wish him the best.

Next we moved to a new office location. Although, we have kept the same post office box for communications and the same phone numbers. Anyone who has ever experienced a move knows this is a time of reorganization. So we have appreciated the understanding of anyone who has experienced delays during this phase. We also have an updated web site thanks to Ruth's initiatives. Updates and repairs were desperately needed so we are glad to be up and running again, please check us out at [www.wvnurses.org](http://www.wvnurses.org). Our new site has many exciting and interactive features including: job postings and an interactive calendar, on which you may advertise to list your upcoming local nursing and health care events. We will be advertising nursing classes to advance your educational opportunities. We are working to get on line, free, ANCC, CEU, educational events for all nurses. This will include factual educational information on health reform and how it will affect nurses and our clientele in WV. WVNA also now has an active Facebook site for direct comments

and interaction. Please join us as a friend for fast updates and postings on nursing activities across the state. These are just a few of the exciting opportunities open to all nurses on our new web site.

Our membership has also gone through a drastic change. We are welcoming many new student members to our newly developing student nurse congress. This is very affordable and a great way to embrace the nursing profession in West Virginia. WVNA is aware that student nurses will help form a dynamic future for the leadership of all WV Nurses. We have also started a special membership through the West Virginia Association for LPNs. Discounts and specials are being offered at this time to both groups to grow a strong professional congress. We want all nurses represented in our future for WV. Check out our Web site for the special rates or contact Ruth at the central office. Finally WVNA has transferred the management and union responsibilities of the collective bargaining nurses to the national representation of the Southern United Nurses. Therefore WVNA has dissolved the economic and general welfare congress of our nurses association. These nurses are always WELCOME as professional nursing members of the WVNA as is every nurse in West Virginia to join our association in strengthening the VOICE of all nurses to represent the needs of nurses and our patients in the ever changing health care arena.

Join me and the leading professional nurses in West Virginia in welcoming a new season of sunny days and a bright future to the West Virginia Nurses Association. WVNA is your association. Join today to start creating your professional future.

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Office Hours: 8:30am-4:30pm

## National Nurses Week 2011

**National Nurses Week 2011 Nurses Trusted to Care**

National Nurses Week (NNW) is celebrated annually from **May 6**, also known as **National Nurses Day**, through May 12, the birthday of **Florence Nightingale**, the founder of modern nursing. Log on to ANA for the NNW **History** page.



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# Nurse Unity Day 2011, Nurses Light the Way!

**Aila Accad, RN, MSN**

Continuing the legacy of nursing leadership in health reform, five hundred WV Nurses and Students gathered to "Light the Way in Health Care" at the WV Capitol on January 19, 2011.

An impressive march of white-coated nurses filled the four galleries of the WV House and Senate chambers. They demonstrated to our legislators the commitment of WV nurses for needed change in our health care system.

After a brief visual history of Nurse Leaders, who led major health reform initiatives, starting with Florence Nightingale, American Nurses Association President, Karen Daley, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, shared the big picture on health reform from a national perspective. She was followed by "Is there a Nurse in the House? Yep, Two!" Delegates Barbara "Bobbie" Hatfield, RN and Denise Campbell, RN, both WVNA members and members of the WV Legislature, passionately presented their views on WV priorities for health reform.

Award presentations were made to "Friends of Nursing", Delegate Margaret Staggars and Senator Jeffrey "Jeff" Kessler. Student Nurses heard an inspiring message from their WV Student Nurses Association, Legislative Director, Brittany Myers, who attends St. Mary's School of Nursing.

The morning session closed with Renate Pore, West Virginians for Affordable Health Care, sharing how nurses can become directly involved in implementing health reform in WV through the WV Health Reform Implementation Coalition Workgroups (see sidebar for details). WVNA is involved in several initiatives for nurses with WVAHC including a health reform CE program, training nurses to talk with the public about how the new health reform legislation will affect them and enrolling West Virginians in the Health



**Aila Accad**

Nurses who want to participate in health reform implementation can contact: West Virginian's for Affordable Health Care [www.wvahc.com](http://www.wvahc.com) or Aila Accad, RN at 304-344-9131 or [ailaspeaks@gmail.com](mailto:ailaspeaks@gmail.com).

Exchange.

