



## Spring 2026 NEWSLETTER ISSUE 20

[www.statelinenurses.org](http://www.statelinenurses.org) [statelinenurses2013@gmail.com](mailto:statelinenurses2013@gmail.com) 815-871-3625

### *President's Message*

We are looking back on a spectacular Nurses Expo held on Friday, April 24th. See details and photos in this issue and pictures on our website gallery page. Here is the list of our awesome committee!

*Karen Lane, Expo Chair, Arrangements, Marketing, Sponsorship Advisor*

*Donna Alton, Registration/Signage*

*Sylvia Baker, Program (Speaker), SNN Treasurer*

*Alyson Broman Conn, Awards/Scholarships, Volunteers*

*Julie Brosnan, Posters*

*Verna Calhoun, Awards/Scholarship*

*Sharon Garcia, Arrangements, Awards, Marketing, SNN President*

*Patricia Hrdlicka, Sponsorship*

*Vanessa Kolve, Registration/Signage, Sponsorship*

*Shannon Lizer, Posters*

*Kimberly McCullough, Awards/Scholarship*

*Rebecca Parizek, Posters*

*Michelle Regan, Program (Speaker)*

*Laura Snyder, Program (Speaker)*

*Amy Weintraub, Marketing*

*Karen Wilhelms, Program (Speaker)*

*Sarah Wright, Sponsorship*

Your commitment to our organization is our greatest asset!

As we celebrate Nurses Week, "The Power of Nurses"; I want to express my deepest gratitude for all of our members! Your unwavering commitment, compassion, and expertise make an immense difference in the lives of patients, their families, and caregivers in our community every day! You stand as beacons of hope, providing not only exceptional care but also emotional support and comfort to those navigating the healthcare journey. Our profession has a history of excellence, advocacy, and innovation, but we must also consider the future of nursing. Keep in mind how you can be involved with issues facing our country during these difficult times.

We also have a great responsibility to mentor and inspire the next generation of nurses, fueling their passion for all specialties. Together, we can ensure that tomorrow's nurses are equipped with the clinical knowledge and emotional skills they need to continue our mission of advancing the profession of nursing through networking, collegiality, continuing education, and professional development.

Sharon Garcia, MS, RN

President, Stateline Nurses Network

## [What Is The Stateline Nurses Network?](#)

The Stateline Nurses Network, NFP (SNN) is a not-for-profit group of 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.

Our Stateline Nurses Network has a great Facebook page! We invite all of you to follow & like our page, and like, share, and comment on our posts. Go to Facebook now and search for [@StatelineNurses](#) We are also on Instagram! And we have a website with lots of information - [www.statelinenurses.org](http://www.statelinenurses.org)

Please consider joining our network. **It is a bargain at \$20 per year!** Go to the membership page on [www.statelinenurses.org](http://www.statelinenurses.org) today!

## [44th Annual Nurses Expo "Empowering the Future"](#)



Our Nurses Expo 2026 "Empowering the Future" was a huge success! Informative, exciting, and fresh! The attendance was high – we had several undergrad groups of students, health systems who sent nurses, and groups of nurses who registered and attended together, as well as many individual nurses and students from all over the Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois area, all promoting a warm networking atmosphere. This year, we had our Expo at The BMO in downtown Rockford, a large and exciting venue! We had a terrific lineup of speakers with continuing education offered, t-shirts, swag bags filled with sponsor goodies and literature, a photobooth for all of us to "Strike a Pose", raffles, and an exhibitor room filled with a variety of sponsors, both old and new. Attendees who visited our Gold and Silver Sponsors as well as our Stateline Nurses Network booth and got their passports stamped, had a special chance at a grand prize raffle. At the end of the day, we recognized awards, poster and scholarship winners.

### [Speakers:](#)

This year, we had two keynotes and three breakout sessions with three choices each, for a total of 9 breakout sessions from which to choose. This allowed us to include more diverse topics again this year. Thank you to all our speakers!

