



What Shall We Name Our Newsletter?



Welcome to the Inaugural Issue of Our MNPD Newsletter

Welcome to our first issue! I am excited to continue our journey of expanding the connections between our members and the resources we provide to each other. In the coming year, I hope to continue to build in the quantity and quality of our newsletter offerings to bring you content that is relevant and helpful to your practice in NPD. I look forward to seeing what comes of our efforts to work together more deeply and collectively over the next year.

We would love to hear your suggestions for naming our newsletter. Bring your best ideas to the March meeting where we will compile all of the options together and vote to decide on our final name!

Sincerely,

Amber Kraai

Newsletter Highlights

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INAUGURAL ISSUE](#)

[MEET THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS](#)

[CALL FOR COMMITTEE
VOLUNTEERS](#)

[MARCH 2024
PRESENTATION](#)

Meet the Board

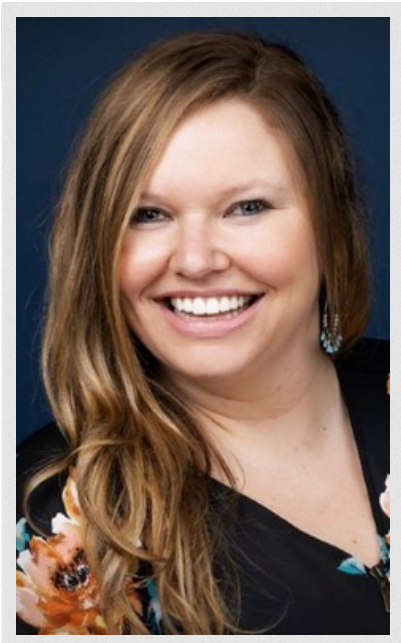
President: Liz Cambier, MSN, RN, NPD-BC

Hello, I'm Liz - your MNPD President! I have been working in NPD for 10 years and am currently the manager of Holland Hospital's Professional Development Education Team. I am focused on making the NPD Scope & Standards of Practice a living, breathing part of our organizational culture. I joined MNPD in 2017, and am so grateful for the learning, growth, and relationships I have gained through my membership. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead MNPD as president, and excited to work toward building our future as an organization!

On a personal note, I love to travel and explore —camping, hiking, and road trips top the list of favorites; thought this looks a little different the past few years! In the fall of 2019, my wife Jenney and I became foster parents to 3-month-old and 15-month-old siblings —and their baby sister, born the following summer, joined our family as well. We adopted all three in 2021, thus continuing many new adventures in parenting!



President-Elect: Gina Gent, MSN, RN, CEN, NPD-BC

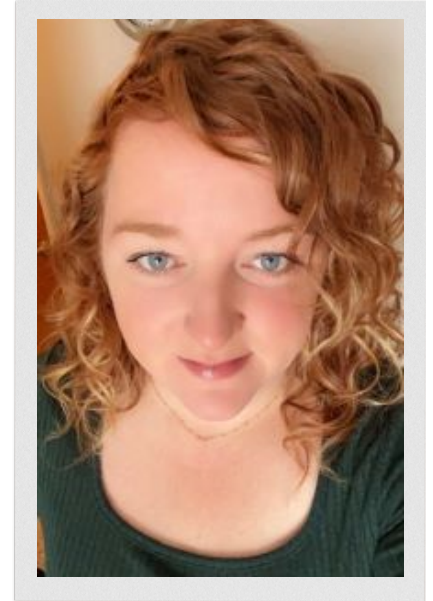


Hi, I'm your President-Elect, Gina! I started my nursing career at Trinity Health Grand Rapids in 2012 as a Patient Care Assistant and later starting as an RN in the Emergency Department. Following my time in ED, I served as Magnet Program Coordinator supporting the organization's third Magnet designation. I currently serve in the role of the Director of Nursing Practice and Development, supporting the Nursing Education department, Magnet recognition program, Practice Transition Accreditation Program for novice nurses, nursing research, and other onboarding, recruitment, and retention initiatives. I am certified in Nursing Professional Development and Emergency Nursing.