To the tune of "Get Ready Cause Here We Come" the throng of nurses donned their white lab coats and marched to fill the Capitol Legislative House and Senate galleries and visit their legislators. Box lunches were enjoyed back in the Culture Center amid student poster presentations and exhibitor booths.

**Join WVNA Today! To join with WV Nurse Leaders, who make a difference as they Light the Way in Health Care**  
[www.wvnurses.org](http://www.wvnurses.org)  
or call 304-342-1169

ANA President Karen Daley kicked off the afternoon session with an insightful Q & A before joining a panel of WVNA nurse experts, who discussed the current legislative initiatives, put forth by the Health Policy and Legislative Committee. WVNA President, Beth Baldwin, introduced the panel following her presentation on "Principles for Effective Local & State Political Action". The panel members were Lorraine Reiser, PhD, CRNP (Advanced Practice), Brenda Isaac, RN, BSN, MA, NCSN (School Nurse Ratios), Robin A. Lewis, RN, EdD, MSN, BSN, FNP-BC, NP-C, CCRN (Nursing Faculty Tax Cuts), Rusty Holbert, RN, MROA, EMTP (WV Nurse Health Program).

Teams of nursing students presented their creative poster presentations. First and second place cash prizes were awarded to two teams from University of Charleston.

Nurse Unity Day 2011, once again proved the power of nurses to Light the Way in Health Reform when they link arms as colleagues to communicate a clear and unified message!

@ 2011 Aila Accad, RN

To purchase the DVD  
"Nurses: Leaders in Health Reform"  
Contact:  
Ruth at [ruth@wvnurses.org](mailto:ruth@wvnurses.org).

Aila Accad, RN, MSN, WVNA 2nd Vice President and Unity Day Chairperson and Emcee is a nurse futurist, award-winning speaker, bestselling author and certified life coach who supports nurses in relieving stress and inspiring leadership through innovative *Nurse Stress & Leadership* presentations and individual & group coaching programs. Contact her for speaking or coaching at: [www.ailaspeaks.com](http://www.ailaspeaks.com).

**See page 6 for a photo gallery of Unity Day.**



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The opinions contained herein are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Association.

WV Nurse reserves the right to edit all materials to its style and space requirements and to clarify presentations.

#### WVNA Mission Statement

To ensure a unified and powerful voice for all nurses, to advocate for enhancement and access to quality, professional, healthcare services for all citizens of West Virginia, and to promote the professional development of nurses to ensure the forward progress of our profession.

#### Executive Board

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#### WV Nurse Staff

**Charles Hossler, Ph.D.** - Editor  
**Ruth Blevins** - Managing Editor

**West Virginia Nurse Copy Submission Guidelines**  
All WVNA members are encouraged to submit material for publication that is of interest to nurses (especially in the following sections: Nightingale Tribute, District News and Members in the News). The material will be reviewed and may be edited for publication. There is no payment for articles published in the *West Virginia Nurse*.

Article submission is preferred in Word Perfect or MS Word format. When sending pictures, please remember to label pictures clearly since the editors have no way of knowing who persons in the photos might be.

**Copy Submission via email:** Only use MS Word for text submission. Please do not embed photos in Word files, send photos as separate jpg files.

**Approximately 1,600 words equal a full page in the paper. This does not account for headlines, photos, special graphics, pull quotes, etc.**

#### Submit material to:

West Virginia Nurse  
PO Box 1946, Charleston, WV 25327  
or Email: [ruth@wvnurses.org](mailto:ruth@wvnurses.org) or [centraloffice@a.gov](mailto:centraloffice@a.gov)

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# Editor's Message

## Winters Passing

Another winter has passed and the world has shaken off the bitter temperatures and drab brown clothing to adorn itself with the soft pedals of greenery. Everywhere you look, color has burst forth onto the scene and the warmth of spring abounds. The season of frigidity and ice has passed, or so it seems.

The West Virginia legislature has also closed the books on another winter season. Unfortunately, for the caregivers of the ill and infirmed, there is little to differentiate the new season from the one that just passed. It is as if the legislature left for warmer weather but left nursing frozen in time by ignoring important bills that could have made a dramatic difference in the health care provided in WV.

