

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NEUROSCIENCE NURSES

1ST QUARTER MEETING – MARCH 12TH, 2025

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Northern Illinois Chapter of the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses is to foster and promote the health, education, and welfare of the general public.

We do this by promoting education, nursing research, certification, networking, and evidence-based practice in the specialized field of neuroscience nursing.



BOARD MEMBERS

New Board Members Elected in 2024

President Elect

– Joy Rainey

Secretary

- Heidi Horetzki

Educational Activities and Community Outreach Committee Chair

– Marjana Djakovic



Lisa Brezinski MS RN-BSN, CNRN, SCRNP

President

Lisa has been a staff/charge nurse on the neurology-stroke unit at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital since 2011. She is the immediate past chair for the nurse-led acute stroke team and the chair of the safety committee for her department. Her newest adventure in neurology comes with the launch of her hospital's new Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU). Lisa also worked as a clinical nurse on the Mobile Stroke Unit for RUSH University Medical Center and loved the experience she gained working on an ambulance dedicated to stroke care. This position also allowed her to network and provide stroke education throughout the community. Lisa is double certified as a CNRN and SCRNP. She has been a member of the Northern Illinois Chapter since its infancy and has served on the board as secretary, president elect and president. She is also a two-time DAISY Award Honoree.



Joy Rainey MSN, RN, ASC-BC, SCRNP

President-Elect



Joy is the current stroke program coordinator at Loyola University Medical Center. She has over twenty-five years of experience in a variety of nursing positions including long term care facility, pediatrics, orthopedics, medical surgical, telemetry, and intensive care. Joy received her MSN from Loyola University in 2015 and is ASC-BC and SCRNP. She has served on the board of Midwest Stroke Action Alliance and now is serving as the President Elect for NOIL.

Heidi Horetzki RN, CDP

Secretary

Heidi has 15 years of nursing experience. She started her nursing career on a neuro stroke unit where she shined as part of a nurse led acute stroke team. From there, she ventured into home health with her primary focus being wound care. After several leadership positions in the home health setting, she has challenged herself by stepping into the Director of Nursing role at Montclair Assisted Living and Memory Care. While Heidi will always have a special place in her heart for neuro, her new passion is geriatrics and dementia. She is a member of the Continuity of Care Association and has become a certified dementia practitioner. She is definitely dedicated to creating an environment where seniors can flourish.



Mirjana Djakovic MSN, RN

Chair of Education & Community Outreach



Mirjana obtained her bachelor's degree in 2010 and has since gained extensive experience in various nursing roles, including cardiothoracic surgery and medical-surgical care. Since 2019, she has served as a Stroke Program Coordinator at Loyola University Medical Center, where she focuses on quality improvement initiatives to enhance healthcare outcomes for stroke patients across the continuum of care. In 2022, Mirjana earned her Master of Science in Nursing with a concentration in executive leadership. With a strong passion for improving healthcare outcomes, Mirjana leverages her creativity to develop innovative solutions that blend evidence-based practice with fresh, strategic thinking. She is an active member of the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses, the American Heart Association, and the National Hispanic Latino Cardiovascular Collaborative. Outside of her professional commitments, Mirjana enjoys cooking, spending time with her fiancé and sister, and caring for her two rescue pit bulls, Jupiter and Frajer.

BOARD MEMBERS

- ▶ **President: Lisa Brezinski**
- ▶ **President Elect: Joy Rainey**
- ▶ **Treasurer: Immediate Opening**
- ▶ **Secretary: Heidi Horetzki**



**Immediate
Open Position**

Committees w/ Chairs and Co-Chairs

- ▶ **Director of Communications: Immediate Opening**
- ▶ **Educational Activities/Community Outreach Committee:
Chair: Marjana Djakovic**
- ▶ **Hospital Champions – Immediate Opening**
- ▶ **Student Nurse Liaison – Immediate Opening**
- ▶ **Immediate Past President: Nataliya Omelchenko**



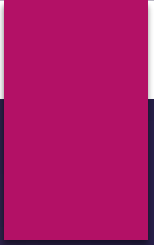
**Immediate
Open
Positions**

APPLICATION PROCESS

- ▶ Let the chapter know you are interested!
- ▶ Take an application or request one via email.
- ▶ Complete application.
- ▶ Submit application by Email:
NOILCHAPTERAANN@gmail.com
- ▶ Or Mail to: Northern Illinois Chapter

ATTN: Lisa Brezinski
3529 N. Orange
Chicago, IL. 60634





**NATIONAL
LEADER
ALERT!**

AANN Director-At-Large Minna Masor, MS, Ed, RN, CCRN, SCRNP

The Northern Illinois Chapter is excited to announce that their very own, Minna, Masor, MS, Ed, RN, CCRN, SCRNP, will be appointed as the 2025-2026 AANN Director-at-Large.

