

CEO Annual Report 2019

Collaboration

We, here at NJSNA, continue to reach out to the many nursing and non-nursing groups to partner with us to advance the profession of nursing in New Jersey. We are also very active in collaborating with the many schools of nursing in NJ to encourage future nurses to join NJSNA, their professional organization. We are working hard to ensure that nurses are allowed to practice to the full extent of their licensure and practice. Through our marketing company CMA we have a strong presence on social media

Political Action

We continue to monitor bills that effect nursing practice in NJ such as the Nurse Staffing, Joint Protocol, and Protection of the title “Nurse” to name a few. We were successful in getting the Multi State Licensure Compact signed into law in August. INPAC, JPSG and COPP worked collaboratively together to review legislative bills and our elected officials voting history. INPAC, under the direction of Keith Hovey, Chairperson and Barbara Wright, Consultant, made recommendations to the NJSNA Board of Directors on endorsements of candidates for the General Assembly this year.

Membership

In March of 2018, NJSNA was invited by ANA to join the reduced membership pilot. The reduced dues for dual (ANA/NJSNA) membership has been very successful. We now have over 5900 members. There will be a bylaws amendment at this year’s membership annual meeting to approve the pilot as a permanent dues structure. Eleanor Dietrich Withington, VP and Chair of the Membership Committee and her committee members continue to work on strategies to increase membership. Our Membership Coordinator, Sandy Kerr, retired last October. She will be sorely missed. Jennifer Chanti has joined NJSNA as the Membership Coordinator and my Executive Assistant. Any issues regarding membership or member access to our website please email Jennifer (jennifer@njsna.org).

Finances

NJSNA/IFN remains fiscally responsible. Both boards, with the assistance of Barbara Chamberlain, Treasurer, watch the revenue and expenses on a bimonthly basis. We would like to thank our Accountant Firm of John Pavlovsky and our onsite accounts Lynn Stauffer and Mouhcine Sghir for the great job they have been doing this past year. We had a positive net balance for fiscal year 2019. Going into fiscal year 2020 we have a balanced budget for both NJSNA and are working on additional revenue sources for the IFN. Please continue your support of the IFN’s fundraising events and please donate to the scholarship funds.

ANA Collaboration

We continue to work with the American Nurses Association to communicate, in both directions, the issues surrounding nursing practice today. Kate Gillespie, President, Mary Ellen, President Elect, Norma Rodgers, Past President, Barbara Chamberlain, Past President and Daniel Misa Past President Region I represented you at the American Nurses Association (ANA) Membership Assembly in Washington DC. As you remember the Membership Assembly replaced the House of Delegates. Eleanor Dietrich, VP Membership, Saundra Austin-Benn Past Board Member and Linda Gural, Past President were also present with us at the Membership Assembly. These members consulted with us regarding the business at hand. The Membership Assembly voted to make the Value Priced Pilot a permanent dues structure. Your Membership Assembly Representatives also participated in the election of ANA Board Members. We will continue to collaborate with ANA and other member states to promote the profession of nursing and safeguard nursing practice. While at ANA Membership Assembly, the NJ contingency met with several US Congressional Legislative Aides from NJ to discuss pertinent national and state wide nursing issues including Nursing Reinvestment Act and Nurse Staffing.

NJSNA Board

The Board of NJSNA, President, Kate Gillespie, President, Mary Ellen Levine, President Elect and Chair of the IFN, Eleanor Dietrich-Withington Vice President, Linda Gural, Secretary, Barbara Chamberlain, Treasurer, Ben Evans, Past President; Erica Edfort, Chair of COPP; Directors: Joanne Penn, Brenda Peterson, Tara Haegele and Susan Weaver, Region Presidents: Region 1: Sandy Foley, Region 2: Fatima Sanchez, Region 3: Lynda Arnold, Region 4: Beth Knox, Region 5: Summer Valenti and Region 6: Mary Fortier, continue to do a tremendous job of keeping abreast of the current issues in health care that effect nursing practice. Our strategic plan continues to focus on Advocating, Positioning and Educating NJ Registered Nurses. In addition, the Presidents of our Six Regions have done a great job in grassroots advocacy. The Region Presidents truly represent you well. I thank all of them for their dedication and endless service to the nurses in NJ. The Board with the support of the NJSNA staff are dedicated to continuously improving in the areas of membership growth, communications and political action.

NJSNA Staff

All of our endeavors cannot move forward without NJSNA Staff support:

- Deb Harwell, Deputy Director and Convention Manager, who absolutely has magical powers in making the impossible become the reality.
- Terri Ivory, Director of RAMP is continuously making sure that our nurses in RAMP are supported and are kept on their recovery track.
- Jennifer Chanti, Executive Assistant and Membership Coordinator keeps us, especially me, on track with our board and NJSNA business.
- Tyea Santiago, BSN, RN, Education Coordinator is a “professional” multi-tasker.

- Kortnei Jackson, Receptionist and Assistant to the Education Department keeps our records for the approver and provider units in order.
- Annemarie Edinger, Administrative Assistant keeps the RAMP program running smoothly.
- Our RAMP Case Managers: Joan Peditto, Benita James, Andrew Haviland, Etha Westbrook and our Intake Coordinator Emily Behm are dedicated to helping our fellow nurses in need of assistance.
- Although not staff members:
 - To all our Chairs: Varsha Singh, APN Forum; Kathy Prendergast, SPAPN; Erica Edfort, COPP; Dan Misa, Nominations; Mary Krug, Legislative Sub Committee: Susan Weaver, LPN Forum Ad Hoc Committee: Tracey Jaworski-Lucas Healthy Nurse Healthy NJ; Diana Tocko and Barbara Blozen, Committee on CE and Eileen Triolo, IFN Provider Unit. Thank you for your leadership in your respective committees.
 - New Jersey Nursing Student Staff Advisor from NJSNA Regina Adams, continues to mentor the next generation of nurses (and future members). Barbara Cannella has accepted the role of NJSNA Liaison to the NJNS.

NJ Board of Nursing

We continue to monitor the Board of Nursing issues that have been occurring over the past 2 years. They have been working with a volunteer board and although most of the positions have been filled there is a large learning curve for the new board members. We also continue to advocate for a budget that meets the needs of this important governing body. We were asked to take an active role in advocating for immediate resolution by our governmental leaders and our President Kate Gillespie has done an outstanding job in doing so

Contact Us

NJSNA staff will continue to reach out to not just NJSNA members but anyone who impacts nurses in NJ to confer on the topics that affect the profession of Nursing. If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at judy@njsna.org.