The West Virginia Nurses Association proposed several new bills to the legislature during the session that just closed. Two were extremely significant for the good they would have brought to the profession as well as the benefits that would have been realized by all of the citizens of our great state. Therefore, while realizing the importance of every bill proposed, I would like to speak to these two specific bills.

The first, Scope of Practice for APRNs, would have allowed advanced practice nurses to realize their full potential and provided nursing professionals the opportunity to set right a health system grossly out of balance. WVNA proposed to allow nurse practitioners the same rights they enjoy in other states: practice without collaboration. Once again the excuse that the quality of care would suffer if nurse practitioners were allowed to complete to provide medical care unimpeded by physicians was brought to the forefront. Yet, there is absolutely no substantiated evidence that this theory is correct. Indeed, there is a plethora of evidence that just the opposite is true. Several well designed studies demonstrate that nurse practitioners provide the same level of quality of care as physicians with absolutely no increase in malpractice when left to practice without oversight. Other studies suggest that nurse practitioners actually provide better quality of care to certain groups such as those with diabetes.

The Institutes of Medicine in their landmark report, "Crossing the Quality Chasm," actually promote less regulation of non-physician providers such as NP's. The IOM goes further to state that impeding APRN's through regulations inhibits innovative health care ideas that would benefit patients and recommend national standards of care

based on evidence. Nurse practitioners already practice using evidence-based protocols and follow closely the expert recommendations.

One might ask if nurse practitioners are only equal to physicians, why do we need to allow them more freedom. An obvious reason is cost. Studies show that Nurse practitioners deliver quality care at a fraction of the cost that physicians command. Secondly, left to their own devices, nurse practitioners take more time with patients and would dramatically increase access to care.

During this time of unprecedented growth in enrollment of insurance companies mandated by the Obama administration, access has gained greater importance when questioning the rationale behind allowing nurse practitioners to complete for medical care of patients. Medical schools will simply not be able to meet the demand for graduates leaving many without access to care without long waits and most physicians will not work outside of metropolitan areas. In rural states such as WV, that could mean thousands receive limited access to the quality care they deserve. Additionally, many physicians are now refusing to provide care for those enrolled in Medicare or recipients of Medicaid around the state and country because of reimbursement levels demonstrating that cost is driving many health care decisions. In this country, at this historic place in time, when the American congress has passed new health care reform laws to cover millions more with insurance, we simply cannot allow thousands of our fellow West Virginians to go without health care that is so desperately needed because a few members of the legislature hold to outdated and unproven beliefs.

The second piece of legislation that desperately needs to find a way through the bureaucratic red tape is the safe practice act for nurses. WVNA has been a strong advocate for passage of legislation to assure that WV nurses providing point of care

services at the bedside are not overwhelmed with assignments that include too many patients or with a number of patients that are too high acuity. We have worked tirelessly to obtain legislation that would limit the total number of patients per nurse based not solely on numbers, but on a formula that includes acuity, and the nurses skill set to arrive at a safe staffing level for nurses and patients. Each year, thus far, this bill has been stopped short of the committees by representatives that may no longer understand the profession of nursing but perhaps remembers the days of yesteryear when people of lesser acuity were admitted to hospital beds. I myself can remember holidays when families left loved ones in the hospital for days and although no one would ever dare say it out loud, many conversations around the lunch room table centered around possible explanations for questionable admissions. Today's medical surgical admissions, however, are often reminiscent of intensive care admissions of the past and many times today's ICU patient assignments need to be adjusted to allow more individualized care than ever before because the acuties are higher than ever before. Despite studies that demonstrate the efficacy of safe patient staffing legislation, the WV legislature has failed to address this significant issue and without a change in the old guard has given no indication of reconsideration. Yet, WVNA will fight on.

Yes, around the country winter has loosed its grip and spring is bursting forth. For nursing in WV however, spring is at least another long winter away. If you are a nurse and agree that the legislature needs to adopt more nursing friendly legislation, please consider joining your friends and colleagues in the WVNA. If you are a friend or spouse of a nurse, consider giving them the gift of membership to the WVNA. Through solidarity we can raise our voices to a level that no one, not even the WV legislature, can ignore.