#### **Keynote Speakers:**



#### **Morning Keynote:**

Kim Kraft, MSN, RN, CPAN(r), CAPA (r),  
"The Effects of Positive Psychology on Healing"



#### **Afternoon Keynote:**

Kearsti-Rae Knowles, MMT, LPMT, MT-BC  
"The Song of Care: Listening, Healing and Being Human Together"

**Breakout speakers:**

- Anne Havrilla, MSN, CRNA, APRN, “I use the pronouns she, her, hers: Care considerations for those who are gender diverse”
- June Oliver, MSN, APRN/CNS, CCNS, PGMT-BC, AP-PMN, “The Intersection of Pain and Substance Use Disorders”
- Kimberly Rich, Doctoral Degree, Certified Grief Educator, and Death Doula “On Being an End-of-Life Doula”
- Aileen Zei, BA, Human Services, “Communicating Effectively While Responding to Dementia-related Behaviors”
- Nika Winiarski, PhD, “Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): Tools for Compassionate Nursing Care
- Dr. Aaron Taylor, DO/Physician-Emergency Medicine, “Sepsis/SIRS”
- Sharon Thomas, RN, TNS, “Nursing Beyond Borders: Mission Nursing”

**Wellness speaker - Dr. Hannah Orem, Board Certified NUCCA Chiropractor – who did a presentation entitled: NUCCA: Finding Answers and Relief for Chronic Conditions**

**A HUGE Thank You to all our Nurses Expo Sponsors this year! We could not have had such a wonderful Expo without You!**

**GOLD SPONSORS:**



**SILVER SPONSORS:**



**BRONZE SPONSORS:**

AT&T	Lewy Body Dementia Association
Centurion Health	Markus Smith State Farm
Chiro One Wellness / TVG - Medulla, LLC	Northern Kentucky University
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Crusader Community Health	Olivet Nazarene University
Edward Jones	Purdue University College of Nursing
Forest City Nurse Honor Guard	Rockford Rehab
Good Vibrations Vibershield LLC	Rosecrance Health Network
Grace Funeral & Cremation Services	Serenity Hospice and Home
Grand Canyon University	Trustwell Living at Cherryvale Place
Herzing University	University of Wisconsin - Madison School of Nursing
IL Dept of Financial and Professional Regulation	Van Matre Encompass Health Rehabilitation Institute
Indiana Wesleyan University	Vertex Pharmaceuticals
Judson University	Wy'East Medical Corp

## Non-Profit Charity at Nurses Expo:

This year our highlighted Non-Profit Charity was CASA.



We asked our nurse attendees to donate to this worthy organization. To learn more about them go to their website <http://www.winnebagocountycasa.org/>

## Poster Winners Announced at Nurses Expo this year!

Every year we send out a Call for Abstracts to all nurses and nursing students in the Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin Area. This year, the main poster presenters were able to present and attend Expo FREE! We had 9 great posters, three qualified judges who viewed the posters and chose the top Innovation, Research/EBP, Student, and Practice Improvement Project poster. In addition, we asked our attendees to fill out a People's Choice Ballot. Julie Brosnan, DNP, RN, PEL-CSN, our Posters Committee Chair, presented certificates to the following:

- People's Choice: Enhancing the Learning Environment; Authors: Alexis Sies, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CPAN, C-OB, C, LRN and Michelle Regan, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CMSRN, PMGT-BC
- Best Innovation Poster: Advancing Practice Readiness Through Competency-Based Nursing Education; Authors: Alyse Flury, DNP, RN, CNE, Mary McNamara, DNP, APRN-FPA, CNP, FAANP
- Best EBP/Research Poster: Another Tool in the Toolbox: Quantifying Pre-Existing Human Milk Feeding Experience with the Breastfeeding Awareness Level Tool; Author: Joshua Copher, BSN, RNC-NIC
- Best Practice Improvement Project Poster: Enhancing the Learning Environment; Authors: Alexis Sies, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CPAN, C-OB, C, LRN and Michelle Regan, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CMSRN, PMGT-BC

Congratulations and thank you to all our poster presenters for such insightful and informative posters!

## Pictures from Nurses Expo 2026



For more pictures of this wonderful event: <https://statelinenurses.org/gallery/>

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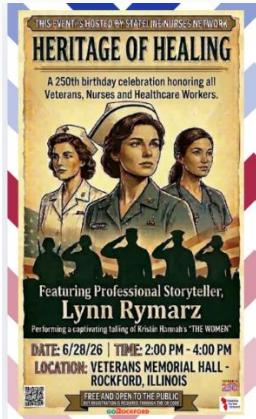
## Display Case at Cherry Valley Library

We were honored to have a display case dedicated to Stateline Nurses Network earlier this year at the Cherry Valley Library. The case was full of history of our organization and nursing.



