Signs of Progress in Addressing New Jersey’s Nurse Faculty Shortage

State Senate committee hears that RWJF’s investment in New Jersey Nursing Initiative is making a difference.

New Jersey legislators had praise and questions for the health, business and academic leaders who gathered at the State House in Trenton on Nov. 19 to provide an update on progress made so far by the New Jersey Nursing Initiative (NJNI)—a multi-year, multi-million-dollar project of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

Three-and-a-half years ago, representatives of RWJF and the Chamber Foundation announced the initiative at a hearing held by the same committee, the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee. NJNI focuses on lowering the state’s nurse faculty vacancy rate, currently a staggering 10.5 percent, in order to help avert a projected shortage of more than 23,000 nurses in New Jersey in less than two decades.

In 2009, when the New Jersey Nursing Initiative first launched, it was an unprecedented experiment in addressing the nurse faculty shortage in one state,” said John R. Lumpkin, MD, MPH, senior vice president and director of the Health Care Group at RWJF. “Today, three-and-a-half years later, I am pleased to be able to report: We are making real progress.

In that time, Lumpkin and other witnesses said, NJNI’s Faculty Preparation Program has supported 61 New Jersey Nursing Scholars who are pursuing (or have completed) master’s or doctoral degrees that qualify them for nurse faculty positions. NJNI developed the Nursing Academic Resource Center of New Jersey, an online tool for graduate-level nursing students, and supported the Nursing Centralized Application System, which streamlines the nursing school application process for prospective students and monitors the availability of slots in student programs. NJNI also launched WeTeachNursingNJ.com, a website providing nurse faculty career information.

In addition, Barbara Buono, a lead role in the New Jersey Action Coalition. It helps the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action implement recommendations from the Institute of Medicine’s landmark nursing report: "We are making real progress."

Three-and-a-half years later, I am pleased to be able to report: We are making real progress.”

Jeffrey Scheininger, president of Flexline/U.S. Brass & Copper Corp. and board chair of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, echoed those sentiments. He told the committee that “the state’s business community has long understood that a shortage of nurses and nurse faculty has serious implications for the welfare of our employees, as well as the costs of running our enterprises. That is why the Chamber remains committed to the New Jersey Nursing Initiative.”

“Tens of thousands of business owners, like me... know that just as we face the challenges of our state’s economy, nurses form the bedrock of the health care system.”

Susan Bakewell-Sachs, PhD, RN, PNP-BC, program director of the New Jersey Nursing Initiative and interim provost of The College of New Jersey, also testified, pointing out NJNI’s role in supporting the Nursing Faculty Loan Redemption Program Act, which was signed into law in 2010. It provides student loan redemption in exchange for full-time employment in the state as a nurse faculty member. “We have made important progress toward addressing the nursing and nursing faculty shortage and we thank the Legislature, and in particular this committee, for your support in helping us avert a serious health care crisis,” Bakewell-Sachs said.

Several senators raised questions about nurse faculty salaries, and they were eager to hear the perspective of Colleen Marzetti, DNP, RN, FAAN, president and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Service of New York and chair of NJNI’s National Advisory Committee. Christopher served as the moderator for the hearing. From the outset, NJNI knew that “we needed not only faculty, we needed faculty who understand increasing demands on nurses,” she responded.

Colleen Marzetti, RN, FAAN, president and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Service of New York and chair of NJNI’s National Advisory Committee.

“NJNI’s efforts would lead to more advanced practice nurses who could offset some of the demand for more primary care. ‘Nurse practitioners contribute exquisitely to closing that gap’ said Mary Ann Christopher, MSN, RN, FAAN, president and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Service of New York and chair of NJNI’s National Advisory Committee. Christopher served as the moderator for the hearing. From the outset, NJNI knew that “we needed not only faculty, we needed faculty who understand increasing demands on nurses,” she responded.

Jeffrey Scheininger, president of Flexline/U.S. Brass & Copper Corp. and board chair of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, echoed those sentiments. He told the committee that “the state’s business community has long understood that a shortage of nurses and nurse faculty has serious implications for the welfare of our employees, as well as the costs of running our enterprises. That is why the Chamber remains committed to the New Jersey Nursing Initiative.”

“The breadth of medical decisions made by nurses instead of physicians will increase, and that requires not just having enough nurses, but having great nurses,” Scheininger said. “New Jersey needs to ensure that there are enough great nursing faculty in place to make that happen. Tens of thousands of business owners, like me... know that just as we face the challenges of our state’s economy, nurses form the bedrock of the health care system.”

‘It Is a Privilege to Teach’

Several senators raised questions about nurse faculty salaries, and they were eager to hear the perspective of Colleen Marzetti, DNP, RN, FAAN. CNLCP, an assistant professor at Monmouth University. Marzetti shared her experience as a beneficiary of the state’s Nursing Faculty Loan Redemption Program, which provides a maximum benefit of $50,000 over five years. “The passion for teaching that nurse faculty members bring to their jobs is really what drives us, not the bottom line,” Marzetti said, citing the salary disparity between nurses in academia and nurses in the health care industry. “There is a great sense of accomplishment that comes with knowing that we improve the lives of patients, even when we’re not at their bedside in the hospital, because we give so many
Today is Inauguration Day, Monday, January 21, 2013. I am in the middle of millions of people, most of whom are extremely proud and grateful to be here in Washington D.C. to witness this event. As I walked to the US Capitol Building, I noticed the flags were at half staff for the Americans who died at the oil refinery in Algeria. As I awaited the ceremony, I contemplated what it must be like for nurses in other countries especially in “third world” countries. We are so privileged to be able to practice nursing here in the United States—but are we practicing to our full potential?

President Obama, in his inaugural speech stated that ...."A little girl born into the bleakest poverty knows that she has the chance to succeed as anybody else because she is an American, she is free and she is equal not just in the eyes of God but also in our own.” Nursing was born into that bleakest poverty and has succeeded in becoming the most trusted profession because of nurses. Are you involved in your professional organization? Are you aware of the changes that are occurring around you?

