A MESSAGE FROM MNA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Moving Forward, Together

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As we move forward into a new quarter, I am continually inspired by the strength of our membership and the dedication of the nurses who choose to be part of the Maryland Nurses Association (MNA). All MNA members are automatically members of the American Nurses Association (ANA). Your ANA membership alone is more than a benefit valued at $1,261 (standard) to $2,208 (premier)—it is an investment in professional advocacy, leadership development, and a collective voice that advances nursing not only throughout Maryland, but also across the United States.

Through a partnership with ANA, we are excited to offer a **Group Membership Pilot Program**. Organizations, schools of nursing, healthcare facilities, and others can purchase annual ANA & MNA memberships for their registered nurses at a significant discount. Employers are using this program as a benefit or reward for their registered nurses. The pilot has demonstrated that participating organizations have greater retention rates. See the Maryland Nurses Association website for more information about your member benefits, as well as the details on the Group Membership Pilot Program.

MNA is excited to launch ***MNA Pulse***, a newsletter that serves as a central communication hub to keep nurses informed, connected, and engaged across the state. The newsletter provides timely updates on association events, educational opportunities, and professional development programs, helping members stay involved and advance their practice.

It highlights key nursing and healthcare news, including policy updates and regulatory changes that impact nurses and patient care. Advocacy content keeps members informed about legislative priorities, ongoing initiatives, and opportunities to raise the nursing voice at the local and state levels.

The ***MNA Pulse*** also celebrates the nursing community by featuring member achievements, volunteer leaders, district activities, and stories from nurses across diverse practice settings. By combining information, advocacy, and recognition, the newsletter strengthens professional identity, promotes engagement, and reinforces the association's role as the unified voice for nursing statewide.

Thank you for being an MNA member, and special thanks to the members who volunteer their time and expertise. You are the foundation of MNA, transforming member engagement into meaningful action. Together, through membership and service, we are shaping a stronger future for nurses and the communities we serve. ■

## Call for Abstracts: MNA123rd Annual Convention

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) is pleased to announce the call for abstract submissions for the 123rd Annual Convention, taking place October 8–9 at the Maritime Conference Center in Linthicum Heights, MD.

As MNA's largest event of the year, the annual convention brings together nurses from across the state for inspiring keynote speakers, engaging podium and poster presentations, and meaningful opportunities to connect with colleagues. This year's convention will once again showcase the depth, innovation, and leadership of Maryland's nursing community and we invite you to be part of it.

**MNA is currently accepting abstracts for three presentation formats.**

1. **Concurrent Podium Presentations** which include a 50-minute presentation followed by 10 minutes for Q&A.
1. **Spotlight Podium Presentations** which offer a focused 15-minute presentation (limited to 10 slides) with 5 minutes for Q&A.
1. **Poster Presentations** which feature a stand-alone visual display, with at least one author present during the session to engage attendees and discuss the work.

These formats provide flexible and meaningful ways to share research, evidence-based practice, quality improvement initiatives, and innovative approaches to nursing and healthcare.

Submitting an abstract is a unique opportunity to contribute to the collective knowledge of Maryland's nursing community while gaining professional visibility and recognition. Presenters are seen as leaders and thought partners, helping to advance best practices and inspire dialogue across specialties and settings. Whether you are an experienced presenter or sharing your work on this stage for the first time, MNA 123rd Annual Convention is an ideal forum to amplify your voice, collaborate with peers, and shape the future of nursing in Maryland.

For more information, visit https://www.marylandrn.org/event/123rd-annual-convention.