2026 Nurses Expo Committee

## HERITAGE OF HEALING – 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration!



This event is **FREE** to the public, a freewill offering will be accepted. All proceeds directly support the Stateline Nurses Network Nursing Scholarship Fund.

[Click Here to Register](#)

### Stateline Nurses Network 2026 Nursing Awards

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 and/or a supporter of the nursing profession.” Our two awards are:

- 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.

This year’s awards went to:

- Distinguished Advocate: **Alyse Flury, DNP, RN, CNE**
- Excellence in Nursing: **Angie Johnson, BSN, RN-BC, and Grace Robertson, RN, MSN, MS-BC**



Thank you for your commitment to and support of the nursing community! And thank you to all who nominated their colleagues and co-workers for this honor!

### Congratulations to our 2026 Scholarship Winners!

Each year, the Stateline Nurses Network offers \$1,000 scholarships to nursing students who demonstrate excellence in both academic and clinical performance. The Stateline Nurses Network is pleased to announce the availability of four scholarship awards. We appreciate all who went through the scholarship process.

We had many worthy candidates and it was a tough decision but our Scholarship Committee was able to choose the following to receive scholarships this year.

**Courtney Murphy**, SNN Pre-License Scholarship Recipient

**Joshua Copher**, SNN Graduate Scholarship Recipient

**Vanessa Tellez**, SNN Doctoral Scholarship Recipient



**Mission Trip Nursing by Sylvia J. Baker, MSN, RN, CPAN (retired), FASPAN, January 3-19, 2026**

Nursing offers a wide range of experiences and that is one of the most rewarding things that I have treasured over my 49 years of serving in this profession. During the first half of January, I was fortunate to be able to extend my previous nursing experience to the mission field. The crux of my mission trip was to be a part of a small team to provide a workshop in which we prepared Ethiopian RNs to extend their scope of care of mind, body, and to extend that scope to include the spirit of the individual as Parish Nurses. Healthcare in Ethiopia is delivered by the government except in the outlying jurisdictions, where the Church is responsible for caring and nurturing the people and communities.

To prepare our minds for this task, we ventured from the North to the South of Ethiopia to experience the spirit of this age-old culture. What I witnessed was the degree of what we would consider abject poverty. Many people travel by foot to get from place to place or even town to town; and some travel in larger groups.



If people are fortunate enough to own a burro, they use these beasts to take their cargo from place to place. Despite this situation, most people are happy and smiles abound!

We brought more than seven suitcases full of requested supplies such as glucometers, blood pressure monitors, airways, gloves, cervical collars, dressings and OTC medications (mostly dermatological medications) with us.



These were distributed at the University Hospital in Hosanna, Ethiopia.



(Thanks for presented and needed supplies) (The gentleman in the suit is the manager of the ICU and newly certificated Parish Nurse)



(Supplies being presented and celebrated)



(Intake room at the hospital)



(Intensive Care Unit from Nurses Station)



(Patient receives care even in the hallway. No HIPAA in Ethiopia!)

Pregnant women deliver their babies at this hospital and are discharged home six hours after delivery. Family members are very important in this society and culture.

The Hosanna Prison was another site that received some of our supplies. Intake and part of the care was delivered by newly certificate Parish Nurses.



Intake performed by Parish Nurses    Dentist pulling teeth    Supplies provided by Mission Team

Other sites, as deemed most needful by the sponsoring organization- Master Builder Center, also received some of our gathered supplies.

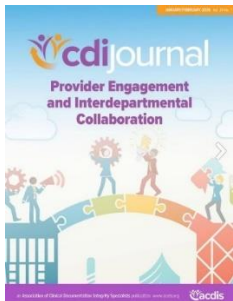
The Hosanna University hospital has great need; they treat over 1000 patients per day with limited equipment. While there, the four ICU patients had a total of five to six IV infusions being administered. The hospital had one ventilator which was not in use by any of the ICU patients being treated at the time.

The Hosanna Prison houses approximately 1500 prisoners: both women and men (mostly men). During the clinic time, each prisoner was treated with respect and no preconceived ideas of the reason(s) for their incarceration. In this setting, convicted women who have no childcare accompany the prisoner during her sentenced time. Inmates serve their entire sentence: there is no early release for good behavior.

