

# IANN News



**National  
Association of  
Neonatal  
Nurses**

Iowa Chapter

*(Official newsletter of the Iowa  
Association of Neonatal Nurses)*

<https://iann.nursingnetwork.com>

**October - December  
2025**

## Letter from the IANN President

Hello everyone and Happy Holidays! December came fast this year with a load of snow to remind us that we do indeed live in the Midwest. My grandkids have been sledding non-stop for the past two weeks...way more than all last winter! I hope your plans for the season are shaping up to include all the happy holiday things. If you're the fun-maker in your family, here's one link with a lot of ideas for making a little holiday magic, [83 Best Christmas Activities for Kids and Families 2025](#). Who knows? Maybe this is the year for starting some new holiday family traditions!

After the holidays, please plan to **JOIN US** for the January IANN chapter meeting at St. Burch Tavern in downtown Iowa City on Tuesday, **January 13** from 5:30-7:30 pm, [St. Burch Tavern](#). Fun fact: I got engaged at St. Burch about 21 years ago! We've been back there many times for dinner and special occasions because the food is REALLY good. Dinner and drinks will be sponsored by our friends at Abbott Nutrition, and there is no cost to attend. Prospective members are always welcome, so bring your NICU colleagues! The dinner invite is attached to the newsletter. Kindly **RSVP** to Sydney Olson on or before **January 6**, [Sydney.olson1@abbott.com](mailto:Sydney.olson1@abbott.com). A couple people have reached out with some GOOD NEWS to share at the meeting (personal and professional). Please let us know if you have your own news to share. Our quarterly chapter meetings are a great opportunity to connect and collaborate with other NICU nurses in Iowa. So, plan to brave the cold and come out for a cozy dinner with friends!

Don't forget to SAVE THE DATE for the annual IANN Neonatal Care Conference, Wednesday,

## What's inside??

- Letter from the President
- Upcoming IANN Meetings
- Upcoming Educational Events
- 2025 IANN Board & Members
- October Meeting Minutes
- Membership Info
- Conference Scholarships
- SAVE THE DATE Flyers

July 15, 2026. The host NICU for the 2026 conference will be Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines, conference location TBD. Many thanks to Jessica Wallace for working to secure the venue. If you work at a NICU in Des Moines we would love to have you join the planning committee. Please reach out as soon as possible if you're interested. The planning committee will meet for the first time in January. The time commitment for committee members is minimal. And in return, you will be offered to attend the annual conference for FREE.

In these final days of 2025, your IANN leaders want to express our sincere THANKS for everything you do. For the lives you touch with kindness and for the love and care you provide to the most fragile babies born in Iowa. Thanks for all the wonderful holiday gestures that make our NICU families feel special. May YOU find peace, joy, and moments of rest as you continue to make an extraordinary difference in the lives of others. They will remember you forever.

Best always,

*Penny Smith*

IANN President



## Upcoming IANN Meetings

### **Tuesday, January 13, 2026**

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Meeting sponsor: Abbott Nutrition

Location: St. Burch Tavern, 127

Iowa Avenue, Iowa City

\*See event flyer attached\*

[ZOOM Link to Join Virtually](#)

### **Tuesday, March 31, 2026**

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Meeting sponsor: Mead Johnson Nutrition

Location: Johnny's Italian Steakhouse, 6075 Mills Civic Pkwy, West Des Moines

[ZOOM Link to Join Virtually](#)

### **Wednesday, July 15, 2026**

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Meeting sponsor: Abbott Nutrition

Location: TBD in Des Moines (after the annual conference)

[ZOOM Link to Join Virtually](#)

### **Tuesday October 13, 2026**

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Meeting sponsor: TBD

Location: TBD in Cedar Rapids

[ZOOM Link to Join Virtually](#)

## Upcoming Educational Events



### **Iowa Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy Initiative Learning Session 3**

**February 26, 2026  
9:00AM – 4:00PM**



**IOWA**  
Perinatal Quality  
Care Collaborative



[Future and Past NANN Conference Dates](#)

## 2025 IANN Board



Penny Smith, President  
Iowa Health Care: Stead Family Children's  
Hospital

[Penny-smith@uiowa.edu](mailto:Penny-smith@uiowa.edu)



Denise Holida, Vice President  
Iowa Health Care: Stead Family Children's  
Hospital

[Denise-Holida@uiowa.edu](mailto:Denise-Holida@uiowa.edu)



Becky Davila, Treasurer  
Iowa Health Care: Stead Family Children's  
Hospital  
[Rebecca-chuffodavila@uiowa.edu](mailto:Rebecca-chuffodavila@uiowa.edu)



Emily Spellman, Secretary  
Iowa Health Care: Stead Family Children's  
Hospital  
[Emily-wilson@uiowa.edu](mailto:Emily-wilson@uiowa.edu)