The New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA) is dedicated to helping nurses practice to their fullest potential. We are actively involved in working with Advanced Practice Nurses (APN) to have the Joint Protocol between the APN and a physician removed. We are involved with the New Jersey Action Coalition to move forward the IOM report recommendations to remove barriers to practice. Also, we are pursuing with other health care partners the establishment of a “Career Center” to help new graduate registered nurses in this tight employment market develop their career potential and marketability to ensure employment. Not only are we looking to assist the new nurse, but also the seasoned nurse who may be looking for a career change within nursing, or who has been affected by downsizing. In addition, we are looking to help those nurses interested in entrepreneurial opportunities to learn how to get the needed tools to have a business of their own. NJSNA’s legislative and political efforts focus on protecting nursing practice in New Jersey.

Through NJSNA efforts and to rephrase the president’s comment, “a nurse born into the health care environment today will know that opportunities to succeed are assured”—and that they will be practicing to their full potential!

Are you doing all that is needed to practice to your full potential? If you are a seasoned nurse, have you advanced your education or at least kept knowledgeable about the ever evolving changes in health care. Are you involved in your professional organization? Are you aware of the changes that are occurring around you?
Who's Watching Out For You? NJSNA is!

Patricia Barnett, RN, JD

Not all nurses belong to the American Nurses Association or NJ State Nurses Association, there are those who prefer a specialty organization, a union, or management organization. NJSNA, as an association, is not alone in loss of membership. In 1965, 75% of physicians belonged to the American Medical Association; in 2011 membership was less than 25%. Diverse membership is understandable since there are many choices, and there is too little time to participate in all of the groups. However, that leaves the question of who addresses the challenges for the nursing profession that are not specific to specialty practice or the work area? NJSNA offers leadership on a broad array of nursing issues, sometimes in partnership with specialty groups, sometimes with advocacy groups outside of nursing, sometimes with unions and the sometimes the public.

- Since the start of the 2012-13 legislative session, 6,801 bills have been introduced or proposed.
- 163 bills have passed the Senate and Assembly, and sent to the Governor.
- 99 bills were signed into law by the Governor.
- 205 bills were referred to the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.
- 217 bills were referred to the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee.
- 64 bills were referred to the Assembly Regulated Professions Committee.
- NJSNA is closely monitoring 26 bills, writing testimony, attending hearings and talking with sponsors. For example, these bills include:
  - APNs being able to declare cause of death (A1097) – NJSNA has championed this. It passed the legislature but was vetoed by the Governor in early 2012. It was reintroduced in the spring of 2012.
  - Opioid Antidote and Overdose Prevention Act, A3095 (Benson, Lampitt, Giblin) and S2082 (Vitale, Codey)
  - A1832/S2088, Restricts health insurers from limiting access to pain medication
  - A2022, S792; Requires insurers to cover comprehensive ultrasound breast screening if a mammogram demonstrates dense breast tissue and requires mammogram reports to contain information on breast density.
- NJSNA worked closely with key sponsors Senator Joseph Vitale and Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz to introduce S2394 and A3512, bills to remove the joint protocol for APNs.
- NJSNA had been working with the APN community for almost 2 years to prepare for the introduction of the bills, and for over 6 months with our sponsors on the bills language. This effort includes a number of key organizations; AANP, the Forum of Nurses of Advanced Practice, the Society of Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurses, ONE-NJ, unions, advocacy groups and patient groups.
- Currently NJSNA is meeting with a number of key decision makers including legislators, healthcare stakeholders, including physicians, hospitals, universities and payers to explore how the bill will impact various constituents, as well as their areas of consensus and disagreement.

The regulations that implement the laws can be as important, but may be less transparent:

- NJSNA has been lobbying the NJ Board of Public Utilities to allow APNs to write a prescription to assure keeping utilities on for patients with medical needs that require the use of respirators or other medical equipment.
- NJSNA gave testimony to the NJ Board of Education offering alternatives to the recommendations of the Governor’s Education taskforce. The taskforce recommended cutting the hours for certified school nurses from 30 to 12. The Taskforce also recommended giving school superintendents the discretion to decide who can be delegated additional responsibilities. The NJSNA taskforce recommended cutting the hours for certified school nurses from 30 to 12. The Taskforce also recommended giving school superintendents the discretion to decide who can be delegated additional responsibilities.

Since November NJSNA has been involved with a number state and private initiatives that impact nurses and patients:

- On January 25, NJSNA joined a number of organizations to discuss the “Culture of Violence,” in a meeting hosted by CHOP and the New Jersey Healthcare Quality Initiative (NJHCOI). We explored how to address mental illness, guns safety and identifying alternatives to violence. While the tragedy at Sandy Hook triggered action, it is clear that violence is a public health challenge, which needs to be addressed, and traditional public health tools, including evidence, can help to identify solutions. Representatives from ACO’s, Universities, HPAE, advocacy groups and others are exploring how to define the issues leading to violence and approaches to address this serious problem.
- NJSNA participated in the NJ Department of Health, Chronic Disease and Prevention and Control Program’s retreat January 30th. The goal is to develop a NJ Coordinated Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Plan to integrate the arthritis, asthma, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, obesity prevention, and tobacco prevention programs to concentrate resources and address diseases simultaneously. This important initiative included over 60 individuals from all facets of the health care community and other organizations who have a stake in managing chronic disease.
- At NJ Commissioner O’Dowd’s Super Storm Sandy public meetings, a NJSNA member gave a moving story of how her home was devastated by the storm and how she and her family dealt with being forced to live in hotels and other places before being able to return to their home to start the long rebuilding.
- O’Dowd shared what went well and what could be done better in the future. We shared that the use of the NJSNA FaceBook increased dramatically as a source of information during the storm when traditional communications were not available.
- NJSNA participated in the State Healthcare Workforce Council to push for adequate funding for nursing education.
- NJSNA participate with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the lead Federal agency charged with improving the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care.

I continue to be amazed at the number of meetings NJSNA members and staff attend every week, ensuring that nursing has a seat at the table, no matter which table it is. I am grateful for the care and dedication NJSNA members and staff demonstrate as they take on these challenges. It is an honor and a privilege to share the stage with these great nurses.

