

# NURSES EXPO 2026



**FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026**

BMO Center

300 Elm Street Rockford, Illinois 61101

**PRESENTED BY STATELINE NURSES NETWORK**

# NURSES EXPO 2026



| ABOUT                                 | Page |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| About Stateline Nurses Network .....  | 3    |
| Stateline Nurses Network Mission..... | 3    |
| Past speakers.....                    | 4    |
| Conference demographics.....          | 4    |
| <hr/>                                 |      |
| CONFERENCE                            |      |
| Conference agenda.....                | 5    |
| General information.....              | 6    |
| <hr/>                                 |      |
| SPONSORSHIPS                          |      |
| Overview.....                         | 7    |
| Opportunities.....                    | 8    |
| Sponsorship application.....          | 14   |
| <hr/>                                 |      |
| PARTICIPANT OPPORTUNITIES             |      |
| Nursing awards.....                   | 15   |
| Nursing scholarship.....              | 16   |
| Poster presenter .....                | 17   |
| Volunteer grant.....                  | 18   |
| <hr/>                                 |      |
| CLOSING                               |      |
| Past Sponsors.....                    | 19   |
| Closing.....                          | 20   |

# NURSES EXPO 2026



## ABOUT

The Stateline Nurses Network, NFP (SNN) was organized in November 2012 when a group of registered nurses who were previously involved with the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) District 3 decided to continue local efforts to provide networking and educational opportunities after INA re-structured and the districts were dissolved earlier that year. This group felt a strong desire to continue their work to advance the profession of nursing and created a new not-for-profit (NFP) organization – the Stateline Nurses Network, NFP! The group wanted to include nurses from both Illinois and Wisconsin and recognized that other nearby states may have an interest in our mission as well.

SNN has a strong commitment to its annual Nurses Expo, one of the longest-running professional nursing conferences in Illinois. Networking and educational events are planned by committees. SNN acknowledges that nurses have a wide variety of practice settings and expertise. Professional nurses are actively and visibly involved with their communities, often volunteering for public organizations and events, supporting charitable agencies, and paying close attention to legislation that affects nursing and the welfare of our population. As nurses, we appreciate that the strength of our profession lies in both the richness of our history and wide educational and work experiences; but also in our unique ability as a large group of professionals to recognize our power to adapt and influence change, policymakers, and the health of our communities.

## Mission

The Stateline Nurses Network, NFP (SNN) is a not-for-profit group of registered nurses who seek to advance the profession of nursing through networking, collegiality, continuing education, and professional development.

We encourage every nurse to join their state's professional nursing organization to provide unity of message, goals, strategies, and resources. In Illinois, ANA-Illinois represents and supports the Nurse Practice Act, our state board of nursing, education of nurses, and societal and legal implications of our profession. Stateline Nurses Network serves as a valuable local resource to strengthen our voice, offer encouragement, and stimulate involvement in the profession of nursing.

# NURSES EXPO 2026

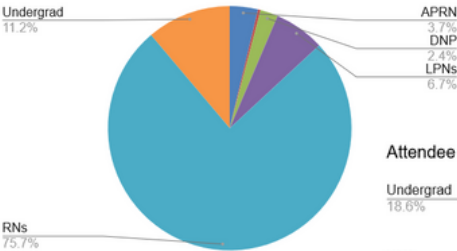


## PAST SPEAKERS

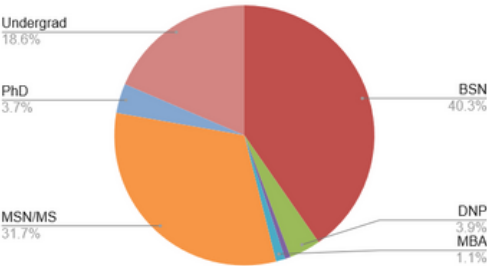
|   |   |
|---|---|
| Mary Gubbe Lee, MS, LSW, LCPC & Jeanette Towns, Recovery Support Specialist | Self-Care and Compassion Fatigue                          |
| Malgorzata Zasadny, Physical Therapist                                      | How Myofascial Therapy Can Benefit You and Your Patient   |
| Jessica Simmons, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, CWON, DNC                                | Getting a Leg Up on Your Patient's Lower Extremity Wounds |
| Alexa Brisard, PharmD   | Opioid Epidemic: Best Practices in Pain Management        |
| Natalie Parker, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, CNM                                     | Hypertensive Disorders in Obstetrics                      |
| Zachary Baker, BSPH, BSN, RN, CCRN, CFRN                                    | Come Fly with Me  |
| Jamie Counsell, MLS Healthcare Law, BSN, RN, Forensic Nurse Examiner        | Trauma Informed Care & Me                                 |
| Elizabeth Polit, JD and Lee A Williams, JD, MBA, M.Acc                      | Documentation Pitfalls                                    |
| John and Joy Beach  | The Experience of a Donor Family                          |
| Erin Brefeld, BSN, RN, CDCES  | Diabetes Education: A Nurse's Perspective                 |
| Melissa New, BSN, RN, FNE, CLS  | A Passion for Public Health                               |
| Angela Delmont, MSN, RN, IL PEL CSN   | From Fledgling to Full Flight                             |