## Put Me in Coach, I'm Ready to Play

Toni DiChiacchio, MSN, FNP-BC, is a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) currently working at WVU Hospital where she performs preoperative anesthesia consultations. Prior to moving to WV two years ago she practiced as a FNP in south Florida as a hospitalist. She is also a Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN) with years of emergency nursing experience. In 2009, she received the Nursing Excellence in Clinic Care award for the state of Florida from Nursing Spectrum Magazine. In addition to her nursing education, Toni holds Bachelor's Degrees in Accounting and Economics and practiced for over ten years as a Certified Public Accountant. Her varied interests and professional background has provided ample fodder for her essays published in the *Dominion Post* (Morgantown, WV) where she is currently serving on the Community Advisory Board.



Toni DiChiacchio

Dr. Stollings, refuses to put the bill on the committee's agenda, preventing its consideration.

Senate Bill 471 has 9 sponsors, including Dr. Foster, physician and Vice Chair of the Health & Human Services committee. It ends the requirement that Nurse Practitioners (NPs) collaborate with physicians to prescribe medication. Currently, WV NPs can order tests and diagnose illness, but to treat with medication they must have a collaborative agreement with a physician requiring periodic review of their prescriptions. The physicians do not have to be in the NP's office nor consulted at the time prescriptions are written.

In October, 2010 the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released *The Future of Nursing*, a report recommending all regulations limiting NPs practice be lifted. The IOM, a non-government, nonprofit organization, serves as the health branch of the National Academy of Science. It provides evidence-based healthcare recommendations to government and decision makers. The IOM leadership includes physicians and scholars.

Sixteen states and the District of Columbia allow independent practice for NPs with no detrimental effect. The largest US research done randomly assigned more than 1,300 patients to either a NP or a doctor. After six months outcomes were essentially the same in both groups. Other research has shown NPs are *better* than physicians in listening to patients.

A NP is a registered nurse with a minimum of a Master's degree, trained in diagnosing and managing illness and providing health maintenance. Most NPs practice as RNs for

years, spending thousands of hours administering medications, assessing, educating, and caring for patients to their best state of wellness. During graduate school, NPs are trained in pharmacology, health assessment, diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illness, often with the same texts used in medical schools. Unique to the training of the majority of NPs is the requirement that costs be considered. NPs learn how to most affordably, yet safely, diagnose and treat patients.

Senator Stollings will not run SB 471 through committee, because his office states he feels writing prescriptions is practicing medicine, reserved solely for physicians. When asked to give objective evidence to support his position his office stated "Senator Stollings' opinion is based on over 20-years of experience as a practicing physician."

Unfortunately the past 20 years of US healthcare left 30 million citizens uninsured and without primary care. With healthcare reform, those people will soon have insurance and be seeking care. They will find there are not enough physicians to provide that care. NPs have proven themselves primary care providers comparable to physicians. Eventually all states will have to allow the expansion of practice of NPs because of the increased demand for care. The real travesty is that NPs were always ready and willing to treat those 30 million uninsured with quality, cost-effective care but were relegated to the sidelines begging to get in the game. (*the article was originally published in the Dominion Post, March 7, 2011.*)

The legislature has a great opportunity to provide uninsured and underserved residents access to primary healthcare in WV. The bill is quietly dying in the Senate's Health & Human Services committee. The Chair of that committee,

## #1 Key to Burnout Prevention for Nurses

Aila Accad, RN, MSN

In over forty years specializing in stress and burnout, one thing is clear to me. Burnout does not come from just having a stressful job. Burnout is the result of people working in conflict with their deepest values.

Nurses have the capacity to work tirelessly and hard for many years when they feel good about themselves and the value of their work. Working for prolonged periods with no personal satisfaction from the effort is a situation ripe for burnout. While physical stress is tiring, the spiritual stress of being out of harmony with your truth—your values, is devastating.

In the fast paced, short staffed, techno world of inpatient medicine, it is easy to go for days without having those special, vital moments with patients you treasure. Fast moving attention to tasks rather than people is a sure set up for nurse burnout.

When nurses don't feel they have the time to take an extra moment to listen, to make eye contact, to touch a hand with compassion it hurts at a deep level. Both nurse and patient satisfaction suffer.



Aila Accad

You can prevent burnout by knowing what is truly important to you in the human connection with your patients. Then, creating and taking the time to be present, to notice those moments when you made that connection.

What is the most important value you hold about nursing? What is important to you when it comes to patient care? Is it connecting with that unique human being? Is it relieving their suffering? Is it the smile of thanks, or gratitude from a patient or family?

