

The MOUNT BAKER NURSE PRACTITIONER ASSOCIATION *Newsletter*

January 2024



We are a non-profit association of Nurse Practitioners in Whatcom, Skagit and Island Counties. Founded in 2000, the association is an affiliate of ARNPs United of Washington.

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**Be sure to follow our ENP
network website
mbnpa.enpnetwork.com/**



Happy New Year!!

It was lovely seeing so many of you at the annual celebration in November! We've got a lot planned for 2024 from coffee and chats to our first conference. If you're looking to get involved, there is a place for you!

If you have questions or are looking to get involved
e-mail MBNPA1@gmail.com



MBNPA

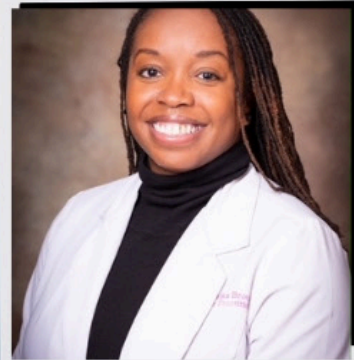
Executive Board



Devyn Nixon
President



Charlotte Jordan
Co-VP



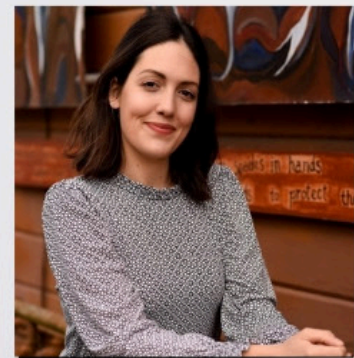
Shamika Brooks
Co-VP



Andrea Phillips
Secretary



Ryan Willis
Treasurer



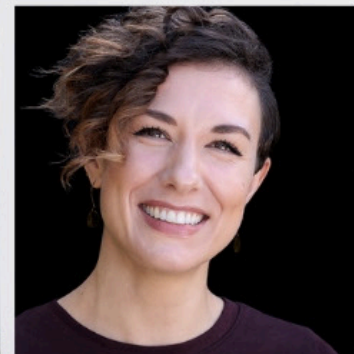
Hilary Cohen
Education Chair



Beth Earthman
Member Liaison



Katie Wahler
Legislative Liaison



Danae Johnson
Social Media Liaison

Interested in presenting to MBNPA?

We would love to hear from you!

MBNPA is planning its 2024 Continuing Education calendar and would love to connect with potential presenters! We are looking for a diverse range of topics and presenters.

Our two hour, AANP-approved CE events are held quarterly. These events provide a great opportunity to strengthen your colleagues' clinical knowledge and connect with fellow members!

If you would like to present and/or are interested in learning more, please fill out the survey below! Our CE Coordinator, Hilary Cohen ARNP, will reach out. Thank you for your interest and continued support!



2024 CALENDAR

JANUARY

CE
1/13

FEBRUARY

BOARD MEETING
2/8
Coffee & Chat
2/10

MARCH

CE
3/9

APRIL

BOARD MEETING
4/11
Coffee & Chat
4/13

MAY

MBNPA
CONFERENCE
5/4

JUNE

BOARD
MEETING
6/13

JULY

SUMMER
GATHERING
TBD

AUGUST

BOARD
MEETING
8/29

SEPTEMBER

CE
9/14

OCTOBER

Coffee & Chat
10/12

NOVEMBER

ANNUAL
CELEBRATION
& MEETING
11/14

DECEMBER

BREAK

*DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED
AT <https://mbnpa.enpnetwork.com/>



Policy Pearls

by Katie Wahler, ARNP, FNP-C, CRC

Washington Legislative Session Update from AUWS Legislative Committee:

This is the second year of the biennium session, so is only 60 days (compared to 105 days in the first year)- lots of work to be done!

Bills AUWS is watching/supporting/opposing:

SB 5373/HB 1495 - Requiring equal reimbursement for advanced registered nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and physicians. As of 1.11.24- there is no update on the payment parity bill - both are retaining status from 2023 session and remains in the Senate Ways & Means Committee. In addition to AUWS support, WSNA is supporting, as well.

SB 5960/HB 2115 - allows for NPI on abortion prescriptions instead of provider name (our Lobbyist Devon Connor-Green will listen to testimony and we will wait on that to take a stance).

HB 1954 - protecting providers who get disciplined in other states for gender-affirming care, especially important when they have compact license - AUWS is in support.

HB 2066 - Addressing affordability through health care provider contracting. Would require insurance carriers to contract with all hospitals in a system, among other things. Devyn will listen in on this bill before a decision on stance from AUWS.



Policy Pearls

by Katie Wahler, ARNP, FNP-C, CRC

SB 6I44 – Establishing a prescribing psychologist certification in Washington state.

This is a 26 page bill that outlines stringent requirements (requires them to get a master's degree in addition to the PsyD, plus 500 hours supervised training, plus no less than supervised 100 individual patients), but there is opposition from WSMA/psychiatrists, even some psychologists. Intent is to increase persons to prescribe- and is an interesting comparison to the ND bill requesting prescribing for controlled meds. This also wouldn't allow opioids except for OUD. A few other states do have this. WA Psych NP assoc is neutral with concerns but they have collaborated with group interested in this bill. AUWS will remain neutral at this time.

SB 5I84 – The hearing happened 1/12/24, including testimony from CRNA group. It is likely to move on out of committee. AUWS is in opposition of this bill- which establishes new licensure of anesthesiologist assistants.

HB 204I – authorization of collaborating practice between PAs and physicians instead of a delegating practice. AUWS supports.

ARNP title change bill (no bill number yet- this bill will change title from ARNP to APRN to align nationally) – still waiting on getting a sponsor. More info to come.

A scenic view of a snow-capped mountain peak rising above a dense evergreen forest. The mountain is covered in patches of snow and ice, with a clear blue sky above. The foreground is filled with tall, green evergreen trees.

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