## DEMOGRAPHICS

Attendee Certifications



Attendee Education



BASED ON 2022 ATTENDANCE DATA

# NURSES EXPO 2026



## AGENDA

### Friday, April 24, 2026 – 7:00AM-5:00PM

|                                   |                   |  |                            |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 7:00-8:00AM                       |                   | Registration/Breakfast provided by Stateline Nurses Network (SNN)/Exhibits/Posters<br>Stateline Nurses Network Welcome & Announcements |                            |
| Keynote                           | 8:00-9:15A<br>M   | Lisa Dunlap  | "Nurse Your Soul"          |
| Presentation                      | 9:15-9:45A<br>M   | Dr. Ridder   | Wellness presentation      |
| 9:45AM-10:15AM                    |                   | Break/Exhibits/Posters   |                            |
| MORNING BREAKOUT SESSION          |                   |  |                            |
| Session                           | Time              | Speaker(s) & Title   |                            |
| Session 1                         | 10:15-11:3<br>OAM | Anne Havrilla – Transgender Presentation / Implicit Bias/Cultural Diversity  |                            |
| Session 2                         |                   | June Oliver – Pain Presentation  |                            |
| Session 3                         |                   | Claire Bianco – Death Doula Presentation   |                            |
| 11:30AM-12:30PM                   |                   | Lunch (provided by SNN), Exhibit & Posters   |                            |
| FIRST AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSION  |                   |  |                            |
| Session                           | Time              | Speaker(s) & Title   |                            |
| Session 1                         | 12:30-1:45<br>PM  | Anne Havrilla – Transgender Presentation / Implicit Bias/Cultural Diversity  |                            |
| Session 2                         |                   | Rachelle Blough – Alzheimer's/Dementia Presentation  |                            |
| Session 3                         |                   | Nika Winiarski – Autism Presentation   |                            |
| SECOND AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSION |                   |  |                            |
| Session                           | Time              | Speaker(s) & Title   |                            |
| Session 1                         | 1:55-3:10P<br>M   | Dr. Taylor – Sepsis Presentation   |                            |
| Session 2                         |                   | Rachelle Blough – Alzheimer's/Dementia Presentation  |                            |
| Session 3                         |                   | Linda Carr – Nursing Beyond Borders Presentation   |                            |
| 3:10PM – 3:30PM                   |                   | Afternoon Break (snacks provided by SNN)   |                            |
| Keynote                           | 3:30-4:45P<br>M   | Kearsti-Rae Knowles  | Music Therapy Presentation |
| 4:45-5:05PM                       |                   | Awards, Posters, Scholarships, Raffles, Conclusion   |                            |

# NURSES EXPO 2026



## 2026 GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

When: Friday, April 24, 2026

Time: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Where:

BMO Center

300 Elm Street

Rockford, Illinois 61101



**NEW LOCATION**



# NURSES EXPO 2026



## SPONSORSHIP OVERVIEW

### *Why Sponsor with Nurses Expo?*

Some of the benefits of exhibiting at the Nurses Expo include:

- Exposure:
  - a. The exhibitor experience allows your company to raise brand exposure and market your organization to a group of nursing professionals across the region
  - b. Lead generation with 150 minutes of face-to-face time with attendees
  - c. Brand marketing inside & outside of Expo
- Networking:

The exhibitor room at the Nurses Expo is a bustling center of activity providing a wonderful environment to promote continuing education, new products, evidence-based research, healthcare services, networking, career opportunities, and more.

Attendees are eager to visit the Exhibitor Room and look forward to the opportunities it provides for nursing professionals in our area. Here is a breakdown of the exhibitor hall time frame:

Thursday, April 23, 2026: 2:00pm - 5:00pm Move-in / Set-Up

Friday, April 24, 2026: Exhibitor Hall Open During:

- 7:00am - 8:00am
- 9:45am - 10:15am
- 11:30am - 12:30pm
- 12:45pm Breakdown / Dismissal