Think about the day when you came home exhausted, yet felt good inside about something you did for or experienced with a patient. What stands out in your mind at those moments that make them special to you? Where do you feel the warmth, lightness or joy in your body? Pay attention to these signals. These are the clues to what is most important to you, as a nurse. Then, look for opportunities in each day to create more of those experiences.

In workshops, I ask nurses to draw a picture of what nursing is about for them. Those pictures never contain pills, IVs, blood pressure cuffs, or charts and rarely a hospital bed. The pictures always show hearts, hands clasped with one another, smiling faces, and other symbols of connection between human beings. This is what nurses value most.

Nurses, while technically competent, also have strong values for human life, caring, support, love, comfort, listening, connecting and more. Acting on these values is what makes nurses come alive.

Take time to notice the moments you are connecting and living your value for meeting a human need. Be aware of being present with the other person while you are also busy doing the tasks of the day. Breathe in those moments and feel your heart expand. Feel the difference you are making.

You cannot burn out when your heart is aflame!

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Aila Accad, RN, MSN, is a Nurse Futurist, award-winning speaker, bestselling author and certified life coach who supports nurses in career and personal development. She creates innovative Nurse Stress & Leadership presentations and individual & group coaching programs. Contact her for speaking or coaching at: [www.ailaspeaks.com](http://www.ailaspeaks.com). Sign up for [www.tomorrownurse.com](http://www.tomorrownurse.com) and download "Tomorrow's Nurse: Reclaiming the Heart of Nursing" e-book for free

## American Nurses Association

### ANA Events

- ICN 2011 Conference: Nurses Driving Access, Quality and Health  
May 2-8, 2011  
Valletta, Malta
- National Nurses Week 2011  
May 6-12  
Celebrate 2011!
- ANCC Pathway to Excellence Conference™ 2011  
July 14-15, 2011  
Austin, TX
- 2011 ANCC National Magnet Conference  
October 4-6, 2011  
Baltimore, MD

# Legislative Update

## West Virginia Nursing Legislation 2011

### Lists of legislation followed during the 2011 legislative session and the progress of each bill

SB471—This bill was to end collaborative agreement and updating prescriptive authority—filed in senate Dr. Foster lead sponsor—referenced to Senate Health Committee—Chair Dr. Stollings never put it on the committee agenda. Excellent grass roots efforts of APN across the state with faxes, emails and phone calls. Senator Stollings would not respond to multiple requests and efforts to put the bill on the agenda.

(HB2881—was removed due to a legal typo error during house preparation of this bill that was to be a duplicate of SB471.)

HB 2142—Nurse patient ratio for hospital staffing—passed through house health subcommittee determined need for further study.

HB 3005 Safe Nurse Staffing to house Judiciary never placed on agenda

HB2264—Required employers to pay nurse for time on site referred to committee on health never placed on agenda.

HB2332—Loan forgiveness for nurses—initiated in house never placed on agenda

HB 30551 SB 446—Nursing faculty tax credit introduced to senate and house educational committees also reviewed by the state tax department and determined to have a fiscal note of \$700,000. Never advance by the educational house and senate committees to the agenda.

HB2946/ SB 440—2946 Requiring a prescription for drug products containing chemical precursors of methamphetamine. This was geared to reduce availability of access to this medication to decrease Meth labs. Initially bill listed medication as a schedule III. WVNA requested amendment made to schedule IV and has passed the House and moved to the Senate. 440 died in the Senate initially and HB2946 was voted down in the senate once it advanced.

HB 2868 requiring each school to have a school nurse on staff was referred to education committee in house never placed on agenda.

SCR 54 establishment of a commission to make independent recommendations to the Legislature on scope of practice issues Adopted in Senate moved to house rule and never placed on the House rule's agenda.

Thanks go out to Matt Walker for all his efforts as lobbyist for the WVNA

## West Virginia Advanced Practice Nurses Acknowledge Gubernatorial Candidate Jeff Kessler (D-Marshall)

Charleston, WV—West Virginia Advanced Practice Nurses announced today that they proudly present Gubernatorial candidate Jeff Kessler (D- Marshall) with the American Academy of Nurse Practitioner (AANP) State Award for of Excellence. This award recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution toward increasing awareness and acceptance of the Nurse Practitioner.