Two weeks taught me how fortunate we are to be able to deliver care in our American Healthcare delivery system. I learned that other cultures welcome generosity from Americans with open hands, open hearts, and wide smiles. The Ethiopian people are friendly and genuinely accepting of us. They appreciate what they have. We can learn much from our brothers and sisters in other cultures. I also learned that I appreciate being able to brush my teeth with a running faucet and not bottled water. I really appreciate a regular toilet and not having to use a "squat-potty." This was an amazing experience and one I will never forget; I am changed!

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Our very own Karen Lane, published an [article!](#) Read all about her expertise! Great Job, Karen!



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**Mental Health/NAMI updates are here!**

[NAMI Northern Illinois: Mental Health Support, Education & Resources](#)

We are still working on local support groups for nurses, but in the meantime, we have found other resources

**Mental Health Resources**

You can follow "[Don't Clock Out](#)" on social media

They also have a newsletter you can sign up to receive.

Join their peer support groups (it's easy) by visiting <http://www.dontclockout.org/peersupportgroups>

For more information on how to support Don't Clock Out, email [info@dontclockout.org](mailto:info@dontclockout.org)



## American Nurse Journal Article on Mental Health

In the January 2026 issue of American Nurse Journal, there was an article titled "The impact of mental health Resource Nurses". In the article, it described the role of a "Mental Health RN". In order to have that role, the nurse would have to receive training and certification titled "mental health first aid" (MHFA) from the National Council for Mental Well-being. This certification includes education about recognizing common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges, engaging appropriately with individuals in crisis, and connecting individuals with professional help. If anyone is interested in being trained contact Tommy Corral Memorial Foundation (TCMF). See the article on TCMF below.

[Tommy Corral Foundation](#), (TCMF), a 501c3 non-profit organization was established by the family of Tomas (Tommy) Corral III, a 19-year-old who lost his battle with depression to suicide. Since the Foundation was established, TCMF has been working in the community to increase education on the factors that lead to suicide, actively developing resources, and providing financial support to help those struggling with mental illness and suicidal thoughts. Our mission is to enhance mental health of individuals, their families, and their community through awareness, prevention, support, and education.

The Tommy Corral Memorial Foundation provides:

- Referrals for mental health services.
- Financial support for counseling.
- Mental Health First Aid training for adults, youth, and public safety.
- Support groups for mental health and grief
- Educational training, workshops, and retreats focused on resiliency and mental health.
- Advocacy for state and local change.
- Mental health and suicide prevention awareness.

Xavier Whitford, Executive Director, spoke at a free virtual nurse mental health event held January 2026

<https://tommycorralmemorialfoundation.com/about-us/>

[xavier@tommycorralmemorialfoundation.com](mailto:xavier@tommycorralmemorialfoundation.com)

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### Who knows about "lateral violence"

[Lateral violence](#), also called horizontal violence, is hostility, aggression, or undermining behavior between people at similar hierarchical levels in a workplace or community, common in nursing and Indigenous communities, manifesting as subtle or overt bullying, gossiping, withholding information, or unfair treatment, stemming from power imbalances or a toxic culture and harming victims' mental health and professional identity. It involves actions like eye-rolling, constant criticism, exclusion, and intimidation, creating toxic environments and leading to burnout, low morale, and turnover, with solutions involving communication training and fostering respect.

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### Spotlight on Dr. Olasumbo Abegunde

Dr. Olasumbo Abegunde is a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner and the founder of NurseTalk and recently spoke at a free virtual nurse mental health event held January 2026. After years of working with nurses in clinical practice, Dr. Abegunde saw how burnout, secondary trauma, anxiety, and emotional exhaustion were affecting their lives and careers. NurseTalk is a mind body spirit mental health platform designed to support nurses through prevention, restoration, and clinical care when needed.

Here's what Dr. Abegunde offers:

- Preventive mental wellness workshops and education
- Peer support and guided groups for emotional regulation and resilience
- Individual therapy for Illinois residents (insurance accepted)

- Medication management and psychiatric evaluations
- Insurance-covered group therapy
- Virtual retreats and in-person renewal experiences
- Coaching and career support for nurses
- Resources for nursing programs and organizations

Dr. Olasumbo Abegunde, DNP, PMHNP-BC, Founder, NurseTalk

[www.thenursetalk.com](http://www.thenursetalk.com)

@thenurse\_talk (Instagram)

13508 Julie Drive

Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Mental Health Hashtags

#YouAreNotAlone

#ItsOkayToReachOut

#MentalHealthSupport

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## Disease doesn't stop at borders. Public health shouldn't either.