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

Platinum Sponsorship



- Includes draped exhibitor booth 10x10ft
- 2- 8ft tables, chairs
- Corporate Recognition as a Platinum sponsor on all signage
- Corporate Recognition as a Platinum sponsor on SNN website with clickable link
- Corporate Recognition as a Platinum sponsor in conference materials/slideshow including logo/QR code to website)
- Advertising on our social media (Facebook)
- Full page ad on conference Jumbo Tron and arena banner
- Corporate logo on the official co-branded T-Shirt
- 2 attendees at booth with breakfast & lunch provided (none- CEU)
- 2 complementary admissions for nurses to attend conference with CEU (separate registration required)
- Swag Bag Insert- sponsor is responsible for production and delivery of item no later than 4/1/2026 based on 300 attendees.
- Speaker sponsorship of your choice
- Corporate logo on Exhibitor Passport - attendee must obtain platinum stamp to be entered in drawing
- And more.....\$12,000.00





SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

# Gold Sponsorship

- Includes exhibitor booth-1 8ft table with table dressings & 2 chairs
- Corporate Recognition as a GOLD Sponsor on signage
- Corporate Recognition as a GOLD Sponsor on SNN website
- Corporate name listed in Expo materials/slideshow as Gold Sponsor
- Advertising on SNN social media sites (Facebook, etc.)
- Full page ad in Expo Conference PowerPoint slideshow
- Corporate Logo on the official co-branded Nurses Expo t-shirt
- 2 attendees at booth (breakfast provided)
- Corporate logo on Exhibitor Passport
- And more.....\$2,000.00

# Silver Sponsorship

- Includes exhibitor booth-1 8ft table with table dressings & 2 chairs
- Corporate recognition as a SILVER sponsor on signage
- Corporate recognition as a SILVER Sponsor on SNN Website
- Corporation’s name listed in conference materials/slideshow
- Advertising on our SNN social media sites (Facebook, etc)
- Half page ad in Expo PowerPoint slideshow
- Corporate Name listed on the official co-branded Nurses Expo t-shirt
- Corporate logo on Exhibitor Passport
- And more.....\$1,000.00

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

Bronze Sponsorship

- Includes exhibitor booth-1 8ft table with table dressings & 2 chairs
- Corporate recognition as a BRONZE sponsor on signage
- Corporate Recognition as a BRONZE Sponsor on SNN website
- Advertising on our SNN social media (Facebook, etc.)
- Corporation’s name listed in Expo materials/PowerPoint slideshow
- And more.....\$500.00

Keynote Speaker Sponsorship

- Exclusive recognition as one of the Keynote Speaker Sponsors
  - Table sponsorship for the reserved speaker table
  - 1 complimentary conference registration with CEUs
- Limited Sponsorship.....\$1,000.00

Speaker Sponsorship

- Exclusive recognition as one of the Speaker Sponsors
  - Signage recognition in specific speaker room during specific speaker
- Limited Sponsorship.....\$500.00

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

# Breakfast Sponsorship

Place your organization at the forefront of this busy occasion with:

- Corporate recognition as breakfast sponsor
- Corporate recognition on signage at the breakfast venue
- Opportunity to include one promotional item in the conference swag bag

Limited Sponsorship.....\$2,500.00

# Lunch Sponsorship

- Corporate recognition as the lunch sponsor
- Corporate recognition on signage at the lunch venue
- Opportunity to include one promotional item in the conference swag bag

Limited Sponsorship.....\$2,500.00

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

# Refreshments Sponsorship

- Corporate recognition as the refreshments table sponsor
- Corporate recognition on signage at the snack table venue
- Opportunity to include one promotional item in the conference swag bag

Limited Sponsorship.....\$2,000.00

# Attendee Swag Bag Sponsorship

- Recognition as the conference bag sponsor
- Logo on the official co-branded Expo bag
- Special recognition from the podium during the conference
- Opportunity to include one promotional item in the conference bag

Limited Sponsorship.....\$2,000.00

# Literature Swag Bag Insert

- Corporate messaging inserted in all attendees' swag bags

Limited Sponsorship.....\$100.00/each

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

# Branded Product Swag Bag Insert

- Company branded product inserted into all the conference bags

Suggested inserts:  
Power Banks, drinkware, journal set, pen set, compression socks, badge reel, stress ball, keychain, stethoscope ID tag, gift cards for products/services

Limited Sponsorship .....\$200.00/each

# Advertisement

- Full page ad in Expo Conference PowerPoint Slideshow - w/o sponsorship
- Half page ad in Expo Conference PowerPoint Slideshow - w/o sponsorship

\* see website for details & pricing

# Photobooth Sponsorship

- Corporate recognition as the photobooth sponsor
- Corporate recognition on signage at the photobooth
- Special recognition on the website with photo posts
- Social media recognition

Limited Sponsorship.....\$1,000.00

## SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION

For more information regarding our current sponsorship opportunities, pricing, and registration, please email us your full contact information to:

[statelinenurses2013@gmail.com](mailto:statelinenurses2013@gmail.com).