“We appreciate all the support Senator Kessler has given to Nurse Practitioners and appreciate that he recognizes that Nurse Practitioners are Primary Health Care Providers who give high quality, cost effective health care to all WV residents especially those in rural areas” says MM Damia Hayman, CFNP AANP WV State Representative.

This past legislative session Senator Kessler was among the many that sponsored Senate Bill 471 to expand prescriptive authority and improve quality, affordable and increase access to healthcare to the residents of WV.

“Senator Kessler has always advocated for improving and advancing healthcare in WV and we are pleased that the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners has recognized Acting Senate President Jeff Kessler and his legislative excellence and as Governor he will continue to support that all WV residents have greater access to affordable, quality healthcare “says Beth Baldwin, President of the West Virginia Nurses Association

Damia Hayman, CFNP  
Nurse Practitioner  
Gallipolis Ferry, WV 25515  
WV State Rep AANP  
President Chair of WVNA APN Congress

## Prescriptive Authority Bill Fails to Get Hearing

RE: SB 471-Updating Prescriptive authority and ending collaborative agreement. Update and 3 ACTION REQUESTS

Dear WV APN Congress Members—

Thank you for your efforts in helping move legislation that would update the prescriptive authority requirements and end the bureaucratic requirement of formal collaborative agreements. The grassroots efforts and response from NPs and CNMs this year were fantastic. Through your efforts we gained great legislative support, and were able to share what NP and CNM care can do for the patients in our state. Again, GREAT WORK! Thank you all for your participation. We would not have made these strides without you!

Unfortunately, the factor that prevented West Virginia from moving forward in this area was that our bill FAILED TO BE PLACED ON THE Health Committee AGENDA. Agenda placement is determined by the Chair of the Committee. We are already starting to regroup and look at how we can overcome this hurdle in the next legislative session. We have learned that relationships with legislators are critical to informing decisions and improving the healthcare system. At this time, we still need your efforts to keep relationships growing with legislators.

FIRST:

We specifically ask that you contact Senator Foster who was a great supporter of our legislation and thank him for his support on our legislation. Even if he is not your personal legislator, please send your appreciation as he was the Senator that introduced and lead sponsor of our bill. You can send your notes to:

Senator Dan Foster  
Room 223W, Building 1  
State Capitol Complex  
Charleston, WV 25305  
Capitol Phone: (304) 357-7866  
Business Phone: (304) 388-5977  
E-mail: [daniel.foster@camc.org](mailto:daniel.foster@camc.org)

SECOND:

Please contact all the legislators that you reached out to during our campaign—and all the Senators on the Health Committee—to express our appreciation for their time on our issue this session, and ask for their support next year to get this issue added to the committee agenda next session.

Here is our message at this time:

1. Thank you for looking for cost effective ways to improve healthcare services in our state.
2. NPs and CNMs are graduate prepared nurses that are educated and prepared evaluate, diagnose and prescribe treatments. We are valuable pieces in the solutions our state needs, but need to be utilized at the top of our education and skill to be of the most value.
3. While SB 471 failed to make the legislative committee calendar this year, please look to support that this legislation be heard and passed next year. The updates proposed in SB 471 would move West Virginia into alignment with professional healthcare regulations of the National Council of the State Boards of Nursing and the policy recommendations of the Institute of Medicine, the Josiah Macey Foundation, AANP, the National Health Policy Forum, and others.

THIRD:

We ask that you to put letters to the editor in all your local papers expressing your disappointment that this legislation was not even placed on the legislative committee agenda. Please invite your physician colleagues who supported us to call the BOM and their legislators to share that they are also disappointed.

We will be meeting with several legislatures in the next few weeks and months and we hope to get a jump on the legislation next year. Again, I am so proud of all of the APN's in the great state of West Virginia. You did it! We could not have asked more from you all. On behalf of the AANP and WVNA Thank You!