1 Coerver, H and Byers, M. Race For Relevance ASAE Center for Association Leadership, copyright 2011 p 10

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A recent study projects that by 2030, there will be a shortage of 23,358 nurses in New Jersey, indicating that NUN's work is even more crucial to ensuring that enough nurses can be trained to meet future health care needs in the Garden State. NJNI has awarded $21.5 million to a group of institutions of higher education to support the New Jersey Nursing Scholars to pursue PhDs.

"This year, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation celebrates its 40th anniversary," Lumpkin said. "As we celebrate, I would like to recognize the need for nursing education and nursing leadership. There is no question that the health care system needs strong leaders who can support the needs of patients and communities. The funding we have received from NJNI will help us to meet this need.

"We need to support this initiative—to enhance and elevate it," Lumpkin said. "This is a great start.

Learn more about NJNI at www.njni.org

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UMDNJ-School of Nursing Celebrates Its 20th Anniversary

Trailblazers and Visionary Leaders are Honored

The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) School of Nursing celebrated its 20th anniversary on Monday, December 10, at the Mayfair Farms in West Orange. The anniversary commemorated the school’s establishment exactly 20 years earlier on December 10, 1992, with the theme of “Looking to the Future: Building on the Past.” Twenty-five individuals who exemplified service both to the school and to the entire nursing profession were honored. The UMDNJ-School of Nursing Trailblazer Award was given to five individuals, the school’s two former deans, as well as to current faculty and staff who helped to launch the school two decades ago.

Visionary Leader Awards were presented to 20 individuals who have contributed to the advancement of nursing and healthcare through outstanding contributions in education, healthcare, community service and philanthropy. Honorees included Denise V. Rodgers, MD, interim president of UMDNJ, as well as senior healthcare executives and top leaders of national professional associations and philanthropic organizations. For example, National Nursing Leadership Awards were made to Geraldine Bednarsh, PhD, RN, FAAN, CEO and Executive Director of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing; Susan B. Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN, director, Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; and Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN, president and CEO, National League for Nursing; State and Regional Leadership Award to UMDNJ alumnus was given to George J. Hebert, MA, RN, executive director, New Jersey Board of Nursing; and Tony Forrester, PhD, RN, ANEF, senior associate dean, present Nursing Leadership to Susan B. Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN, director, Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

“We were gratified by the presence of such distinguished individuals at our school’s anniversary celebration,” said Susan Salmond, EdD, RN, FAAN, dean and professor. “Each honoree exemplifies the highest ideals of leadership and service to others, ideals that form the core of our school’s mission and the heart of the profession of nursing.”

The awards dinner was hosted by UMDNJ-School of Nursing in partnership with the UMDNJ-School of Nursing Alumni Association and the Foundation for Healthcare Advancement (an affiliate of the New Jersey Health Foundation). Proceeds from the event will benefit nursing scholarships and the school’s community clinical initiatives, such as its mobile healthcare program serving communities in Newark, New Jersey.

“We appreciate the support of each person who attended the anniversary dinner, as well as our sponsors, advertisers and individual donors,” Dr. Salmond added. “Contributions such as these help further our school’s important initiatives such as providing primary care aimed at improving health and well-being in the communities we serve.”

20th Anniversary Awards Dinner—Susan Hassmiller

Susan Salmon, EdD, RN, FAAN, dean of UMDNJ-School of Nursing, and Tony Forrester, PhD, RN, ANEF, senior associate dean, present a Visionary Leader Award-National Nursing Leadership to Susan B. Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN, director, Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

20th Anniversary Awards Dinner—George J. Hebert

Susan Salmon, EdD, RN, FAAN, dean of UMDNJ-School of Nursing, and Tony Forrester, PhD, RN, ANEF, senior associate dean, present the Visionary Leader Award—State and Regional Nursing Leadership to UMDNJ alumnus, George J. Hebert, MA, RN, executive director, New Jersey Board of Nursing.
Seton Hall University College of Nursing Celebrates Diamond Jubilee

Seton Hall University, College of Nursing celebrated its 75th anniversary with a White Mass, a special celebration to acknowledge the unique contributions made by Catholic Health Care Professionals. The Mass took its name from the white coat most commonly worn by those in the health care field. Moreover, the College of Nursing conferred an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Sister Rosemary Donley, S.C., Ph.D., APRN-BC, FAAN.

On Sunday, December 2, 2012, Dean and Professor Phyllis Shanley Hansell, EdD, RN, FAAN, hosted the Diamond Jubilee Gala at the Pleasantdale Chateau in West Orange. As part of its 75th anniversary activities, the College of Nursing recognized alumni with awards and inducted a new cohort into its Hall of Honor. Hansell noted, “Over the past 75 years, the College of Nursing has grown from an enrollment of eight students to more than 1,200 undergraduate and graduate students, with a robust alumni network of more than 8,000 graduates. We are so proud of the impact all of our graduates have had on the nursing profession and health care in New Jersey and throughout the world. Our 2012 graduates have just begun their career and I can’t wait to learn about their practice. Our older alumni continue to impress me with their hard work, passion, and dedication. The women and men who have been inducted into the Hall of Honor this year are truly leading through their clinical practice, professional and personal achievements, have ensured a strong legacy for Seton Hall University College of Nursing.”

Sister Rosemary Donley, recipient of the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, is a Duquesne University School of Nursing Professor, Jacques Lavoisier Endowed Chair for Justice for Vulnerable Populations. Sister Donley has served as Catholic University of America, Executive Vice President, and Dean of Nursing. She holds a BSN from St. Louis University and a MNEd and PhD degrees from the University of Pittsburgh; she is a certified adult nurse practitioner. Her clinical and research interests are health policy, clinical decision making and healthcare literacy. Sister Donley is a Nurse Liaison for Barnabas Health Hospice and Care in tents and emergency medical units. Tauscher is an Operating Room Business Manager at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune.

Laura Tauscher, RN, BSN ’00, CHPN, received the Nelson Aquino Humanitarian Award made to an outstanding individual who is using it serve those in need. It is named after the first native-born citizen of the United States to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church. Singh is currently the Manager of Employee Health/Adult Medical Clinic at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Rahway. Booth is an operating room business manager at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune.