That's why Illinois is joining the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network, or GOARN. Following the federal government's decision to withdraw from WHO, Illinois will now be directly connected to timely global alerts, expert public health networks, and international response capabilities essential to protecting Illinois residents from emerging disease threats.

By joining GOARN, IDPH gets:

- ✓ Early global outbreak alerts
- ✓ Support during major public health events
- ✓ Access to international public health experts
- ✓ Real-time information to guide response efforts

Illinois joins partners like California and New York City in the network, while continuing to coordinate closely with U.S. public health partners. At home, IDPH is also continuing strong disease surveillance, lab testing, and clear communication so Illinois residents have timely, trusted information.

Public health is stronger when we stay connected locally and globally.

Illinois will keep putting people, preparedness, and science first. 

Read more: <https://dph.illinois.gov/resource-center/news/release-20260203.html>

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## Per American Nurse: Nurse Staffing Challenges are at an all-time high

RN vacancy rates up to 16%, turnover averaging 16%, and replacement costs exceeding \$61,000 per nurse. American Nurse hosted a webinar in March that discussed the challenges with an expert panel of nurse leaders. They shared practical, evidence-based strategies designed for both frontline nurses and nurse managers to stabilize staffing, improve retention, and maintain high-quality patient care.

The article provided practical tips for staff nurses to strengthen teamwork, boost collaboration, and build a supportive unit culture. These include effective communication, shared objectives, delegation, empowerment, and continuous development. The experts provided proven approaches for nurse leaders to improve retention, empower their teams, and foster accountability along with smart ways to optimize staffing, balance team dynamics, and leverage temporary staff effectively. Suggestions include that staff **retention and performance improve most when nurse leaders shift their focus from managing shifts to leading people**—building relationships, empowering clinical autonomy, and using smarter staffing infrastructure.

## Nursing, Public Health and Physicians Assistant Degrees

Linda E. McMahon was sworn in as the 13th United States Secretary of Education on March 3, 2025, appointed by President Donald J. Trump. Linda McMahon has decided that nursing, public health, and physicians' assistant degrees don't qualify as

professional degrees — and they don't deserve the same access to student loans. We're already facing a healthcare worker shortage, and this decision pushes nursing degrees further out of reach for millions of Americans. We demand that these professions get the respect they deserve and all students, no matter their economic background, can dream of pursuing a career in healthcare. The American Nurses Association (ANA) is deeply concerned that the U.S. Department of Education has moved forward with the proposal that excludes nursing from the definition of "professional degree" programs tied to federal graduate student loan limits. Visit <https://ow.ly/RCPa50Y8o9t> for more information on how to make your voice heard: <https://ow.ly/y9Kx50Y8o9q>

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## Per Medscape: More Pain at Discharge Tied to Higher Chances of Readmission

Patients with higher intensity of pain at hospital admission, during the stay, and at discharge were more likely to be readmitted, with pain at discharge as the strongest independent predictor for early readmission.

### METHODOLOGY:

- Researchers conducted a retrospective cohort study to examine whether the intensity of pain that patients felt at different timepoints in the hospital stay predicted if they would be readmitted later.
- They included 7277 adults (mean age, 68.7 years; 55.5% female) admitted to internal medicine wards across a Swiss public hospital network between 2020 and 2023, with a hospital stay of at least 48 hours.
- Nurses recorded pain reported by patients using an 11-point visual analog scale, in which 0 indicated no pain and 10 the worst pain imaginable. Pain was documented at admission, at every nursing shift during the stay, and at discharge.
- Researchers assessed all-cause readmissions at 18 and 30 days and at 3, 6, and 9 months after discharge.

### TAKEAWAY:

- Mean pain scores decreased from 4.7 at admission to 1.9 at discharge, with a peak mean score of 5.9 during the hospital stay. Readmissions occurred in less than 2% of patients within 18 days, in about 10% within 3 months, in 14.4% within 6 months, and in 17.8% within 9 months of discharge.
- An increased intensity of pain at discharge was associated with a 10% increased odds of readmission at 30 days and a 6% increased odds at 3 months ( $P < .05$  for both), with similar patterns at 6 and 9 months.
- Higher intensities of pain at admission and peak pain during hospitalization were each associated with an increased likelihood of readmission, with different temporal patterns.
- A higher intensity of pain at discharge was associated with a 31% increased odds of readmission at 18 days in patients older than 65 years ( $P = .015$ ) and a 26% increased odds of readmission at 30 days in patients aged 65 years or younger ( $P = .003$ ).

