GVNA 33rd Annual Legislative Reception

GVNA’s 33rd Annual Leg Reception was held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 at St. John Fisher College. Two hundred people attended, including nurses and nursing students along with legislators and/or their representatives. There were nursing students from the following colleges: Brockport, FLCC, GCC, Keuka, MCC, Nazareth, SJFC, and the U of R. A special thanks to Rochester Regional Health Care for sponsoring this event. As a result, we could offer CEUs for the third year in a row. Many thanks to all the members of GVNA Legislative Committee for continuing to provide this offering year-after-year. There is never any charge for this event because of the following co-sponsors:

* American Association of Critical Care Nurses/Greater Rochester Area Finger Lakes Chapter
* Association of perioperative Registered Nurses/Chapter #3305
* The College at Brockport Department of Nursing
* Emergency Nurses Association/Genesee Valley Chapter
* Finger Lakes Organization of Nurse Executives
* Genesee Valley Nurses Association
* Keuka College Division of Nursing
* Nurse Practitioner Association of New York/Region 2
* Society of Urologic Nurses & Associates /Central NY #109
* Sigma Theta Tau-Delta Sigma Chapter/St John Fisher College
* Sigma Theta Tau-Epsilon Xi Chapter/The University of Rochester
* Sigma Theta Tau-Omicron Beta Chapter/The College at Brockport
* Sigma Theta Tau-PiPsi Chapter/Nazareth College
* Sigma Theta Tau-Tau Xi Chapter/Roberts Wesleyan College
* Sigma Theta Tau-Upsilon Upsilon Chapter/Keuka College
* St John Fisher College Wegmans School of Nursing
* Western NY Chapter of the National Association of Clinical Nurses Specialists
* Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society/Central & Western New York Affiliate
* CE Credit for Nurses and Social Workers provided by Rochester Regional Health

Our featured speaker was Jennifer Faringer, Director of Rochester’s National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency. She talked about *The Opioid Crisis and How the Community is Responding*. Her handouts, which include resource centers in the Finger Lakes Region, are posted on the GVNA website. Marilyn Dollinger did an overview on legislative issues affecting patient care and the profession of nursing. A summary of her update can be found on the GVNA website.

Following the presentation, there was a question and answer period with legislators and/or their representative, which included:

* Christina Gray, Rochester-Finger Lakes Regional Assistant for U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
* Kevin Knapp, Deputy Chief of Staff for State Senator Rich Funke (SD #55)
* State Senator Joe Robach (SD #56)
* Annie Chwiecko, Community Representative for State Senator Pat Gallivan (SD #59)
* Assemblyman Harry Bronson (AD #128) along with Staff Member Elizabeth Morabito
* Assemblyman Mark Johns (AD #135)
* Elma Borcilo, Legislative Advisor for Assemblyman Joe Morelle (AD #136)
* Barry Flansburg for Assemblyman Stephen Hawley (AD #139)
* Monroe County Legislator Howard Maffucci/District #10
* Monroe County Legislator Cynthia Kaleh/District #28
* Monroe County Health Commissioner Dr. Michael Mendoza

If you are interested in legislative issues, there are several opportunities for you in the near future:

* The Annual Lobby Day in Albany for the Nurse Practitioner Association will be on April 17. More information is available at <https://www.thenpa.org/page/2018CapitalDay>
* To find out who represents you in the assembly, go to: [**www.assembly.state.ny.us/mem/**](http://www.assembly.state.ny.us/mem/)
* To find out who represents you in the senate, go to: [**www.nysenate.gov/senators/**](http://www.nysenate.gov/senators/)
* Information about all of your representatives in the Greater Rochester Area can be found at <http://www.lwv-rma.org/>
* If you are interested in joining GVNA’s Legislative Committee, you can contact Lillian Heindl at gvnassociation@gmail.com