We could not be prouder of her and this wonderful accomplishment.

Congratulations Minna!



MEMBERSHIP

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

The AANN expanded their membership to include non-RN professionals and students.

MEMBERSHIP RATES

NATIONAL AANN	1 YEAR	2 YEAR	3 YEAR
REGULAR	\$135	\$250	\$375
ASSOCIATE	\$105	\$190	\$285
STUDENT	\$70	\$120	\$180

CURRENT NOIL MEMBERSHIP COST \$20

CHAPTER	DUES
NORTHERN INDIANA	\$30
CENTRAL INDIANA	\$15
EASTERN IOWA	\$20
WISCONSIN (MADISON)	-

TRENDING MEMBERSHIP

AANN	2019	2020 Q4	2021 Q4	2022 Q4	2023 Q4	2024 Q1	2024 Q2	2024 Q3	2024 Q4
NOIL	101	49	46	45	40	40	42	45	45
PROSPECTIVE	187	192	161	183	133	133	130	127	127

MEMBERSHIP LAG TIME

- ▶ The National Association is who receives membership notices.
- ▶ The Association sends out updated membership lists quarterly for both active and prospective members.
- ▶ To prevent lag in people email the chapter to place on the active member roster begin receiving

**Nursing Network
Updates
Chapter Memberships
in
Real Time**

Partnerships

Care Management Society of America (CMSA)

GOALS

- ▶ To promote continued professional development by providing high quality member programs
- ▶ To inform consumers and other professionals of the health care system of the positive impact of effective case management interventions
- ▶ To increase the visibility, credibility and impact of Healthcare workers on issues of public policy that affect Chicagoan case managers at the federal, state and local areas



FINANCES

FINANCIAL GROWTH

Date	Funds
JUNE 2024	\$26,285.50
SEPT 2024	\$26,830.50
DEC 2024	\$26,950.50
March 2025	\$43,591.98





CHAPTER MEDIA UPDATES

CHAPTER WEBSITE – NOW LIVE

01

AANN will no longer be paying for the Homestead site

- Began in March 2024

02

The AANN Board of Directors approved a new vendor/software to host Chapter Websites called The Nursing Network

What is Nursing Network.com

Nursing Network is the professional network connecting nurses with the groups they belong to, colleagues they support, and resources they need.

- **Nursing Events** Locating upcoming nursing events has never been simpler. Search the largest directory of national, statewide and local nursing events online.
- **Nursing Jobs** Our niche network specializes in the highest quality career opportunities. Search our national collection of nursing jobs and land the perfect position.
- **Nursing Industry Updates** Connect to the largest source of real time nursing news. All posted by top association board members and delivered directly to your inbox.
- **Nursing Associations** Find and follow associations that matter to you and receive the latest news and announcements, event invites, and important association communication.





What's Happening on Nursing Network?



548

Nursing Events

Locating upcoming nursing events has never been simpler. Search the largest directory of national, statewide and local nursing events online.



7,299

Nursing Jobs

Our niche network specializes in the highest quality career opportunities. Search our national collection of nursing jobs and land the perfect position.



25,674

Nursing Industry Updates

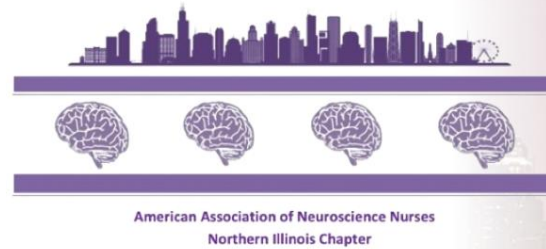
Connect to the largest source of real time nursing news. All posted by top association board members and delivered directly to your inbox.