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## Who loves to laugh?

Follow Greg "G" Williams on social media! <https://www.facebook.com/2tallrn/>  
<https://bestmedicinebrigade.com/greg-%22g%22-williams>

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## Nursing Home Staffing Changes

Beginning Feb. 2, 2026, the federal requirement that nursing homes maintain a registered nurse on-site around the clock will no longer exist. Decades of research has shown what happens when RN staffing decreases: higher infections, more falls, more emergency transfers, higher mortality.

Starting February 2026, the *original* federal nursing home staffing rule's implementation is **halted**, as [CMS issued an interim final rule in December 2025](#) to *rescind* the mandatory 3.48 hours per resident day (HPRD) and 24/7 RN requirements, effective February 2, 2026, following legal challenges. While this repeals the specific numbers, facilities must still meet the existing, flexible federal standard of providing enough staff to meet resident needs, but without the strict new mandates from the 2024 Starting February 2026, the *original* federal nursing home staffing rule's implementation is **halted**, as [CMS issued an interim final rule in December 2025](#) to *rescind* the mandatory 3.48 hours per resident day (HPRD) and 24/7 RN requirements, effective February 2, 2026, following legal challenges.

While this repeals the specific numbers, facilities must still meet the existing, flexible federal standard of providing enough staff to meet resident needs, but without the strict new mandates from the 2024 rule.

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### Alex Pretti Death

Nurse organizations and other health professional groups expressed outrage and sorrow over the 1-24-26 killing of Alex Pretti. The American Nurses Association (ANA) said it was "deeply disturbed and saddened" to learn of Pretti's death. "We extend our condolences to Alex's loved ones, colleagues, and the community at large," the organization [said in a statement](#): "ANA condemns violence in our communities. The seriousness of this incident and others demand transparency and accountability. ANA called for a full, unencumbered investigation, and urges that findings be shared promptly and clearly so Alex's loved ones and the public have answers." National Nurses United, the country's largest nurses' union, said [in a statement](#) that it was "horrified and outraged that immigration agents have once again committed cold-blooded murder of a public observer who posed no threat to them," as well as being one of their fellow nurses.

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### Who uses hashtags?

Here are hashtags we use:

- #PainMedicine
- #Opioids
- #EvidenceBasedMedicine
- #Anesthesiology
- #HealthPolicy
- #ThePowerOfNurses™
- #LaborDay

We added 2 more!

- #nurse
- #nursing

Let us know which ones you use!

### Calendar of Events

Sunday, June 28, 2026	Heritage of Healing 250 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Honoring Veterans, Nurses, and Healthcare Nurses (see above article or <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> )
Friday, November 13, 2026	Pain Resource Committee All Day Conference "Passion for Pain Management" – watch your email for a Save the Date and invitations or go to our <a href="#">WEBPAGE</a> for updates
December 2026 (TBA)	Rock House Kids, gift wrapping

### [Our Stateline Nurses Network Members voted for Board Members](#)

SNN had their election and yearly meeting on April 24, 2026 (the day of Expo) and voting continued through early May. The votes are in and Stateline Nurses Network’s Board would like to thank everyone for their response! Sharon Garcia and Vanessa Kolve both received many votes to remain in office and we received several votes for a new director, Kimberly McCullough, a long time SNN member and Nurses Expo Committee member. Welcome Kim!

Thank you to our Board of Directors for making a difference!

## **Stateline Nurses Network Board (2026-2027):**

### **PRESIDENT**

**Sharon Garcia, MS, RN**

[sg14784@gmail.com](mailto:sg14784@gmail.com)

### **TREASURER**

**Sylvia Baker, MSN, RN, CPAN (retired), FASPAN**

[rekab4@hotmail.com](mailto:rekab4@hotmail.com)

### **DIRECTOR**

**Vanessa Kolve, BSN, RN**

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### **DIRECTOR**

**Karen Lane, MSNed, CCDS, CCDS-O, CDIP, RN**

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**Pamela Moore, BSN, RN**

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**[Find Out More About  
Stateline Nurses Network](#)**

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