Damia Hayman, CFNP  
AANP WV State Representative  
WVNA APN Congress President

# Unity Day 2011 - Nurses Light the Way!



*Senator Jeff Kessler, (D-Marshall) & Beth Baldwin, RN President of WVNA as she presents him with the Friends of Nursing Award*



*Registration in the great hall of the Cultural Center*



*Aila Accad, RN on the stage addressing the student nurses from all over the state of WV*



*WVNA member Jan Gentry, RN who volunteered to help with registration.*



*Students listen as Karen Daley, RN President of ANA addresses them in the auditorium of the Cultural Center*



*Delegates' Bobby Hatfield, RN & Denise Campbell, RN of the House of Legislators*



*Karen Daley, RN President of ANA with Aila Accad, RN*



*Delegate Margaret Stagers with her Friends of Nursing Award*



*Student nurses on their way to the House of Legislators.*



West Virginians for Affordable Health Care

**Do you....**

- Want to be part of the health reform movement in West Virginia?
- Want to help your colleagues, friends and neighbors understand the Affordable Care Act, the national health reform law?
- Want to be a part of the effort to preserve, protect and improve the Affordable Care Act?

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care invites you to join dozens of other concerned West Virginians to become part of this important movement to make health security a reality in our state. Join us to learn more and become part of a growing network promoting health reform in West Virginia.

The Affordable Care Act is one of the most complex and important health care and reform legislation passed in the last forty-five years. Not since the passage of Medicare and Medicaid in

1965 has a reform act been passed that will have as significant an impact as the Affordable Care Act.

**Topics to be discussed include:**

- Creation of an effective and equitable Health Exchange in West Virginia
- Who will be covered under the expansion of Medicaid
- Opportunities for coverage for families with children, individuals, people with disabilities, seniors, young adults, and employers
- What is in effect now and what will become effective in 2014
- How will those on Medicare be affected by the Affordable Care Act
- How will the Affordable Care Act improve quality
- How you can help.

There is no charge to attend the session. We will provide you with lunch and materials. We only ask that you educate at least 50 people in your community about the Affordable Care Act after this free training. We will provide you with lunch, a DVD of real West Virginians and the impact that the ACA has had on their lives, training materials, a sample training agenda, and a discussion guide so you will be ready to hold an educational meeting when you return home.

Registration begins at 9:30 and the workshop will be held from 10:00 am–2:30 pm as follows:

- Saturday, May 2 in Morgantown, place to be decided.
- Saturday, June 4 in Wheeling, place to be decided.
- Saturday, June 11 at the at the Armory in Beckley.
- Saturday, June 18 in Martinsburg , place to be decided.
- Saturday, June 25 in Parkersburg, place to be decided.
- Saturday, July 9 at John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston.
- Saturday, July 16 at Corbly Hall at Marshall University in Huntington.

Please RSVP [pbryant@wvahc.org](mailto:pbryant@wvahc.org) or 304-344-1673 to ensure your space, lunch and training materials at the session. Free CEU's will be provided for nurses and social workers. For further information check the web sites [www.wvahc.org](http://www.wvahc.org) or [www.healthreformwv.org](http://www.healthreformwv.org), or contact Perry Bryant at the email or phone number listed above.

## West Virginians Celebrate One Year Anniversary of the Affordable Care Act

Organizations representing thousands of West Virginians gathered on March 23, 2011 in Charleston to celebrate the one year anniversary of the Affordable Care Act, the national health reform law. Senator Jay Rockefeller and federal Health and Human Services official Dr. Mary Wakefield talked about progress made in one year to expand health coverage to millions of Americans.

Dr. Rahul Gupta, director of the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department and State Senator Dan Foster discussed the importance of the law for the health and well-being of West Virginians. Several West Virginians also told their own stories about getting health care and how the Affordable Care Act will help them and their families.

Under the leadership of West Virginians for Affordable Health Care, a coalition of groups has been organized to work towards implementation of the new law. The coalition is working to bring together partners from all segments of the community to work towards (1) health insurance coverage for all West Virginians, (2) containing unsustainable and escalating health costs, and (3) improving the quality of care.

There is a lot of misinformation about the new law, according to Renate Pore, one of the organizers of the health reform coalition. "We need to dispel the myths and help people understand the intent and potential of the new health reform law," Renate said. "Nurses are an especially important group to help their patients understand the new law. We hope to engage nurses in spreading the message and making the law a reality in West Virginia. We have launched a new web site where West Virginians can get information about health reform and how to get involved in making quality, affordable health care a reality for every West Virginian."