Varsha Singh, MSN ’09, APN-C, and Jeffrey Booth, RN, MBA ’04, CPA, CPH, were honored with the Elizabeth Ann Seton, Young Alumni Awards, named after the first native-born citizen of the United States to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church. Singh is currently the Manager of Employee Health/Adult Medical Clinic at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Rahway. Booth is an operating room business manager at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune.

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Seton Hall—Dean Phyllis Shanley Hansell and Sister Rosemary Donley

Hader is Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer at Meridian Health, and the Editor-in-Chief of Nursing Management. The Journal of Excellence in Nursing Leadership. He spearheaded Meridian Health’s achievement of Magnet status for all hospitals within their healthcare system, the first in the US to receive this recognition. Also, he was instrumental in establishing the Meridian Health Institute for Evidence Based Care and the Georgian Court Meridian Health School of Nursing.

Varsha and Rajesh Singh at Seton Hall gala.

2012 HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEES - Distinguished SHU College of Nursing Alumni

Mary G. Boland, RN, MSN ’78, DrPH, FAAN
Catherine Cassidy, RN, BSN., 65, PhD, RN, APN-C
Mary Ellen Clyne, RN, BSN, 87, MSN ’93, PhD, ’12, NEA-BC

Bermadette Countryman, RN, MSN ’84
Marc de Moya, RN, BSN, 83, MD, ME

Barbara Frischman, RN, MSN ’74, CCRN
Judy Honig, RN, MSN ’85, EdD, DNP, CNP

James Fletcher Lawrence, Jr., RN, BSN, 96, EdD, BC, APRN, BC, FAANP, CNS

Jean D’Meza Leuer, RN, BSN, 75, PhD, CNE, FAAN
Alice McGill, RN, BSN, 93, EdD

Ann Scallon McGinity, RN, BSN, 72, PhD, FAAN
Mary D. Miller, RN, BSN ’75, MS, GNP-BC, ANP-BC

Beatriz Foronda Miranda, RN, MSN ’00, MA, EA, FAAN

Anne G. Peach, RN, BSN, 76, MSN, CNA, BC

Nancy Schmieder Redeker, RN, BSN, 80, MSN ’85, PhD, FAHA, FAAN

Mary Ellen Roberts, RN, MA, MSN ’90, DNP, APN-C, FAANP, FAAN

Phyllis Russo RN, BSN, ’61, EdD ’86

Susan Saindron, RN, MSN ’77, EdD, CNE, FAAN

Patricia Tahloski, RN, MSN, 78, PhD, GCNP-BCC, FGSA, FAAN

Colonel Lisa Toven, RN, BSN ’91, MS, MMAS, MSS

Nelson Tuazon, RN, MSN ’94, MAEd., MBA, NEA, CPHQ, FACHE
New Jersey State Nurses Association & the Institute for Nursing

111th Annual Nursing Convention

"Legislation + Education = Blueprint for Change"

October 9-11, 2013 • Bally’s • Atlantic City • New Jersey

EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9th**

**EXHIBIT HALL TRAFFIC BUILDERS**

Presidents’ Welcome Reception
Boxed Lunch
Recruiter Row
Career Coaching Workshops
Grand Raffle Drawing
Ice Cream Social
IFN Raffle
Exhibitor Raffle
Happy Hour/Mixer
Exhibitor Bingo

**EXHIBIT HALL OPEN 8 AM TO 7 PM**

RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY!

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10th**

**EXHIBIT HALL TRAFFIC BUILDERS**

Continental Breakfast
Grand Prize Drawing
Recruiter Row
Career Coaching Workshops
Meet & Greet Boxed Lunch
Optional Exhibitor Snack Stations

**EXHIBIT HALL OPEN 8 AM TO 2 PM**

ATTENDEE HIGHLIGHTS

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10th**

President’s Welcome Reception
Boxed Lunch
Career Coaching Workshops
Grand Raffle Drawing
Ice Cream Social
IFN Raffle
Happy Hour/Mixer
Exhibitor Raffle

Lunch with Your Legislators • NSNA Business Meeting

**EXHIBIT HALL OPEN 8 AM TO 2 PM**

REGISTER TODAY!

**CONVENTION SPEAKERS**

Rose Gonzalez, MPS, RN
Director of Government Affairs, Arizona Nurses Association
AONSA/FIFN Open Forum
Lucille Jost, ED, RN, FAAN
Hoges, The Healthcare Lawyer
New Jersey, College of Nursing
Student Track
Monday, October 9th

George Hebert, MA, RN
New Jersey Board of Nursing
Student Track
Tuesday, October 10th

Pat Murphy, PhD, APSN, FAAN
President
New Jersey Board of Nursing
Student Track
Tuesday, October 10th

Barbara Wright, FMB, RN, FAIN
Former SN Assembly President
SN Trifold Resource Discussion
Tuesday, October 10th

Nancy Marus, APSN, RN
New Jersey Assembly President

**EXHIBITOR COMMITTEE CHAIR MESSAGE**

Dear Friends,

The New Jersey State Nurses Association and the Institute for Nursing will be hosting its 111th Convention with the theme “Legislation + Education = Blueprint for Change.” The convention will be held at the Bally’s Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City from October 9-11th. The Convention offers participants the opportunity to learn, address, and advocate for the issues important to nurses and the healthcare industry. All attendees will have the opportunity to learn from leaders in the field of nursing research, education, and policy.

On Wednesday, join our President, Judy Schmid, and the staff of the President’s Reception for a chance to network with your colleagues. On Thursday, the NSNA Board of Directors will be holding their annual meeting during the Grand Raffle Drawing at 10:30 a.m. in the Holiday Inn East. Following the meeting, there will be an opportunity to tour the IFN offices and meet with our staff. For more information, please visit the IFN website at www.ifn.org.

On Friday, our President of Nurses in Atlantic City will have the opportunity to speak at the New Jersey Assembly’s 111th Annual Convention.

In conclusion, we hope to see you at the Convention and to enjoy all that Atlantic City has to offer. Make sure to take advantage of the many activities and events available throughout the convention. For more information, please visit the NSNA website at www.njnsa.org.

