

# From the Desk of the Executive Director



Jeanine Santelli, PhD, RN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN

## 2025 Progress toward ANA-NY Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

- Advocate for the public and nursing profession in NYS
  - Increase visibility of ANA-NY and promote its role as the voice of NYS nurses
    - ED and lobbyists participate in the ANA Lobbyists Meeting
    - Maintain our certification and biannual reporting to NYS Commission on Ethics in Lobbying in Government
    - Annual Advocacy Day with Legislation Committee, Political Action Committee, and Board members in attendance – 22 participants attended 24 meetings
    - Grassroots advocacy campaign during Nurses' Week – 475 messages sent by 196 members with 110 personalized
    - Board Bill approved by Senate
  - Provide current information on ANA-NY Legislative Priorities in newsletters, on website, and to stakeholders
    - See periodicals, website, and weekly emails
  - Empower Legislation Committee to identify positions on pending legislation
    - See Legislation Committee report
  - Charge President and Executive Director to issue position statements in collaboration with Lobbyist
    - Signed letters of support
      - Federal
        - ICAN
        - Medicaid funding
      - State
        - Immunization Information System
    - Memorandum of Support for Healthy Workplace bill
    - Signed letter in opposition to cigar lounges
- Seek out and promote innovative services and benefits that support member needs
  - Structure programming, including the annual conference, with opportunities for developing and maintaining connections
    - See Engagement Committee report
    - See Annual Conference agenda
  - Identify value-added membership benefits
    - Resumed and upgraded publication of print news magazine
    - Promoting member benefits through monthly features on social media and email platforms
    - Resumed publication of JANANY after brief disruption
    - Named new Editor-in-Chief for JANANY
- Abstracts accepted for 2025 Annual conference
  - Podium – 15
  - Poster – 27
  - Escape Room - 4
- Encourage member engagement
  - Staff training in membership engagement strategies
  - Opened member store for ANA-NY branded items
  - Established new Young Professionals SIG
  - Created points program reflecting levels of member engagement
- Develop engaging member onboarding program to energize and intrigue new members
  - Created trickle email for onboarding new members
  - Working collaboratively with ANA for unified onboarding messaging
- Increase use of technology to engage and inform younger members
  - Conference application
  - General ANA-NY application launched
  - LinkedIn Live sessions with President
- Collaborate with professional nursing associations at all levels
  - Enhance and promote Organizational Affiliate opportunities
    - Created trickle email series highlighting OA benefits
  - Find opportunities to lead professional issues through advocacy, white papers, and collaborations
    - Collaborating with ANA-California for LGBT Health Equity study
  - ED and lobbyists attend NYSED Board for Nursing meetings
  - ED working with NYONL and VT/NY Magnet Consortium to plan a joint event
  - White papers on Maternal Mortality and Health Care Worker Mental Health Post-COVID
- Encourage member participation in ANA
  - Member selected for ANAI (7 submissions for 1 slot)
  - Seven members attended ANA Membership Assembly
  - ED attended Executive Enterprise Conference
  - ED and President attended Leadership Summit
- Increase visibility of association through expanded exhibiting opportunities
  - NYONL – White Plains
  - NYSAASC – Saratoga Springs
  - NYSANA – Long Island
  - WNY/Finger Lakes Research Day - Buffalo

- NYLN – Buffalo
- NPA Region 3 – Syracuse
- ENA – Saratoga Springs
- NYS Public Health - Ithaca
- AWHONN - Tarrytown
- NACLI – Long Island
- NSANYS – Long Island
- NYASN – Albany
- PNAWNY – Niagara Falls
- RN Certification Day at Highland Hospital - Rochester
- Provide timely and accurate information and education to all stakeholders
- Seek out speakers on a variety of topics to provide comprehensive educational opportunities
  - Health Equity Task Force received grant from ANA for programming
  - See Engagement Committee report
  - See Annual Conference agenda
- Promote speakers' bureau to showcase our own members as expert speakers
  - Over 300 entries
- Seek out and promote existing educational opportunities offered by ANA and other organizations
- CINAHL subscription includes free webinars ■

## Legislative Update

Amy Kellogg and Caiti Anderson

Tuesday, November 4 was Election Day in New York. This year featured municipal elections throughout the State, with mayoral elections in Albany, Buffalo, Syracuse, and New York City. The most watched election was the New York City mayoral race, which drew national attention, after Assemblymember Zohran Mamdani resoundingly won the Democratic primary in June. Assemblymember Mamdani defeated former Governor Andrew Cuomo, running as an independent, and Republican Curtis Sliwa with over 50% of the vote. The results of the New York City mayoral election will impact the 2026 legislative session in Albany, as the State Legislature and the Governor are necessary to implement many of the policy proposals discussed in the mayoral race.

As the elections have played out, we remained focused on legislation that passed both houses during the 2025 Legislative Session and are preparing for the 2026 legislative session. One of the highest-profile bills awaiting the Governor's actions is the Medical Aid in Dying Act. This bill would allow a terminally ill patient to request and use medication for medical aid in dying. Eleven other states and the District of Columbia permit medical aid in dying, but New York's bill is much more

narrow than other jurisdictions. It would apply only to individuals who have an incurable and irreversible illness with six months or less to live, which would need to be confirmed by two doctors. The request for medical aid in dying assistance would need to be witnessed by two adults who do not stand to inherit anything in the case of the patient's death. The legislation was first introduced a decade ago, and this year is the first year it has passed either house. While ANA-NY has not previously taken a position on this legislation, the Legislative Committee voted to support this legislation, and we issued a letter of support to the Governor as she considers whether to sign the bill into law.

Another bill of interest that has yet to be acted on by the Governor would require hospitals to establish a violence prevention program. This program would need to include workplace safety and security assessments. Further, the hospital must develop a safety and security plan that addresses identified workplace violence threats or hazards. The bill also requires any hospital operating in New York City to have at least one off-duty law enforcement officer, or trained security personnel, always present in the emergency department. For those jurisdictions



outside of New York City, there must be an off-duty law enforcement officer, or trained security personnel, at the hospital with priority on being near the emergency department. ANA-NY worked with several other health care provider groups to support this legislation, and we will have also shared our support with the Governor of this legislation.

We are also working on shoring up our legislative priorities for the 2026 session. One of our main legislative priorities is a bill would require hospitals to have a registered professional nurse as a sitting and voting member of the governing entity responsible for developing a hospital's strategic plan, structure, systems, policies and programs. ANA-NY drafted this bill and worked for its introduction. This bill is sponsored by Senator Lea Webb and Assemblymember Karines Reyes. We made extraordinary progress in 2025 on this bill as it passed in the Senate. We have been working on a minor amendment to the legislation to address an issue raised by Assembly. It is our hope that with this amendment, we will also pass the Assembly next year. In addition to working on getting the bill passed, we also worked to put together a strong coalition to sup-

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