## 2025 IANN Members

Lori Andrews-Morris- SFCH, IC  
Susan Berends- SFCH, IC  
Sarah Betts- SFCH, IC  
Stephanie Boes- SFCH, IC  
Katelyn Buehrer - Blank Children's, DSM  
Erin Burns - Mercy, CR  
Kelley Chess - Mercy Children's, DSM  
Laura Corbett- SFCH, IC  
Becky Davila - SFCH, IC  
Allyssa Dolphin- Blank Children's, DSM  
Denise Easley - St. Luke's, CR  
Chris Eckardt- Blank Children's, DSM  
Rachel Eskeldson- SFCH, IC  
Kayla Fobian- SFCH, IC  
Jessica Freese- SFCH, IC  
Sarah Gates- Cedar Rapids  
Mallory Gibbs- Bettendorf  
Lisa Glantz- Marshalltown  
Danielle Glanz- St. Luke's, CR  
Amber Gonsoski- SFCH, IC  
Laura Grigsby- St. Luke's, Sioux City  
Abbey Haas- Mercy, CR  
Ali Hand- Indianola  
Stacey Happel- Vinton  
Kristi Haughey- SFCH, IC  
Joan Hengst- UPH, Dubuque  
Lauren Hodgson- UPH, DSM  
Kelsey Hoepfner- SFCH, IC  
Denise Holida - SFCH, IC  
Cyndie Homewood- St. Luke's, CR  
Pamela Kalkhoff - SFCH, IC  
Julie Kennedy- Mercy, CR  
Amy Kenyon- Mercy, DSM  
Bree Kray- Monticello  
Jennifer Melloy- SFCH, IC  
Tracey Michalec- St. Luke's, CR  
Tami Miller- SFCH, IC  
Brittany Miller- SFCH, IC  
Kristin Mirocha - St. Luke's, CR  
LouAnn Montgomery - UIHC, IC  
Jennifer Montgomery- St. Luke's, CR  
Laura Neumann- Bettendorf  
Kristi Nguyen- SFCH, IC  
Barbara O'Rourke- Blank Children's, DSM  
Laura Pabich- Grimes  
Cassandra Palasiewicz- SFCH, IC  
Barb Pappas - Blank Children's, DSM  
Cara Paris - SFCH, IC  
Alyssa Phillips- Marion  
Austin Richards- SFCH, IC  
Lindsey Ricklefs- SFCH, IC  
Laura Rizer- MercyOne, DSM  
Codi Robison- SFCH, IC

Shelley Rocca- St. Luke's, CR  
 Melissa Schnackenberg- MercyOne, Waterloo  
 Morgan Schuh- Mercy, DM  
 Dawn Schwartz- ChildServe, DSM  
 Brenda Shafer- SFCH, IC  
 Emily Sheely- SFCH, IC  
 Penny Smith- SFCH, IC  
 Haylee Sonius- SFCH, IC  
 Emily Spellman- SFCH, IC  
 Kathryn Steffen- SFCH, IC  
 Andrea Terrones  
 Elizabeth Thompson- Fulton  
 Amanda Wagner- IPQCC  
 Jessica Wallace-Blank Children's- DSM  
 Teresa Washington  
 Erin Weber- SFCH, IC  
 Jean Weber- St. Luke's, CR  
 Courtney Woeber- SFCH, IC  
 Nancy Woestman- Blank Children's, DSM

\*Membership list updated on 12/22/25.

~Pam Kalkhoff, Membership Chair  
[Skalkhoff@southslope.net](mailto:Skalkhoff@southslope.net)

## Interested in Membership?

Visit our website at:  
<https://nann.org>



The 'IANN News' is the official publication of the National Association of Neonatal Nurses - Iowa Chapter. The chapter welcomes the participation of its members in contributing to this newsletter but reserves the right to reasonably edit all items submitted. The opinions herein do not necessarily reflect or express those of the IANN membership or its officers. The 'IANN News' is the responsibility of the Communications Committee. Please forward any contributions to:

~Erin Weber, Communications Chair  
 319-929-0102  
[Erin-weber@uiowa.edu](mailto:Erin-weber@uiowa.edu)

## October Meeting Minutes

### **IANN Chapter Meeting Minutes**

October 14, 2025, | 6:05 PM –7:45 PM  
 Location: Hoq restaurant, Des Moines  
 Sponsor: Mead Johnson Nutrition

### **IANN Business Meeting**

6:47 PM – 7:45 PM

Meeting called to order at 6:47 PM by Penny Smith

### **July 2025 meeting minutes**

Were sent out with the newsletter and copies are available at this meeting.  
 Motion to approve: Brenda Shafer. Second: Pam Kalkhoff.  
 Motion approved.

### **Good news/recognition**

Lou Ann Montgomery has retired from UIHC after 44 years. She was a long-time member of NANN and IANN.

### **Meeting donation site**

- Unity Point Ronald McDonald House.
- Becky will send \$100 from IANN. Donations can be sent to Becky or can Venmo Penny.