Respectfully,

Judy Schmid, RN, MN, CSNC, CCRN
President

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NJNSA PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

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Respectfully,

Judy Schmid, RN, MN, CSNC, CCRN
President
# PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

## Convention Schedule

**WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 9, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Convention Registration Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>GRAND EXHIBITION HALL OPEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast, Poster Session, Grand Prize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Career Coaching Workshops (Exhibit Hall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>New Graduate and Senior Students Lunch (Separate Fee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>CE SESSIONS -- STUDENT TRACK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Panel Discussion: The Impact of Nurses in the Legislature</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Continuing Education Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>APN All Day Education Program (Separate Registration Required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Champagne &amp; Dessert Reception</td>
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**THURSDAY • OCTOBER 10, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>National Health Week Lunch (Separate Fee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>CE SESSIONS -- STUDENT TRACK</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Panel Discussion: The Impact of Nurses in the Legislature</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Continuing Education Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>IFN Sylvia C. Edge Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Champagne &amp; Dessert Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>CE SESSIONS -- STUDENT TRACK</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Continuing Education Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Champagne &amp; Dessert Reception</td>
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**FRIDAY • OCTOBER 11, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Convention Registration Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Session</td>
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**INSTITUTE FOR NURSING**

2013 APPLE Award • Call for Nominations

The Institute for Nursing acknowledges its superb contributors for the 2013 NJSNA/IFN Convention.

- **Call for Nominations:**
  - **CRNAs:**
    - CRNA Post-Convention Scholarship (Contact NJSNA)\
    - IFN Scholarship Recipients (Contact NJSNA)\
  - **APNs:**
    - APN Post-Convention Scholarship (Contact NJSNA)\
    - IFN Scholarship Recipients (Contact NJSNA)

**APN All Day Education Program**

- Separate Registration Required

**NJSNA Voting Business Meeting**

**IFN Sylvia C. Edge Reception**

- "An Evening of Jazz"

**NJSNA Overview of Healthcare Delivery System**

**IFN Sylvia C. Edge Reception**

- "An Evening of Jazz"
New Jersey State Nurses Association & the Institute for Nursing 111th Annual Nursing Convention • Show dates: October 9-11, 2013 • Bally’s • Atlantic City, NJ

We are applying for (please check all that apply):

☐ Exhibit Space
☐ Sponsorship
☐ Advertising

Company/Organization: _____________________________

Address: ________________________________________

City/State/Zip: __________________________________

Contact Name: _________________________________

Phone:____________________ Fax: ______________

EXHIBIT SPACE

Number of Booths requested: _____________________

2013 Application Deadline: Before 9/16/13

Number of booth space stations: ___________

Additional Info: ________________________________

ADVERTISING

☑ Outside Booth Cover B/W $750
☑ Outside Booth Cover B/W $500
☑ Full Page B/W $500
☑ Half Page B/W $350
☑ Quarter Page B/W $75
☑ Business Card Patch B/W $40

The results of the above form(s) is due by September 11. For questions or answers to any of the above forms, the New Jersey State Nurses Association should be contacted at (609) 883-5335 ext. 13.

Sponsorship:

☑ Please see page 4 for complete list of sponsorship opportunity & benefits

□ Sponsorship package level: _____________

□ Other: __________________________________

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Check Enclosed (Patriotic to NJDNA)
☐ Rush Order (Mail) (One Week)
☐ Bill me and send invoice

Visa □ MasterCard □ AMEX □ Discover

Full name: _____________________________

Card No. _____________________________

Exp. Date: _____________________________

Signature: _____________________________

New Jersey State Nurses Association & the Institute for Nursing Convention 1474 Pennington Road • Trenton • New Jersey • 08618 (609) 883-3135 • F (609) 885-3342 • www.njna.org

Partial Listing of Previous Exhibitors

Allegiance - Miami Beach Medical Center
Air Peace Nursing
American Training Centers
American Humane Association
Amson Business
Banker’s Life, LLC
Barbara’s Beauty
Belmont International
Beryl Group
Burlington Medical Products, Inc.
CE Week
CJ Daily Company
Community First Health
ElderCare
Federal Express
Field Enterprises
FirstHealth
Foremost Vascular Care
Grand Canyon University
Great Lakes College
Hospital Information Management
Hospital Business Services
Houghton College
Innovative University
Innate Management
Infinite Solutions
Internal Measurements
International University
King’s University
Korean University
Lake Superior State College
Laplace Health Care
Loyola University
Medical University of South Carolina
Meridian University
Metro Health Medical Center
Mid America School of Business
Moorhead State University
Montana College of Health Sciences
Montana State University
Monmouth University
Mount Mercy University
Nightingale College
Northwestern University
Old Dominion University
Our Lady of the Lake University
Pepperdine University
Piedmont College
 Phonetic
Pittsburgh Institute
Powerwest University
Principia College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rosemont College
Rose State College
Rutgers University
Sacramento Adventist University
Saint Peter’s University
Saint Xavier University
Shrewsbury College
Siena College
Southwest Texas State University
Southern Adventist University
Southern Nazarene University
Southern West Virginia Community College
St. John’s College
St. Thomas Aquinas College
St. Mary’s University
St. Francis College
SUNY College at Oswego
SUNY College at New Paltz
SUNY Buffalo State College
SUNY Fredonia
Syracuse University
Tabor College
The University of Texas Medical Branch
The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
The University of Texas School of Nursing
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Thomson University
Touro College
Touro University
Tulane University
University of Baltimore
University of Bridgeport
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Riverside
University of Caltey
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Hawaii
University of Idaho
University of Illinois
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Louisiana
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri
University of Nebraska
University of Nevada, Reno
University of North Carolina
University of North Dakota
University of New Orleans
University of New Mexico
University of New York
University of Oklahoma
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Puerto Rico
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of Southern California
University of Texas at Austin
University of Texas at El Paso
University of Texas at San Antonio
University of Utah
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Western Ontario
University of Wisconsin
University of Wyoming
University of Arizona

