

NJSNA/IFN CEO Report

Judy Schmidt, DHA, MSN, RN, NJSNA/IFN CEO



Political Updates:

Although co-sponsors continue to be added to the following bills, there has been no movement of the bills as of 1-8-25.

Legislation Watch:

- Removal of APN/ Collaborating Agreement (A944/S1983)
 - Referred to Assembly Health Committee
 - Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
- 38/80 Assemblypersons and 21/40 Senators are sponsoring bill
- Asm. Conaway major obstacle to movement of bill now in Congress
- Awaiting appointment of Assembly Health Chair
- Nurse Staffing Committees (A966)
 - Referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee
- Nurse Title Protection (A4202)
 - Referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee
- BSN in 10 (A1017/S1050)
 - Referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee
 - Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
- Establishes initiatives related to nurses (A1659/S1949)
 - Referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee
 - Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
- Requires issuance of report on certain information and data on processing of applications for professional and occupational licenses and mandates review of training and call intake in Division of

Consumer Affairs (A2805/S1761)

- Referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee
- Referred to Senate Commerce Committee
- Nurse Ratio bill — Sets mandated nurse to patient ratios (A9/S1941).
 - Referred to Assembly Health Committee
 - Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee

Meetings held with NJ Legislators and/or their staff regarding Nursing focused bills:

- Senator Vin Gopal District 11 (Tinton Falls/Monmouth County)
- Asm. James Kennedy District 22 (Rahway/Middlesex County)
- Both considering support of A944/S1983 with reservations.

Collaboration with the New Jersey Board of Nursing:

- All NJ Board of Nursing positions have been filled except one LPN and two public members.
- Continuing to facilitate resolution to problems that NJSNA members and non-members are experiencing. The NJSNA Executive Board met with leadership in the Division of Consumer Affairs last year to discuss issues that our members were having when contacting the board of nursing. This dialogue will remain open until resolutions are obtained.
- NJSNA continues to assist its members with any issues regarding licensure.
- NJBON subcommittee reviewing a proposed rule to add procedures to the APN joint protocols. Nursing Organizations including NJSNA have sent letters opposing this proposal. NJBON sent

proposed rule to the Attorney' General's (AG) office for legal opinion. Still waiting for a response from AG's office.

Collaboration with the American Nurses Association (ANA):

Attended ANA Leadership Summit
Attended Executive Enterprise Conference

Collaboration with other organizations:

NJSNA continues to network with and provide valuable input into the following:

- NJ Business and Industry Health Care Policy Committee
- Clinicians for Climate Health.
- Jersey Renews
- ANCC Taskforce Subcommittee
- Consortium of New Jersey Nurse Educators
- ONL NJ Legislation and Advocacy Committee
- Rutgers University School of Nursing Advisory Committee
- Kean University School of Nursing Advisory Committee
- Felician University School of Nursing Advisory Committee
- Thomas Edison State University Advisory Committee
- Nurture New Jersey- looking at Maternal-child mortality and morbidity.
- New Jersey Collaborating Center
- New Jersey Nursing and Emotional Well-Being Institute (NJ-NEW)
- New Jersey Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- New Jersey State School Nurses
- New Jersey Nursing Students
- Nurses Service Organization (NSO) Insurance Company
- Lorna Breen Caring for Caregivers NJ Executive Committee

Meetings attended:

- Attended NJ Business and Industry Association Policy Conference- Panel discussion held with Gubernatorial Candidates:
 - Steve Fulop, Democrat, Jersey City Mayor
 - Sean Spiller, Democrat, Montclair Mayor and President of the NJ Education Association
- Steve Sweeney, Democrat, Former Senate President
- Jack Ciattarelli, Republican, Former Assemblyman
- Bill Spadea Republican, NJ 101.5 Talk host
- Attended Webinar on Nurses in the Media-

Shaping Health Policy

- Attended United Black Coalition Gala honoring the National Black Nurses Association NJ Chapters

Presentations:

- Ocean County Vocational Technical Schools on ANA Nursing Ethics and Social Media ■

Region 1 (Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Warren)

Karen Kinsley, MSN, RN, OCN, NJSNA Region 1 President

Community Service:

We continue participating in our community activities, supporting those in need (as we monitor transmission rates in our area). Plans for community service include preparing and serving meals at the St. Mary's Hackettstown Food Pantry. We will revisit opportunities to be able to participate in the Chester Science Fair and Autism Speaks events as we have done in past years. We continue to donate to various food banks in the area.

Lauren Krause is our Warren County

Coordinator, donated to DASACC Wardrobe of Hope, a free clothing boutique, on behalf of Region 1 nurses. Thank you, Lauren, for organizing the clothing collection and dropping the items off. We appreciate all the work you do for R1!

Passaic County Coordinator, no updates at this time.

Morris County Coordinator, Chester Science Fair date pending

Social Media Presence:

We continue to promote Region 1 news

and events via our social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. @NJSNARegion1

Fundraising:

Florence Nightingale card sale continues. Please contact lakrause@optonline.net for more information.

EDUCATION:

Healing Beyond Borders
Maria Argen

<https://www.healingbeyondborders.org> ■

Region 2 (Bergen & Hudson)

Margaret Hopkins, BSN, RN, CCRN, HBN-BC, NJSNA Region 2 President

Region 2 would like to welcome new board member Sol Angelica Munoz as the VP of Congress and Policy. We look forward to her fresh perspective and contributions. Welcome back for another term to Maggie Hopkins (President); Pavel Erushalimski (VP of Communications); and Linda Corigliano (VP of Membership). Here's to getting a whole lot done!

Our January meeting was a virtual presentation entitled How to Talk to Patients About Medical Cannabis. If you were not able to attend, look for the cloud to link to the recording in

your email or request it from Maggie at julejess@gmail.com. We are looking to put together a focus group in February geared towards staff nurses. If interested, again reach out to Maggie or look for the email invite. All regions will be welcome. Looking forward to March, we will be welcoming back Denise Olsen, author of the now published Strong and Soulful: Graced by Grief. Her talk last year was very powerful and this next presentation should be just as moving.

We would like to express our gratitude to Linda Corigliano for participating in a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lym-

phoma Society. If you are a Region 2 member and you have a cause that you would like us to support. please bring it up at the next meeting. We are eager to contribute to the community.

Putting this out there early, Region 2 will be purchasing a table for the CARES awards dinner. If interested in attending with the group, we will start putting together a list of names soon.

Congratulations to Maggie Hopkins for completing her MSN in Population Health at Caldwell University. ■