

AACN Region 6 Newsletter October 2023



I WILL BE A CHAMPION FOR HEALTHY WORK ENVIRONMENTS!

We [nurses] cannot float along impassively untethered to what we know is best for our patients. We need to harness the power of community because we need an OCEAN of authentic caregivers

Theresa Davis, AACN President

I don't know about you, but this statement resonated with me and underscored the criticality of nurses coming together to work toward a shared goal. I believe that implementing the HWE standards is the way to do this.

I recently had the privilege of speaking at the Critical Scare Conference hosted annually by the Central Savannah River Chapter in Augusta Ga. During that presentation I was able to share some thoughts on True Collaboration that I now pass on to all of you. True Collaboration is a HWE standard and I started thinking about what needs to happen in order to truly collaborate with colleagues. I believe ACCEPTANCE is the key factor in successful collaboration and that to achieve acceptance we need to consider three things: diversity, inclusion and equity. We have all had training and education on diversity and in this context I want to add a diversity factor which impacts how each of us carries out our practice as much as any other characteristic. Consider the individual nursing journey of each nurse. Where and when did you attend nursing school? What was your first job, what kind of preceptor/orientation experience did you have? Where are you now and how did you get there? The experiences – the good, the bad and the ugly - each of us had along our nursing journey created perceptions and understanding about what nursing is, and how we practice is colored by those experiences. The next thing to consider is inclusion. To me this means EVERYONE gets an invitation to the table, regardless of how long you have been a

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nurse, where you work, what shift you work..... You may decline the invite, but everyone gets one. The final consideration is equity. This means everyone's perceptions, ideas, concerns are heard and given equal consideration. Out of opposing view points come solutions we have yet to think of. We need to recognize and accept both what every nurse has in common and what makes each of us unique with respect to Nursing Practice. Because we have to be able to truly collaborate if we are to do our part in pushing for the needed changes in our health care system.

Consider also, that this applies not only to your workplace but to your chapter as well.

Implementation Resources: New and revised [HWE Implementation Tools](#), [TEAM STEPPS program](#)

Have you every been asked "What is AACN doing to address the big issues we face daily at the bedside?" Use the link below to learn how to answer this question.

The many national initiatives that AACN is leading to address such issues as Staffing, HWE, Clinical Advocacy and Legal/Regulatory issues are included.

[Advocacy Initiatives](#)

Nursing Network Tips...Did you know?

As a chapter website moderator with appropriate permissions

- You can save some time by downloading a list of all your chapter website followers and chapter members. This will give you a list of emails as well as phone numbers, employers, and a host of other useful information. This is a function of a chapter moderator with appropriate permissions. You can download it onto an excel spread sheet and it is easy then to copy and paste email address into Chapter Members and Followers group in your chapter email account. Of course, data is only as accurate as what is put into the system. So, consider reminding folks to update email addresses if your communications are returned or blocked.
- You can also send an email to followers and members through the NN website. Once logged in as Moderator, scroll down to Grow and Connect on the Post and

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Manage page. You can sort recipients in multiple ways and review past sent messages. You can also email a single person this way.

- You can print out a sign in sheet for any program for which individuals had to pre-register on your website. This can be emailed to vendor sponsors or brought the day of the program. Just remember chapters are not permitted to share any personal information, such as email addresses or phone numbers, with outside entities. So please do not include these on sign in sheets. Vendor sponsors can request this information at the program so the individual can decide whether to share it or not.

NEWS AND NOTES

1st quarter financial reports are due Nov 15th. Please contact [Jorge Colon](#) if you need assistance. National AACN staff are your greatest supporters!

2024 Region 6 Critical Care Conference – the planning committee is working hard to make sure this important event gets back on everyone's calendar. The conference will be held in Birmingham, AL on October 6,7 2024. We are beginning the process of developing the program and want to hear from you what topics you are interested in. There will be an educational needs assessment posted on the Region 6 Website by November 1. If you don't already please follow AACNRegion6.nursingnetwork.com so you don't miss out on important updates and information.

Please let me know how things are going and send pictures of chapter activities to post on the Region 6 website. I would love to visit your chapter either in person or virtually to get to know you better and provide any support or information I can.

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**STARTING
NOW**