11th Annual Nursing Convention

2013 Application for Exhibits, Sponsorship & Advertising

New Jersey State Nurses Association & the Institute for Nursing 111th Annual Nursing Convention • Show dates: October 9-11, 2013 • Bally’s • Atlantic City, NJ

We are applying for (please check all that apply):

☐ Exhibit Space
☐ Sponsorship
☐ Advertising

Company/Organization: _____________________________

Address: ________________________________________

City/State/Zip: __________________________________

Contact Name: _________________________________

Phone:____________________ Fax: ______________

EXHIBIT SPACE

Number of Booths requested: _____________________

2013 Application Deadline: Before 9/16/13

Number of booth space stations: ___________

Additional Info: ________________________________

ADVERTISING

☑ Outside Booth Cover B/W $750
☑ Outside Booth Cover B/W $500
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☑ Quarter Page B/W $75
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Sponsorship:

☑ Please see page 4 for complete list of sponsorship opportunity & benefits

□ Sponsorship package level: _____________

□ Other: __________________________________

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Check Enclosed (Patriotic to NJDNA)
☐ Rush Order (Mail) (One Week)
☐ Bill me and send invoice

Visa □ MasterCard □ AMEX □ Discover

Full name: _____________________________

Card No. _____________________________

Exp. Date: _____________________________

Signature: _____________________________

Ask me how nursing students can save 20% off convention registration (609) 883-5335 ext. 13

New Jersey State Nurses Association & the Institute for Nursing 111th Annual Nursing Convention October 9 - 11, 2013 • Bally’s • Atlantic City • New Jersey
Celebrating “50 Years” of Giving Back

Norma Rodgers, BSN, RN, President

The Institute for Nursing is committed to looking at ways that we can provide assistance to our members as they try to rebuild their lives post Superstorm Sandy. Through generous donations we have been able to provide financial assistance totaling over $8000 at this time. We continue to receive and review applications in order to assist our members. The process started off slowly as members are still finding out what their insurance will cover, if they qualify for FEMA assistance or any other grants available to them. The process takes time and as a result we extended the deadline to apply for assistance to April 15, 2013. We will continue to evaluate the situation as our members struggle to rebuild. Please continue to check the NJSNA website for resources and updated information. www.njsna.org

A party with a purpose…As I prepared to celebrate my 50th birthday in March, I began to wonder on how to give back to the organization. A gala with all ticket proceeds going to the Sylvia Edge Endowment and the Institute for Nursing General Scholarship funds was held on March 2, 2013 at New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark, NJ we celebrated ’50 Years of Giving Back. All dressed up with somewhere to go!!!

The Institute for Nursing has been providing funding for the nursing community for nearly three decades. I am proud to announce that Shavon Lashley, the 2012 recipient of the Sylvia Edge Endowment Scholarship, graduated from Essex County College in December 2012. At the time of this writing, she was awaiting to take her nursing board exam for licensure. I would love to hear from other past recipients. If you were a recipient of an IFN scholarship or research grant, send us an update on your progress. Email your story to: norma@board.njsna.org

The Third annual Golf Outing will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at the Forsgate Country Club – Palmer Course (http://www.forsgatecc.com/Club) is bigger and better than ever. We listened and changed locations, cut down the cost and increased the prizes. We have a special Nightingale Award for the leading all nurse team, prizes for hole-in-one and much, much more. Look forward to seeing you on the golf course.

Due to Hurricane Sandy, the Annual Wine Tasting event that was scheduled for November 14, 2012, at Rago Arts and Auction Center in Lambertville, NJ was postponed and has been rescheduled for May 14, 2013. For more information and registration, go to www.njsna.org

NJSSA/IFN Convention 2013 will take place October 9 – 11, 2013 at Bally’s in Atlantic City. IFN events during convention: APPLE Award honoring outstanding physicians will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2013. Nominate a physician today! The Sylvia Edge Endowment Jazziette Giveback fundraiser as we continue to honor the legacy of Sylvia C. Patel. Continue to check the NJSNA website for details and registration information.

I encourage you to continue to provide support to the IFN so that we can continue to support the membership through education, scholarships and research grants.

“Life is a gift and it offers us the privilege, opportunity, and responsibility to give something back by becoming more.” – Anthony Robbins

https://www.facebook.com/NJStateNurses

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- Breaking Healthcare News
- Timely Articles
- Perspective, News & Views You Can Use
- Legislative Updates
- Nursing Fun & Humor
- And More

NURSING FACULTY POSITIONS
NEWARK & STRATFORD, NJ

Effective July 1, 2013, the University of Medicine and Dentistry (UMDNJ) School of Nursing will transition from the faculty of its nursing program at Newark. We will have a new name—Rutgers School of Nursing. We will continue to offer the same academic programs, with the same flexible options, and the excellence our students have come to expect. We are seeking candidates to join our dynamic faculty team.

BSN & MSN PROGRAMS

Advanced Practice Nurses with appropriate national certification are invited to apply for immediate openings with our BSN and MSN programs in Newark and Stratford. NJ. Master’s degree in nursing required, doctorate degree preferred. Full-time, Adjunct and Per Diem appointments are available in these specialties:
- Acute/Critical Case Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Health Nursing
- Community Health Nursing
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner with Emergency Nursing expertise
- Nursing Informatics

DNP PROGRAMS

DNP-prepared nurses are invited to join the faculty for our Newark, NJ-based DNP programs. We are specifically seeking a faculty member with a strong background in the following specialty:
- Nursing Informatics

TO APPLY

Please submit your CV with a letter of interest to Wendy A. Ritch, MA, MTS, Assistant Dean for Administration, UMDNJ-School of Nursing, 65 Briggs St., Suite 1127, Newark NJ 07101-7709; or email: sncareers@umdnj.edu.

UMDNJ offers competitive salaries and excellent benefits. Equal opportunity/affirmative-action employer. UMDNJ is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, M/F/D/V.