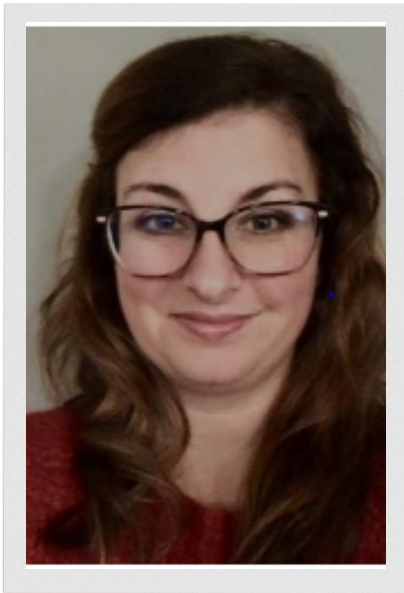
Outside of work, I enjoy traveling and spending time with family and friends. I am a new mom to my Friday October 13th baby, a little girl named Audrey!

Secretary: Emily Schwenk, BSN, RN, NPD-BC

Hi! I am Emily, your MNPD secretary. I have been a Registered Nurse at Bronson Healthcare for 15 years, and an NPD Practitioner for 6 years. My nursing background is inpatient Med Surg, Neuro, Psych, and Interventional Radiology. I enjoy being a part of MNPD for all the networking and friends I have met, as well as the learning opportunities. MNPD is how I fill my cup professionally. On a personal level, I am from the Portage area, and love Michigan summers and gardening.



Communications & Outreach: Amber Kraai, MSN, RN, NPD-BC



Hello there! I am Amber, your Communication and Outreach Director! I have been an RN at UMH-West for 14 years, with 7 of those years being in NPD. My professional focuses are Progressive Care, Cardiac, and online learning optimization. I love all of the collective knowledge and wisdom that we have access to as members of MNPD and have enjoyed learning from our other members.

Outside of work, I am a mom to three very busy littles - Levi (6), Lexi (4), and Lucy (2). I am also currently pursuing my Masters in Instructional Design and Technology through Walden University. I enjoy hiking and traveling with my family whenever possible.

Have something you want to
add to the newsletter?

Email amber.kraai@umhwest.org



Newly
Elected

Treasurer: Allyce Olmstead, MSN, RN



Hello all! My name is Allyce Olmstead and I am a Staff Development Instructor at Bronson Methodist Hospital. I am an ambulatory instructor and my specialties include Neuroscience, Orthopedics, Cardiothoracic/Vascular Surgery, Digestive Health, Sleep Health, Primary Care, and our Care Management teams that consist of our Nurse Care Managers and Medical Social Workers. I am also an adjunct faculty instructor at Kalamazoo Valley Community College in the LPN program.

When I am not working, I am usually at a child sporting event for my two children, Stella (9) and Emmett (7). I am an avid crocheter and enjoy camping, bowling, and spending time with my family. I am very excited to become more involved with the MNP group and look forward to getting to know everyone in 2024! 😊

Call for Committee Volunteers!!

We are still looking for volunteers for the following:

- Strategic Planning Committee
- Mentorship Committee
- Communications & Outreach Committee
- 2024 Conference Planning Committee

Anyone with interest in joining one of these committees should email MNPd@gmail.com.



March 2024 Presentation: Test Building Strategies

Presented by: Deb Laughlin

This presentation will review how to create quality questions including multiple choice, multiple correct answers and true/false.

**SAVE
THE DATE**

March 15, 2024
9:00 - 10:00 AM
UMH-West Conference
Center / Online

Speaker Spotlight: Deb Laughlin

Deborah Laughlin MSN, RN, NPDA-BC is an educator at Bronson Healthcare Group, adjunct faculty at Western Michigan University's School of Nursing and an appraiser for the ANCC for continuing education. She strives to create a caring and engaging environment to facilitate learning, cultivate critical thinking and develop clinical skills.

Deb is certified in Nursing Professional Development, Advanced Professional Development, and holds a certificate in Interdisciplinary Teacher Education (a post graduate program at Western Michigan University). She has presented at multiple local, regional, and national conferences including presentations on writing questions at the Association for Nursing Professional Development's (ANPD) and Professional Nursing Education and Development (PNEG) national conferences.

She has published 2 articles in the Journal for Nurses in Professional Development and was a contributor to the book "Making a Difference: An Anthology of Nursing Professional Development Stories."