851

Nursing Associations

Find and follow associations that matter to you and receive the latest news and announcements, event invites, and important association communication.



AANN Northern Illinois Chapter

Stay Connected

Following

Moderator Control Panel

Home

JOIN A COMMUNITY OF NEUROSCIENCE LEADERS!

 Facebook

 Post a job

AANN supports your professional development through quality education opportunities, collaboration and networking in local chapters, discounts on neuroscience products, and more!

The AANN Northern Illinois Chapter | Nursing Network
<https://northernilaann.nursingnetwork.com>

Facebook - Transitioning

- ▶ Dissolve current page
- ▶ Develop new page to mirror Nursing Network and LinkedIn
- ▶ Stay Tuned



Linked In – NOW LIVE

- ▶ Most Beneficial
- ▶ Promotes Chapter info in real time
- ▶ Provides learning opportunities
 - ▶ Conferences
 - ▶ CEUs
- ▶ Allows for networking with other healthcare professionals and healthcare company representatives
 - ▶ NeuroLogica
 - ▶ NeurOptics



CERTIFICATIONS

AANN CERTIFICATIONS



EXAM WINDOWS

March 1-31, 2025
July 1-31, 2025
October 1-31, 2025



EXAM WINDOWS

February 1-28, 2025
May 1-31, 2025
September 1-30, 2025

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR
THE SEIZURE AND
EPILEPSY HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONAL
**AN ASSESSMENT-
BASED CERTIFICATE
PROGRAM**

OPEN WINDOW



EVENT RECAP

One of our chapter goals is to raise disease awareness by participating in more networking, community outreach and fundraising.

AMERICAN STROKE ASSOCIATION CYCLENATION

- ▶ Last year we continued to participate in the American Stroke Association's CycleNation.
- ▶ CycleNation is a movement to utilize cycling as a way to get people HEART and BRAIN healthy while raising funds for vital community programs and supporting research to end stroke and heart disease.





AMERICAN STROKE ASSOCIATION CYCLENATION



WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Glenview, IL

Sunday, September 8th, 2024

NOIL CHAPTER MEETINGS



NOIL HOLIDAY PARTY





UPCOMING EVENTS

AANN's Neuroscience Nursing Annual Conference



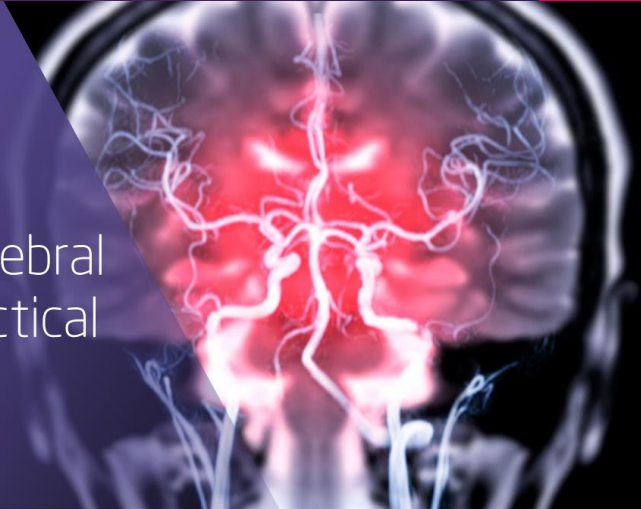
- ▶ You can hear about the latest innovations and developments in evidence-based research while meeting with the brightest in the field. This conference covers a wide variety of neuroscience nursing topics, as well as leadership, professional development, and research. The level of content varies from beginner to expert.
- ▶ Sunday, March 16 – Tuesday, March 18, 2025 in New Orleans, LA.
- ▶ Registration is OPEN.

Northwestern Medicine – Intracerebral Hemorrhage Workshop

FRIDAY MARCH 14TH - SATURDAY
MARCH 15TH



Minimally Invasive Surgery for Intracerebral Hemorrhage: A Practical Workshop



Friday, March 14-Saturday, March 15

Welcome dinner: March 14 at 7 pm

Hotel EMC2, 228 East Ontario Street, Chicago

Sponsored by Northwestern Medicine and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Department of Neurological Surgery

Workshop: March 15, 7:00 am-2:30 pm

Center for Advanced Surgical Education
at Northwestern Medicine

240 East Huron Street, Suite LC-0549, Chicago

We will provide breakfast, refreshments, lunch and dinner.