CONTACT US TO SIGN UP FOR OUR NEXT OPEN HOUSE
201.559.6077
graduate@felician.edu
Fungal Infections Associated with Contaminated Methylprednisolone Injections: Review and Insights

When the word ‘research’ is mentioned, what words come to mind that are associated with it? Data might be one of the first ones spoken. When the word ‘epidemiology’ is mentioned, what words come to mind that are associated with it? Once again, data might be the first one spoken. Hence, the unique link between research and epidemiology. For this reason, we chose to review a timely article on fungal infections associated with contaminated methylprednisolone injections from a single compounding pharmacy in New England. Barbara Carothers, a public health staff person at the NJ Department of Health (NJDOH), and LPN Forum board member, participated in data collection related to this issue and shared her knowledge and experience as part of this emergency public health response, as a co-author in an article published in the New England Journal of Medicine (See reference at end of article). In the following discussion, Dr. Susan Fowler, New Jersey Nurse Research Corner editor, and Barbara Carothers share the details of this critical event.

The trigger for this emergency public health response is referred to as an index patient, a 56 year old patient with aspergillus meningitis who had received an epidural glucocorticoid injection for lower back pain at an ambulance surgical center 46 days earlier. Additional patients were identified in Tennessee, four of whom suffered posterior circulation strokes. All patients had received medication from a single compounding pharmacy in New England. After being notified, the pharmacy voluntarily recalled three lots of medications but more states began to report additional cases of fungal meningitis and stroke.

The NJDOH started a prompt investigation surrounding the facilities that received the products and the local health departments (LHDs) where these facilities were located. Regional epidemiologists covering the jurisdictions of facilities receiving implicated lots were initially notified and asked to assist facilities with identifying patients exposed to the three implicated lots. Regional epidemiologists were asked to make contact with these facilities and assist with assembling lists of patients exposed to the implicated lots. Additional data collection necessary. The facilities (with help from the regional epidemiologist in some cases) were responsible to contact patients.

Patients who may have received the implicated medication were contacted by phone calls and door-to-door visits. They were instructed not to leave a voice message but to speak with the patient or caretaker personally. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requested all patient notification information be sent to the NJDOH by October 5th.

Staff at the NJDOH coordinated patient outreach and data collection for the facilities in New Jersey. A system was provided and disseminated by the NJDOH to the facilities. NJDOH also provided them with talking points (which were updated throughout the outbreak), on-line lists, and patient questionnaires for use during communication with patients or caretakers.

The process of identification of cases began with a chart review to compile a list of patients potentially exposed to the implicated lots. Regional epidemiologists identified probable cases and patients were advised to seek medical evaluation immediately and asymptomatic patients were advised to seek medical evaluation should they become symptomatic. New Jersey’s Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS) was utilized to keep track of patients who presented for evaluation and/or became cases.

Staff at the NJDOH learned, through speaking with the providers’ office personnel that some patients were very concerned and sought medical evaluation immediately, even though they were not symptomatic. Some were concerned about the financial aspect of diagnosis and treatment, and were reluctant to have testing done.

The definition of a case changed along the course of this outbreak, but an early definition included one of the following: 1) meningitis of unknown cause that developed after an epidural or paraspinal injection; 2) posterior circulation stroke due to presumed meningitis after an injection; or 3) clinic or hospitalization for an abscess, or other infection of unknown cause in spinal or paraspinal structures or near injection site; and, 4) clinician diagnosed osteomyelitis or worsening inflammatory arthritis of a joint after an injection, without a known cause.

Physicians were asked to have a low threshold for lumbar puncture and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) at the site of injection. Clinical records were reviewed and symptomatic patients classified using CDC case definitions. The current New Jersey case count as of January 28th, 2013, was forty-eight with 41 meningitis cases, 6 also have an abscess/osteomyelitis, 6 patients with abscess/osteomyelitis, and 1 individual suffering from a joint infection.

Initially, facilities were asked to follow-up with patients for three months after their last injection. As the investigation evolved and the incubation period became longer, follow-up has increased to six months following the last injection. The New Jersey DOH has provided guidance including an algorithm to assist facilities with follow-up.

Over 13,000 persons were identified nationally as having the potential for being exposed to medication from at least one of the three lots with most exposed through epidural, spinal, and paraspinal injections. By mid-December, 590 cases had been identified in 19 states with 37 patients having died. Thirty-three cases (9%) had suffered strokes and when the location was known, 24 (96%) involved the posterior circulation. Therefore, a relatively small proportion of exposed individuals developed disease as result of exposure. Unfortunately, these numbers may be underestimates since there still has not been sufficient time for symptoms to be manifested clinically.

In New Jersey, 40 cases were identified from 639 persons potentially exposed. This number equates to an infection rate of 6.3 persons potentially exposed (per 100,000 potentially exposed). This number has changed to 705 potentially exposed.

When a symptomatic patient presents for evaluation, specimens obtained from lumbar puncture, joint aspiration, and surgical intervention, for example are tested at the facility (or commercial lab). Specimens from voriconazole alone, 42% received both voriconazole and amphotericin B, and less than 1% amphotericin B alone. The overall attack rate was 4.4 cases per 100 exposed persons.

Authors presented substantial data reflecting epidemiological and laboratory answers and trends. Tables and figures can succinctly explain the data, often more eloquently than the raw numbers. Authors highlight the fact that this investigation was part of an emergency. The experience definitely felt like an emergency, according to staff at the NJDOH. Across the country case counts were rising. Physicians were asked to have a low threshold for testing cases.

The outbreak investigation team consisting of experts in clinical care, surveillance, communications, and logistics. The NJDOH provided written guidance to the facilities, hosted conference calls for the affected facilities, collected data from regional epidemiologists. Various Local Information Network System (LINCS) messages to healthcare and public health groups were disseminated to provide an overview of the investigation, clarify clinical issues, offer guidance, and provide updates on the situation. Information, Frequently Asked Questions, and talking points were posted on the DOH website and updated as the outbreak evolved.

Treatment was critical for suppressing or preventing fungal infection. Over 50% of case patients received voriconazole, 42% received both voriconazole and amphotericin B, and less than 1% amphotericin B alone. The overall attack rate was 4.4 cases per 100 exposed persons.

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New Jersey’s Medicinal Marijuana Program Update
by Ken Wolski, RN, MPA, Executive Director
Coalition for Medical Marijuana—New Jersey, Inc.

