The Greater Raleigh Area Chapter (GRAC) has been a pillar of education for its chapter members for the last thirty-five years. Chartered in 1987, GRAC created the chapter acronym – Grow, Renew, Achieve and Certify. Each component of this acronym is dependent on the others for success and are all interwoven in the educational opportunities the chapter offers its members during our monthly educational meetings.

Looking to the future, to *Grow* educationally the chapter conducted an educational needs assessment survey in March of 2022 to identify educational areas of interest and learning needs for our chapter members. Members participated in the “choose your top three learning needs” survey by filling in a blank survey form identifying areas of interest or needed education. Identified educational interests and needs were collated by the president elect and separated into categories related to neurology – EEG post resuscitation, Cardiology – hemodynamics, vasoactive meds, and congestive heart failure, Integumentary – wound care, Psychology - delirium, Infection – long Covid and its treatment, Devices – pacemaker settings and what they mean, Critical Care Transport, and a miscellaneous category pertaining to standardized orientation for new grads, mobility and healthy work environments. During the August board meeting the educational assessment results were reviewed and the board, along with the program planning chair, identified eight key educational topics to present during our eight monthly chapter meetings for 2022-2023. Working together as a team and utilizing the resources from vendors, speaker resources available from the area hospitals the chapter supports and suggestions from other AACN chapters, the educational meeting plan was set for the year.

As an avenue for educational growth and in alignment with AACN’s vision statement, GRAC sponsors three NTI registration scholarships to active chapter members. One member is chosen randomly at both our January and February meetings to receive a NTI scholarship registration. A third NTI registration scholarship is provided to a “first time” NTI attendee who submits a 250-word essay incorporating this year’s theme to describe how attending NTI would *Grow* their education. Essays are blind copied, reviewed by the GRAC board and one essay is chosen as our winner. Promoting professional growth through educational opportunities is a key goal of GRAC.

The need to *Renew* one’s passion for nursing and education has never been more evident as our members continue to seek educational opportunities through chapter dinner meetings. Vendor sponsored or chapter sponsored dinners bring leading edge technology to the forefront for our chapter members and provide our members the opportunity to engage in conversations about the latest trends in treatment. Our fall educational series started with two presentations of the Integumentary system and pressure ulcer prevention. In September, Convatec presented on Microclimate and Optimizing Fecal Containment followed by Pressure Injury Prevention. In October, Smith and Nephew presented the Leaf Patient Positioning Device. Our fall programming commenced with Point of Care Testing in Heart Failure Patients by Nova BioMedical. Moving into the new year, our chapter’s educational journey continues with a planned educational line up of topics including Long-Covid and Its Treatment presented by one of our ICU intensivists, Pacemaker Settings, Seizure Monitoring post ROCS with Cerebell device, and Preparing a Patient for Critical Care Transport. Educational program evaluations are conducted at the close of each meeting to ensure stated learning objectives and goals are achieved and program modifications take place as needed. As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, GRAC continues to incorporate education into our strategic plan to ensure members are given the chance to renew and recharge

*Achieving* learning through evidence-based presentations reflects on AACN’s mission statement of bringing expert knowledge to the bedside. This has never been more evident as our chapter members continue to *Certify* and recertify through AACN’s certification process. Forty-three of our one hundred and sixteen members currently hold certifications through AACN’s certification corporation. Certified members are recognized during our annual certification celebration held in March. GRAC provides a one year AACN membership to our longest, newest and at random certified nurse. Just two examples of the ways in which GRAC brings meaningful recognition to our chapter members.

Sharing educational opportunities continues to be key to the success for our chapter meetings. Chapter educational meetings are shared to our members in our chapter president’s monthly chapter update, posted on our GRAC website, and upcoming meetings are shared during each dinner meeting. **Starting Now** with the chapter’s website transition to nursing network we look forward to a seamless method to inform our chapter members of meetings and educational opportunities, provide for ease of registration and enhanced reminders for upcoming events.

As we continue to engage our members to Grow, Renew, Achieve and Certify we base our educational meetings on AACN’s mission statement to drive excellence through education for the members of the Greater Raleigh Area Chapter of AACN.