NURSING AWARDS OVERVIEW

# Honor a fellow nurse or nursing supporter!

Every year, SNN honors nurses across the Stateline as a way to say, “Thank you! We value everything you do and for being the backbone of our community”. We also honor and thank a supporter of the nursing profession. Help SNN choose this year’s award winners.

Submit your nominations today!

- Distinguished Advocate for Nursing Award: an individual, group, agency, or institution that has promoted and/or supported nurses, the nursing profession, or the specific missions of nursing.
- Excellence in Nursing Award: an outstanding nurse who has demonstrated excellence in practice and in their contribution to the community outside of work.



+62

Awards Given

For Excellence in Nursing and  
Distinguished Advocacy



Scan the QR code or go to  
[www.statelinenurses.org](http://www.statelinenurses.org) to complete  
an award nomination form

# NURSES EXPO 2026



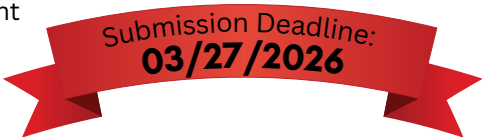
## SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW

The Stateline Nurses Network is pleased to announce the availability of four scholarship awards. The members of the Stateline Nurses Network wish to recognize individuals who demonstrate excellence in both academic and clinical performance.

Applicants should reside in or attend school in Northern Illinois or Southern Wisconsin. Monetary awards in the amount of \$1,000.00 will be presented to selected applicants who demonstrate potential for excellence in professional nursing practice.

**Awards are available in each of four categories:**

- Pre-licensure student RN or LPN (must be enrolled in at least 2nd term of clinical courses)
- BSN degree completion student
- Graduate student in nursing
- Doctoral student



Scan the QR code or go to [www.statelinenurses.org](http://www.statelinenurses.org) to complete a scholarship application



## PAST RECIPIENTS:

- 2025:
- Perla Gonzalez - Pre-License
  - Mia Rudolph, RN, - BSN
  - Crystal Gonzalez, BSN, RN, PCCN - Graduate
  - Vanessa Tellez, BSN, RN - Doctoral



+158

Scholarships Granted

Encouraging life-long learning in the nursing profession



## POSTER PRESENTER OVERVIEW

### Poster session for Nurses Expo 2026

We invite you to submit a poster abstract. Certificates will be awarded for the best EBP/Research, Innovation, Practice Improvement Projects, Student, and People's Choice.

- Evidence-based practice projects (EBP)/Research: abstracts describe ongoing or completed research that focuses upon timely & relevant nursing problems that is based on current evidence.
- Innovation: abstracts describe ongoing or completed innovations pertaining to a problem that has resulted in the creation or implementation of a new process or product relevant to the field of nursing.
- Practice improvement projects: including simulation projects, projects completed or completing at work to improve patient care, lessons learned, or successful changes to processes in the nursing field.

Submission Deadline:  
**03/27/2026**

Scan the QR code or go to  
[www.statelinenurses.org](http://www.statelinenurses.org) to complete a  
Call for Abstract Form



## 2025 WINNER

People's Choice: 3D-printed customizable vial holder for Sterile fluid transferring in cardiac catheterization lab, Christina Wang

Innovation: Transforming Nursing Education: Innovative Academic Support Strategies to Increase Student Success, Alyse Flury, Maddison Kessler

EBP/Research: Mindfulness enhances nursing student and faculty well-being, Jocelyn Zierke

Practice Improvement: Improving Care to the Diabetes Ketoacidosis/ Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic State Patients, Megan Christensen & Tracy Love

Student: Enhancing Advance Care Planning: A Program Evaluation, Bradee Aamodt-Osborne

# NURSES EXPO 2026



## VOLUNTEER GRANT OVERVIEW

### Volunteer Grants:

- We ask for assistance during Expo in exchange for free attendance to those in need.
- Possible duties may include filling swag bags, taking pictures, passing out flyers, escorting attendees to rooms.
- Volunteers will be assigned day of and/or day before event.
- All volunteers will be able to experience the Expo, listen to speakers, and receive CEs (unless undergrad student).
- Maximum of 5 volunteer grants will be awarded per year.

**Submission Deadline:**  
**03/27/2026**

Scan the QR code or go to  
[www.statelinenurses.org](http://www.statelinenurses.org) to complete  
a volunteer grant application



# NURSES EXPO 2026



## PAST SPONSORS



**With your support, we hope to  
make Nurses Expo a huge  
success!**

*We  
thank  
you!*

Contact Us:  
Stateline Nurses Network  
5818 Gridley Ct. South Beloit, IL 61080-2366  
statelinenurses2013@gmail.com  
815-871-3625  
EIN: 46-1455663