On December 6, 2012, medical marijuana finally began to be available to patients in New Jersey who have enrolled in the state’s Medicinal Marijuana Program (MMP). Marijuana is being sold on an appointment-only basis from Greenleaf Alternative Treatment Center (ATC) in Montclair, NJ. Greenleaf is the only ATC in the state that is currently open.

In order to begin the registration process, patients must have a Reference Number that was provided to them by a physician who has registered with the Department of Health and with whom the patient has a bona fide doctor-patient relationship. The physician must have on-going responsibility for the patient’s condition. Fewer than 200 physicians have registered so far, which represents less than 1% of the 30,000 licensed physicians in the state. Advanced practice nurses are not authorized to participate in the NJ’s Medicinal Marijuana Program.

The NJ Department of Health web site includes the Registration Process for Patients (and Physicians), along with a list of physicians who have registered to date. See: http://www.state.nj.us/health/medicalmarijuana/index.shtml

In order to complete the registration process, patients must have computer access and an email address. Patients and their caregivers, if applicable must have a government-issued photo ID, proof of New Jersey residency, a passport style photograph, and a copy of the law, see: http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/.

The “New Jersey Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act” became law in January 2010. For a copy of the law, see: http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/PL09/307.PDF

There are no application fees for the possession and use of up to two ounces of marijuana a month when a New Jersey licensed physician recommends it for a patient with one of the qualifying medical conditions. Qualifying medical conditions include:

- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- Multiple sclerosis (MS)
- Terminal cancer
- Muscular dystrophy
- Inflammatory bowel disease, including Crohn’s disease
- Terminal illness, if the physician has determined a prognosis of less than 12 months of life.

The following conditions apply if resistant to, or if the patient is intolerant to, conventional therapy:

- Seizure disorder, including epilepsy
- Intractable skeletal muscular spasticity
- Glaucoma

The following conditions apply, if severe or chronic pain, severe nausea or vomiting, or wasting syndrome results from the condition or treatment:

- Positive status for human immuno deficiency virus
- Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
- Cancer

Patients may designate a caregiver to assist them with obtaining and using the marijuana. The caregiver must register and obtain a state-issued ID card as noted above, and must also complete a Criminal Background Check at his or her own expense. Eventually, ATCs will be set up in the north, central and southern parts of the state. The Centers are tightly regulated by the State. Of the 18 medical marijuana states in the U.S., only the Garden State and Delaware prohibit home cultivation of medical marijuana.

The Department of Health approved applications for six non-profit organizations to run ATCs in New Jersey in March 2013. Contact information for these ATCs can be found at: http://www.state.nj.us/health/documents/atc_contacts.pdf

However, local zoning boards and townships in the state have taken steps to reject several ATC applications. The Department of Health has done little to reassure these local communities that they will closely monitor, investigate and oversee all actions by the ATCs, and that these ATCs will be discreet, professional and secure. Moreover, the Department of Health established extensive background checks for all those associated with ATCs which has also delayed implementation of the MMP.

The Coalition for Medical Marijuana—New Jersey (CMNJ) is a statewide organization that has been providing education about the benefits of safe and legal access to medical marijuana for ten years. For more information, join the CMNJ email list for monthly updates. Visit: http://www.cmnmri.org/CMNJ

The American Cannabis Nurses Association offers information for nurses about the myriad issues related to medical marijuana/cannabis, as well as advocacy for patients. Visit: http://www.cannabisnurse.org
ON VOTING will be sent to members via e-mail blast and considering a position on the Region board. Details to the Institute, Vice President to the Congress on Policy, August 1, 2013-July 31, 2014 cycle: President Elect, The following positions will be up for election for the Secretary and Nominations Committee Representative.

ELECTIONS

A fine dining restaurant. Details will be posted on our educational program. This event is traditionally held at the Trinity Lutheran Church Faith Kitchen in Dover during March and April.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: Continuing education events on the topics of vascular medicine and the care of the bariatric surgery patient are currently in development.

ANNUAL DINNER: In May, REGION 1 will hold its annual dinner at the NJSNA website. Details will be posted on our Facebook pages.

BYLAWS: ANA and NJSNA have revised their bylaws, so our Region revised its bylaws to reflect the changing structure and operation of our Region and to be consistent and look for e-mails from NJSNA announcing all our events. Sign up to come out, and have a great time as we work together to advance nursing. We are focusing on leadership, advocacy and community service in 2013.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: On Saturday, March 2, 2013, members served as judges at the Chester Schools Science Fair at the Black River Middle School in Chester. Above and beyond their basic school participation in their science fair, the children submitted health-related projects and received special NJSNA/Region 1 Nursing Science Award.

Region 1 nurses also continue to provide service and health education at the Trinity Lutheran Church.

REGION 1 Board of Directors and ELECTIONS

These positions are currently vacant: Secretary, and Chair of the nominating committee.

ANNUAL DINNER:

In May, REGION 1 will hold its annual dinner at the NJSNA website. Details will be posted on our Facebook pages.

BYLAWS:

ANA and NJSNA have revised their bylaws, so our Region revised its bylaws to reflect the changing structure and operation of our Region and to be consistent.
CAMP NURSE NEEDED

Seeking Registered Nurses for a challenging & fun summer in the beautiful White Mountains

Indian Acres Camp for Boys and Forest Acres Camp for Girls
are located two miles apart on the Saco River, outside the town of Fryeburg, in southwestern Maine.

ACA Accredited camps. June 14th-August 11th. MD on site. Hospital 10 miles away. RN licensure required. Compensation is negotiable. Children can attend free!

For more information & to apply visit us at www.indianacres.com
Drexel University’s online nursing programs are ranked among the top 20 nationally.*

Visit Drexel-Nursing.com to learn why it matters where you earn your BSN.

*U.S. News & World Report “Best Online Colleges 2013”

New industry reports estimate that over 75% of nurses will have their BSN by 2020.

How will yours stack up?

In Grateful Appreciation to VNA Health Group Nurses for their dedication and commitment to keeping New Jersey residents healthy at home and in the community through innovative, quality care.