Registration

Space is limited. To register online, please visit [our website](#) or scan the QR code.



The fee is \$50. No refunds will be issued after March 1.

Tiffany McReynolds
c/o Northwestern Memorial HealthCare
541 North Fairbanks Court
Suite 950-Office 963
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Synapse House Fundraiser with the Chicago Wolves

March 30th, 2025

3PM

\$21

Stay after for autographs with
players!



CHICAGO
WOLVES



synapse
HOUSE



Mar 30, 2025 3:00 PM CDT

Synapse House Fundraiser with the Chicago Wolves

Please join Synapse House for a day of
fun at a Chicago Wolves hockey game

Chicago Wolves vs Coachella

\$21.00

32nd CMSA – CHICAGO ANNUAL CONFERENCE



"The Foolproof Path to Healthcare Excellence: Case Management for the Future"

Earn 6+ CEUs when you are in-person & do the available Poster Presentations during the breaks.

SPRING
CONFERENCE

4/01/
2025

WHERE
DRURY LANE
OAK BROOK

7:00A-8:00 A **Registration Continental Breakfast and Networking in Exhibitor Hall** ★

8:00A-8:15A **Welcome and Annual Meeting in Main Room**

8:15A-9:15A **Advancing Case Management's Health Equity Pillars for Serious Illness (HEP-SI) – **Speaker-** Dr. Ellen Fink-Samnicks, DBHMSW LCSW CCM CCTP CRP FCM

9:15A-10:15A **Networking Hour/Coffee Break in Exhibitor Hall** ★

10:15A-11:45A Proven De-Escalation Techniques for Frontline Healthcare Workers – **Speaker-** John Good, Master of Arts-Law Enforcement Administration

11:45A-12:45P **LUNCH - EVERYONE!** ★

12:45P-1:15P **AWARDS CEREMONY-EVERYONE IN MAIN MEETING ROOM**

1:15P-2:15P Silent Battles: Breaking the Chains of PTSD and Finding a Way Forward – **Speaker -** Tonya Oxendine, Veteran Advocate, 30 yrs in military

2:15P-3:00P **Networking Time / Refreshments in Exhibitor Hall** ★

3:00P-4:00P **Medical Gaslighting's Universal Truth: Ethics, Advocacy, Aging, and Abilism – **Speaker-** Dr. Ellen Fink-Samnicks, DBHMSW LCSW CCM CCTP CRP FCM

4:00P-5:00P 2025 Case Management Update – **Keynote Speaker** Ronald Hirsch, MD, FACP, ACPS-C, CHRI, CHCQM

www.cmsa-chicago.org

** Preapproved for Ethics
Poster Presentations for an additional CEU will be available during breaks

WALK MS Chicago 2025



Date & Location

Sunday, April 27, 2025

South Lot of Soldier Field
459 East 18th Drive
Chicago, IL 60605



Routes

1 Mile Route

3 Mile Route

All routes are accessible,
and mobility devices are
welcome.



Schedule

Site Opens: 9:30 am
Ceremony Starts: 11:15
am
Walk Kickoff: 11:30 am

American Stroke Association CycleNation 2025

Wednesday, May 14th, 2025
5 PM
Daley Plaza

Team Names

NOIL Chapter AANN - Outspokin' Nurses 1

NOIL Chapter AANN - Outspokin' Nurses 2

To Participate Email:
NOILCHAPTERAANN@GMAIL.COM



Synapse House 2025 Golf Outing and Dinner

June 2nd, 2025

Glen Oak Country Club

Glen Ellyn, IL

2025 Golf Outing & Dinner

📅 June 2, 2025 @ 10:30AM — 8:00PM
Central Time (US & Canada)

[Add to Calendar](#)

📍 Glen Oak Country Club: 21 W451 Hill Ave
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

[Get Directions](#)



AANN Advance in Stroke Care Conference

- The AANN Stroke Conference addresses clinical learning needs; organizational development goals for stroke centers; and clinical challenges in the emergency room, in-patient areas, the rehabilitation unit, and the community.
- The Stroke Conference is held each summer. The 2025 Stroke Conference will be held from Monday, July 28–Wednesday, July 30, 2025 in Phoenix, AZ.
- Registration will open in May 2025.