### **Board Reports**

President, Penny Smith

- Save the date: July 15, 2026, IANN conference in Des Moines
  - o Planning committee forming; Reach out to Jessica Wallace or Penny Smith if interested.
  - o UnityPoint sponsorship and the Virginia Thompson meeting room on site is being explored. Jessica Wallace will inquire further.
  - o CEUs can be done through UIHC again.

Vice President, Denise Holid: no report.

Secretary, Emily Spellman: no report.

Treasurer, Becky Chuffo-Davila

- Budget report submitted.
- Good news that after expenses, the 2025 conference ended in a surplus.
  - o We had many vendors which was great.

### **Committee Reports**

- Membership, Pam Kalkhoff. Currently 74 members.
- Communications, Erin Weber
  - o Send Erin Weber photos or anything to post to Facebook or Instagram. Make sure to follow IANN on social media.
  - o Everyone loved the social media wall at the conference (thank you Erin Burns).
- Retention & Recruitment, Erin Burns: no report.

### Old Business

- 2025 IANN Conference
  - o 59 attendees.
  - o 16 vendors.
  - o Hotel site worked well but was expensive.
  - o Evaluations were positive overall, there were good ideas for future topics.
  - o Vendors were given a save the date for next year.
- IANN continues to support all 5 Iowa Ronald McDonald Houses with an annual donation.

### New Business

- NANN is in West Palm Beach Florida in 2026, September 15-18.
  - o Abstracts are accepted until
- Check out the *NANNcast* podcast from wherever you get your podcasts or the NANN website. Many episodes are available. [NANNcast - NANN](#)
- NANN also has an iLearn platform. [National Association of Neonatal Nurses: Home](#)

### Reflections from 2025 NANN Conference

7 IANN members attended.

On demand recordings are still available for a fee.

-New products: CoSense CO monitor, Enfit cleaning tool, transilluminator, fiber optic wire for gastric tubes that lights when in the stomach.

- Jessica Wallace presented about her NANN conference experience
  - o HIE presentation – Sonia Bonfacio
    - o HIE is more than just presentation of baby
    - o Seizure burden in later Bailey scores
    - o Bedside aEEG
    - o Algorithm for predicting outcomes
- Presentation about NEC and NEC imposters
- Reproductive technology/IVF and increased risk for genetic disorder: in the babies
- Family presentation reignited passion (Today is a Good Day Foundation). Reminder of why we care for families and babies.
- APRN summit highlighted role challenge
- Cardiac NRP session was good. The NRP 9<sup>th</sup> Edition will be released this fall.

### Upcoming IANN meetings, save the date

January 13, 2026, in Iowa City (SFCH is host)

March 31, 2026, in West Des Moines (Blank is host). The night before the Perinatal Conference which is April 1 and 2)

July 15, 2026, in Des Moines, after the IANN conference

October 13, 2026, in Cedar Rapids (Mercy CR & St. Luke's host)

Business meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Spellman  
IANN Secretary

## Conference Scholarships

Would you like assistance with travel to the NANN National Conference? Apply for a \$250 scholarship from IANN.

Need CEUs? Want to go to a different conference or get CEUS online? Apply for a maximum of \$100 scholarship from IANN.

### Successful grant recipients will:

1. Be a current member of IANN.
2. Each individual will be required to share new knowledge with fellow IANN members through a short presentation at an IANN meeting and/or write an article for the IANN Newsletter about something of interest from the conference (a new product, an interesting talk, a person of interest, etc.)

\*If you are delinquent in reporting your information, you will forfeit your right to request money for the next year.

Please submit completed Scholarship Application Forms to Becky Chuffo-Davila using the attached form.

**Becky Chuffo Davila, 1991 Ollinger Drive, Coralville, IA 52241**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\$ Amount Requested \_\_\_\_\_

If I receive this education grant I agree to share learned information with the IANN membership within six (6) months.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# **IANN**

## **CHAPTER MEETING & DINNER**

**Sponsored by Abbott Nutrition**

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**ST. BURCH TAVERN**

127 Iowa Ave, Iowa City, IA 52240

**TUESDAY JANUARY 13TH**

5:30- 7:30 PM

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**Please RSVP to Sydney Olson**  
**[sydney.olson1@abbott.com](mailto:sydney.olson1@abbott.com)**  
**by January 6th**





## **SAVE THE DATE**

**51<sup>st</sup> Annual Iowa Conference  
on Perinatal Medicine**

**April 1-2, 2026**

**\*\* NOW Wednesday-Thursday \*\***

**Pre-Conference**

**Tuesday, March 31, 2026**

**S.T.A.B.L.E. Program, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed  
OPS OB Emergencies**

**\*\* Both courses require  
online work in advance \*\***



**National  
Association of  
Neonatal  
Nurses**

Iowa Chapter

# Save the Date!

13<sup>th</sup> Annual Neonatal Care Conference

July 15th, 2026

Des Moines, Iowa

Location TBA



Iowa Association of Neonatal Nurses-IANN