

Come Walk with Nurses House, Inc. on November 14, 2026, 7:00 am – 8:00 am

We hope you will join us for the annual Linda O'Brien Memorial Walk on November 14, 2026, at the ANA-NY Annual Conference in Troy, NY. Linda had been an avid supporter of Nurses House for decades and always donated the T-shirts each year for the walk. Since her death in April 2025, our yearly walk was appropriately named after her and it is a wonderful time for nursing colleagues to congregate and take a leisurely (or brisk) walk on the morning of the last day of the ANA-NY Conference. Please consider joining us this year and invite your friends and colleagues. November brings cooler air which reminds us that change can be refreshing.

Nurses House, Inc. is the only national fund for registered nurses who are out of work due to illness or injury. Our annual fundraiser walk raises much needed funds to support our grant program. ANA-NY members are invited to join us bright and early on Saturday morning of the conference for a short 20–30-minute walk. In addition to helping raise funds for our colleagues in need, it is a healthy and refreshing way to start your day! In addition, you will meet new colleagues as we embrace time together. Those who donate or raise \$25 or more will receive a Nurses House tee-shirt to proudly display your support. There will be prizes for the top three fundraisers. For more information, contact Stephanie Dague at sdague@nurseshouse.org and she will send you a link to register. We look forward to walking with you in November! ■



We have settled into our new office in Latham, NY and welcomed new Board members Susan Birkhead, PhD, RN and Ann Tahaney, RN

Person-Centered Tools, Trainings, and Opportunities for Dementia Care Professionals

Professionals across long-term and community-based care settings play a vital role in delivering compassionate, high-quality dementia care. To support this important work, the Alzheimer's Association offers a comprehensive suite of tools, trainings, and collaborative opportunities designed to strengthen person-centered practices and improve outcomes for individuals living with dementia.

A Central Resource: [ALZPro](#)

For those looking for a starting point, [ALZPro](#) serves as a one-stop hub tailored specifically for dementia care professionals. This robust platform brings together clinical guidelines, continuing education, research updates, and practical tools—all

in a single, accessible space. [ALZPro](#) is designed to support early detection efforts, enhance quality of care, and expand equitable access to dementia services. More information about the resources below can be found on [ALZPro](#) or by emailing education@alz.org.

Free, Practical Tools for Everyday Care

Care professionals are encouraged to explore and share several free, person-centered resources that can be easily integrated into daily practice:

- [Get to Know Me Form](#) – Helps care teams better understand each individual's preferences, history, and needs.
- [A Practical Guide to Person-Centered](#)

[Care](#) – Offers actionable strategies to incorporate person-centered principles across care settings.

- [Center for Dementia Respite Innovation Resources](#) – Offers a suite of toolkits and guides designed to promote understanding and access to high-quality respite care.

Each of these resources are designed to help professionals embed person-centered care into every interaction, fostering dignity and meaningful engagement.

Training and Certification Opportunities

Recognizing the demands of busy care environments, the Alzheimer's Associa-

tion offers flexible, evidence-informed training programs tailored for professionals in long-term care, assisted living, home care, hospice, and adult day settings:

- **essentiALZ® Training & Certification** – A self-paced, online program grounded in Dementia Care Practice Recommendations. Continuing education (CE) credits are available.
- **Dementia Care Navigation Training Series** – A pre-recorded, instructor-led program designed for care navigators. This training meets CMS GUIDE Model requirements and equips participants with essential navigation skills.
- **Curriculum Review** – Organizations can have their internal training programs reviewed and certified to ensure align-

ment with evidence-based dementia care practices.

Learning and Networking Opportunities

In addition to formal training, professionals can benefit from collaborative learning environments and peer engagement:

- **Alzheimer's and Dementia Care ECHO® Program (Free)** – This eight-week tele-mentoring program connects interdisciplinary care teams with dementia experts nationwide. Through case-based discussions, participants gain practical solutions to real-world challenges. NAB credits are available.
- **Dementia Care Provider Roundtable** – This noncompetitive consortium brings

together leaders from across long-term and community-based care settings to share insights, discuss emerging issues, and advance person-centered dementia care practices.

By leveraging these tools, trainings, and collaborative opportunities, care professionals can continue to elevate the standard of dementia care and create more supportive, individualized experiences for those they serve.

For additional information or questions, please visit [ALZPro](https://alzpro.alz.org) or contact education@alz.org. ■

Building Advocacy Through Mentorship: A New York State Nursing Story

Caroline Austin-Mattison, DNP, FNP-BC, Second Vice President, Greater New York City Black Nurses Association

Mentorship plays a vital role in how nurses grow into leaders and advocates. With the guidance of Dr. C. Alicia Georges, who established the National Black Nurses Association Day on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC, a vision that began at the national level was brought to life here in New York State.

In March 2025, Dr. Caroline Austin-Mattison founded and led the inaugural New York State Nurses Hill Day in Albany for two consecutive years. During that first year, Dr. Georges provided mentorship, insight, and strategic guidance that helped shape the planning and execution of this effort.

What began with engagement from two chapters quickly grew into a broader statewide movement and members from five local chapters joined advocacy day in 2026. Dr. Austin Mattison expanded the initiative, working alongside Tracey Ann White, MSN, AGPCNP, Bryanna Patterson, MS, FNP BC, and Carl Ankrah, PMHNP, to

mobilize nurses and leaders from chapters across New York State and made appointments and visited eight legislators as well as engaged others during the legislative briefing session.

The group met with leadership from the New York State Department of Health, including Commissioner James McDonald, M.D., MPH, along with several state legislators to address priorities affecting marginalized communities and the nursing workforce.

This work reflects how mentorship can inspire action and build leadership at every level. What started as guidance evolved into a statewide effort that continues to grow and strengthen the voice of nursing in policy and advocacy.

“Mentorship is how we move the work forward. When we invest in one another, we strengthen our voice, expand our reach, and create lasting change in our communities.” ■