For information about meetings and events go to [www.healthreformwv.org](http://www.healthreformwv.org).

# Membership News

## New Members

Alisa Cummings  
 Marjorie Gentry  
 Russell Holbert  
 Juanita Jeffers  
 Roberta McCauley  
 Sabrina Walker  
 Jennifer Poff  
 Megan Heldreth  
 Jennifer Monroe  
 Jeffery Rowe  
 Marsha Tracey  
 Pamela Gavin  
 Alita Sellers  
 Lisa Salmon  
 Vickie Sorrell

Cheryl Winter  
 Jennifer Hawkins  
 Donald Ramey  
 Jamie Thornburg  
 Sherry Perry  
 Robert Wynn  
 Diane Buckner  
 Rhonda Hodon  
 Beth Hudspeth  
 Teresa Hines  
 Sarah Minnick  
 Toni Dichiacchio  
 Charles Hossler  
 Damia Hayman



Please complete and return to:  
 West Virginia Nurses Association  
 PO Box 1946  
 Charleston, West Virginia 25327  
 (f) 304-414-3369

## WVNA/ANA Membership Application

Contact Information			
Full Name	Credentials		Today's Date
<b>Personal Information</b>		<b>Professional Information</b>	
Mailing Address			RN License #
City	State	Zip	Years Experience
Phone			E-mail
County of Residence			Basic School of Nursing
<b>NOTE:</b> Please indicate the WVNA member who helped with your decision to become a member: _____			Employer
<b>Membership Categories</b>			Position
<b>Check One:</b> ** State nurse association dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes, but may be deductible as a business expense. WVNA members may deduct 82% as a business expense; 18% of dues are spent on lobbying. Note: \$7.50 of the SNA member dues is for subscription to The American Nurse. \$14 is for subscription to the American Journal of Nursing. Various amounts are for subscriptions to SNA/DNA newsletters; check with your SNA office for exact amount.			Department or Division
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FULL</b> Employed Full Time Employed Part Time <b>Full Payment**</b> \$278.00 <b>Electronic Dues Transfer*</b> \$23.67			Mailing Address
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>SPECIAL</b> 62 years of age Totally Disabled Unemployed <b>Special Payment</b> \$69.50 <b>Electronic Dues Transfer*</b> \$6.30			City
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>WVNA ONLY</b> RN's who work or live in WV may join WVNA at the state level only. This does not entitle RN to receive national benefits. <b>Full Payment</b> \$149.00 <b>Electronic Dues Transfer*</b> \$12.91			State
			Zip
			Phone
			E-mail
			*Please indicate the WVNA member who helped with your decision to become a member: _____
<b>Payment Plans</b>			
<b>Check One:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Annual</b> Complete form in its entirety and send check or money order in the amount of \$266. Checks should be made payable to WVNA and submitted to the above address.			
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Electronic Dues Payment Plan (EDPP)</b> Read, sign the authorization, and enclose a check for first month's EDPP payment (contact your SNA/DNA for appropriate rate). 1/12 of your annual dues will be withdrawn from your checking account each month in addition to a monthly service fee. *Monthly Service charge .50 (Please sign below)			
<b>Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	
Authorization to provide monthly electronic payments to American Nurses Association (ANA). This is to authorize ANA to withdraw 1/12 of my annual dues and any additional service fee from my checking account designated by the enclosed check for the first month's payment. ANA is authorized to change the amount by giving the undersigned thirty (30) days written notice. The undersigned may cancel this authorization upon receipts by ANA of written notification of termination twenty (20) days prior to the			
<b>Additional Membership Opportunities</b>			
<b>ADVANCED PRACTICE COUNCIL</b>			
Join the WVNA APN Council. For an additional \$25 you can join this WVNA specialty group; An additional check should be included made payable to WVNA with APN Council listed in the memo. _____ I would like to join the APN Council			
<b>WV NURSES-POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE</b>			
Join the external political action committee for nurses. An additional check should be included made payable to WVN-PAC _____ I would like to join the WVN-PAC			
<b>PAYMENT DETAILS</b>			
<b>Annual Membership Cost</b>			
<b>\$278.00 (Full) \$149.00 (State Only)</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card (Visa or MC)			
Credit Card#	Expiration Date	CVC#	

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 anytime...  
 anywhere...

www.wvnurses.org