Walk to End Alzheimer's

Walks Near You

[Chicago, IL](#)

Oct 4, 2025

[Glenview, IL](#)

Sep 21, 2025

[Elk Grove Village, IL](#)

Date: TBD

[Naperville, IL](#)

Sep 14, 2025

[Libertyville, IL](#)

Sep 27, 2025



NOIL APPAREL

**T-SHIRTS
NOW
AVAILABLE**

\$20/SHIRT





IMPORTANT DATES

2nd Quarter 2025 Chapter Meeting

Speaker: Gail Fusz RN, MS, CHCE

Topic: Sleep Disorders

5:30 PM

Wednesday

June 11th, 2025

Schaumburg, IL

Encore Village

Sponsored By: CMSA CHICAGO AND BrightStar Care

1 CEU



SPONSORS

Collaborative CE Dinner Meeting with CMSA-Chicago & American Association of Neuroscience Nurses Northern IL Chapter. WED JUNE 11, 2025
Encore Village - Bridgewater 350 W. Schaumburg Rd. Schaumburg, IL. 60194
Time: Check-in 5:30pm for in-person

Topic: Sleep Disorders
Presenter's Name and Credentials
Gail Fusz, RN, MS, CHCE, Gail has over 30 years of home health experience. In her role at BrightStar, Gail oversees the nursing, and caregiver teams and coordinates their orientation and training. Gail conducts performance improvement activities and quality assurance projects to ensure that BrightStar is always rendering the best care possible.

DESCRIPTION AND COURSE OBJECTIVES

Various types of sleep disorders will be defined along with how sleep disorders affect chronic illness and pain management. Treatment methods are examined, including easy ways that patients can change their habits to promote better sleep.

OBJECTIVES

- Attendees will be able to list the different sleep disorders and know the differences between them.
- Attendee will be able to identify how sleep disorders affect patients with chronic illnesses and how patients can change their sleep habits in order to have less of a negative impact on their chronic illnesses.
- Attendees will be able to list 3 treatment methods for sleep disorders along with the pros and cons of each.

Event Registration: <https://cmsa-chicago.org/meetinginfo.php> or use QR code



Credit for 1.0 RN, SW & CCM Submitted

IN-Person - complimentary for any nurse, social worker or case manager member or non-member.
IN-Person - any affiliate (non-nurse/SW/CM)- member or non-member is \$15 each.
Virtual/ Remote will be the same as always - virtual/remote member \$15/ non-member \$35

This program has been submitted to the Commission for Case Management Certification is pending approval of 1.0 CCM (regular) and is pending approval for 1.0 CE units for RNs and SWs by CMSA Chicago, licensed by IDFPR as CE Sponsor for RN and SW. License on file.



Serving Illinois, Northwest Indiana & St. Louis, Missouri

The Future of The Northern Illinois Chapter



- ▶ BOD will update Bylaws to reflect transition of associate and student members. (APRIL 2025)
- ▶ Update BOD positions to better serve the chapter. (APRIL 2025)
- ▶ Post meeting minutes to chapter webpage and send meeting minutes to members post meetings. (MARCH 2025)
- ▶ Look into offering CEUs at quarterly meetings.
- ▶ Have a member SPOTLIGHT (bi-monthly?) on all social media outlets.
- ▶ Yearly awards for outstanding members.
- ▶ NOIL Chapter Conference (2026?)
- ▶ Utilizing chapter members during Nurses Week/Stroke Month?
- ▶ Additional neuro topics of interest?
- ▶ Bi-yearly fundraising outings?

A HUGE THANK YOU TO TONIGHT'S SPONSORS

Synapse House

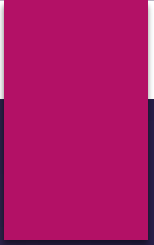


CMSA-CHICAGO



BrightStar Care





“It doesn’t take strength to win,
it takes the true heart of the team
to win” – Emily Voyles

Thank you for being a part of the Northern Illinois Chapter of the
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses.