

2025 MNRC Conference Presenters



Adriane Burgess, PhD, RNC-OB, CCE, C-ONQS, CPHQ, C-EFM, FAWHONN

Senior Director of Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at Maryland Patient Safety Center

Dr. Burgess is a nurse with over 25 years of experience in clinical and academic settings and in healthcare leadership. Currently, she works as the Senior Director of Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at the Maryland Patient Safety Center where she leads several statewide initiatives to promote quality and safety. She served as nursing faculty for over ten years and taught a variety of courses in associate, bachelor's, and graduate-level nursing programs. Currently, she supports hospitals and health systems in identifying areas of risk supporting them in leveraging opportunities to build safer systems of care. In 2023, Dr. Burgess received AWHONN's Award for Excellence in Leadership and was inducted as a fellow in the Association of Women's Health Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses and in 2024 was elected to their Board of Directors.



Rhonda Scott, JD, BSN RN, CRNI, SD-CLTC

Executive Director of the Maryland Board of Nursing

Rhonda Scott was appointed Executive Director of the Maryland Board of Nursing in September 2023. Previously, she served as Deputy Director for over four years, overseeing the Board's daily operations. A registered nurse and licensed attorney with over 35 years of nursing experience, Rhonda holds the Certified Registered Nurse Infusion (CRNI) credential and a national certification in staff development for long-term care. She has held several nursing leadership roles, developing orientation programs, preceptor training, and infusion therapy education in long-term care settings. Rhonda also has a strong background in regulatory compliance.

As Executive Director, Rhonda has led the Board of Nursing in close partnership with the Maryland Department of Health to drive major operational improvements, including faster license and certification processing, enhanced customer service, and critical IT system upgrades.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Coppin State University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Baltimore School of Law.



Jane Krienke, BS, BA

Assistant Vice President, Government Affairs & Policy at the Maryland Hospital Association

Jane Krienke is an assistant vice president on the Government Affairs & Policy team at the Maryland Hospital Association (MHA). She has worked at MHA since 2015. Her issue portfolio includes workforce development, workplace violence prevention, sexual assault and human trafficking, pediatric hospital overstay, and the Hospital Bond Program. Jane also supports MHA's Task Force on Maryland's Future Health Workforce, a group established in 2022 focused on identifying barriers and opportunities to support Maryland's health care workforce.

Jane works closely with the Maryland health occupations boards including the Board of Nursing and Board of Physicians on a number of physician, nursing and allied health workforce issues.

Prior to joining MHA, Jane worked with the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI) as a Resident Advisor and Foster Youth Intern advocating for improvements in the child welfare system. While interning with CCAI, Jane worked in the office of Senator Roy Blunt from Missouri. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications with a minor in Spanish from Truman State University in Missouri.



Joan I. Warren, PhD, RN, NPD-BC, NEA-BC, FAAN

Founder and former Executive Director of MONL, Inc./MNRC

Dr. Warren is a founder and former Executive Director of the Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders, Inc., Maryland Nurse Residency Collaborative. She played a key role in building the infrastructure for the Collaborative and securing state funding for its expansion and long-term sustainability. Under her leadership, the number of residency programs increased from two in 2011 to include all acute care hospitals in Maryland, using the Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program™. As a national leader in nursing professional development, Dr. Warren has served as the president and a board member of the Association for Nursing Professional Development. She is recognized internationally for her research studies, publications, and podium presentations that focus on translating evidence into practice, the role and impact of nursing professional development practitioners and preceptors, transforming healthcare through innovation, and developing and advancing the nursing workforce. Dr. Warren earned her PhD from the University of Maryland School of Nursing and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.



Hussein M. Tahan, PhD, RN, FAAN, FCM

System VP and CNO-Professional Development, Workforce Management, & Academic Affairs at MedStar Health

Hussein M. Tahan, PhD, RN, FAAN, FCM, is the chief nursing officer and system VP of nursing professional development, workforce management, and academic affairs at MedStar Health; over \$9.0B not-for-profit regional healthcare system based in Columbia, Maryland. Hussein is known for his expertise in case management as a published author, researcher, and awards recipient. Hussein currently serves as the chair of the American Academy of Nursing-Institute of Nursing leadership National Advisory Council, is a member of the National Strategic Planning Committee of the Vizient/AACN New to Practice Nurse Residency Program, and a health equity ambassador with AARP. Hussein is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, inaugural fellow in Case Management by the Case Management Society of America, and the recipient of the 2016 CMSA Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to professional case management practice.



Jennifer S. Zipp, DNP, MS, RN

Executive Director of MONL Inc./ MNRC

Dr. Zipp is the Executive Director (ED) for the Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders, Inc./Maryland Nurse Residency Collaborative (MONL, Inc./MNRC). Zipp oversees the Collaborative's strategic plan and finances. She joined the MNRC team in June 2018 as NRP Coordinator and alongside her predecessor, Dr. Joan Warren, helped Maryland become the first in the nation to have all acute care hospitals using a standardized NRP. She helped to coordinate the acute care hospital statewide nurse residency collaboration of hospitals, create the current infrastructure and operations of the MNRC and provide onsite mentorship to hospitals newly implementing the NRP program. Dr. Zipp and her team continue to provide ongoing instruction and mentorship for NRP Coordinators and nursing leaders offering hospital-based NRP programs. They facilitate the education and delivery of nurse residency programs, assisting in hospital integration of the NRP into existing hospital strategies for nurse graduate recruitment and retention. With over 25 years of experience, Zipp has demonstrated leadership and expertise in critical care nursing, evidence-based practice (EBP), leadership, transition-to-practice, and mentorship programs.



Lindsay Ross, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CMSRN

Senior Programmatic Advisor at Vizient

Lindsay Ross is a highly experienced healthcare professional with a passion for nursing education and program development. Lindsay holds a Master of Science in Nursing Education from Grand Canyon University, which she obtained after completing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Mesa State College.

In her current position as Senior Programmatic Advisor, Lindsay plays a vital role in shaping the Nurse Residency Program at Vizient. She leverages her extensive clinical experience and educational background to develop and implement effective training programs for new nurses, ensuring their smooth transition into the healthcare field.



Theresa Di Seta, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC

Assistant Director, Student Placements for Partnership Development and Community Health at the University of Maryland School of Nursing

Dr. Theresa Di Seta is a distinguished nurse leader with advanced certifications in Nursing Professional Development (NPD-BC) and Executive Nursing Administration (NEA-BC). She is a proud member of Sigma Theta Tau and Kappa Gamma Pi. She earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

In her current role, Dr. Di Seta has established impactful partnerships, including a pioneering collaboration with the Enoch Pratt Free Library. Her DNP project focused on Maryland's income tax credit for nurse preceptors, where she played a pivotal role in spearheading and advancing efforts for legislative amendments, earning support from eight professional organizations. Passionate about advancing the healthcare and nursing profession, she is committed to driving change through policy development and leadership.



Jennifer Davis, MSN, RN, CWON

Clinical Education Specialist/ NRP Coordinator at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center

Jennifer Davis is a Clinical Education Specialist and Nurse Residency Program Coordinator at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center with over 15 years of nursing experience. She spent seven years practicing as a Certified Wound Ostomy Nurse before transitioning into education. Jennifer holds an MSN in Leadership and Management and a post-graduate certificate in Nursing Education from Stevenson University. Her session will focus on engaging, hands-on wound care education for nurse residents, emphasizing assessment and documentation.



Meghan Perrotta, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, OCN

Nurse Educator/ Nurse Residency Program Coordinator at Medstar Washington Hospital Center

Meghan Rudrow Perrotta is a Nursing Professional Development Specialist and Nurse Residency Program Coordinator at MedStar Washington Hospital Center. She holds a BSN from The Catholic University of America and an MSN in Nursing Education from Stevenson University. With a clinical background in medical-surgical oncology, Meghan is certified as an Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN) and in Nursing Professional Development (NPD-BC). In her current role, she oversees a certified, Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program, supporting the transition to practice for 300–400 new nurses annually. She is passionate about advancing professional identity formation, evidence-based practice, and creating innovative learning experiences that empower nurses and strengthen the future of the profession.



Gabriella Etienne, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CCRN, NE-BC

Assistant Director of Nursing Professional Development at Medstar Washington Hospital Center

Gabriella Etienne serves as a Nursing Professional Development Specialist and Assistant Director of Nursing Professional Development at MedStar Washington Hospital Center. She earned her ASN from the City University of New York - City College of Technology, her BSN from the University of Maryland, and her MSN in Healthcare Organizational Leadership from the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. With a strong clinical foundation in medical-surgical, intermediate, and critical care, she is dedicated to supporting the growth and success of new nurses. Her professional passions include career development, leadership, and advancing the practice of nursing through education and mentorship.



Jennifer Walczak, MSN, RN, CCRN

Clinical Education Specialist at TidalHealth

Jennifer Walczak serves as a Clinical Education Specialist and Preceptor Program Coordinator at TidalHealth, where she has dedicated over 14 years to advancing nursing practice. Her experience includes roles as a bedside nurse in PCU and as a Clinical Quality Specialist in Critical Care, with a focus on quality improvement and the implementation of best practices. She is deeply committed to mentoring nurses, supporting their professional growth, and enhancing patient care.



Megan Jacko, BSN, RN, CEN

Clinical Education Specialist at TidalHealth

Megan Jacko is an Emergency Department nurse with nineteen years of experience, including the past seven years as a Clinical Education Specialist. She is passionate about educating and mentoring new nurses, with a particular focus on supporting the Nurse Graduate Residency Program and fostering a strong foundation for lifelong professional growth.



Shahde Graham-Coker, MSN, RN, NPD-BC

Newly Licensed Nurse Residency Program (NLNRP) Coordinator at University of Maryland Capital Region Health

Shahde Graham-Coker is a passionate nurse leader and educator dedicated to helping new nurses grow, thrive, and find their confidence. With over a decade of experience, she has guided nurses to not just survive but to excel in their careers. As Nurse Residency Coordinator at University of Maryland Capital Region Health, she manages the Nursing Support Program Grant with the Health Services Cost Review Commission and fosters future nursing leaders through evidence-based projects that improve bedside care. Shahde is known for creating engaging learning experiences, mentoring with heart, and ensuring new nurses feel supported and encouraged. She loves sharing practical tips, lessons learned, and a little inspiration to help nurses succeed from day one. Shahde believes that a little encouragement can go a long way—and she brings that belief into everything she does.



Sharone Okeke-Phillip, DNP, CRNP, FNP-BC

Newly Licensed Nurse Residency Program (NLNRP) Facilitator at University of Maryland Capital Region Health

Sharone Okeke-Phillip possesses over a decade of professional nursing experience. Her diverse background includes working as an acute care registered nurse, a clinical instructor, and an adult primary care provider. Sharon is deeply passionate about caring for older adults in the community setting and promoting professional development in the nursing field. She firmly believes that by fostering an environment that encourages the spirit of inquiry, critical thinking, and lifelong learning, nurses can significantly improve the quality of care provided to patients and elevate the nursing profession as a whole. Currently, Sharon has the opportunity to work at the University of Maryland Capital Region Health, where she plays a vital role in guiding new graduate nurses through their transition into professional practice.



Kimberlie Paul, MS, RN, NPD-BC

Nursing Practice and Professional Development Specialist, Johns Hopkins Health System

Kim Paul is a Nursing Practice and Professional Development Specialist at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and The Johns Hopkins Hospital, where she works with the Nurse Residency Program team supporting over 500 new graduate nurses annually. She is passionate about designing innovative, engaging strategies to foster learning and career growth for nurses. Kim holds degrees in Nursing and Pharmaceutical & Healthcare Business, as well as a master's in Health Services Leadership and Management with a concentration in Nursing Education. Outside of work, she enjoys traveling, Pilates, and has recently taken up golf as a new hobby.



Virginia Nganga, MSN, RN

Nursing Practice and Professional Development Specialist, Johns Hopkins Health System

Virginia is a Nursing Practice and Professional Development Specialist at The Johns Hopkins Hospital and Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, where she supports over 500 new nurses through the Nurse Residency Program. She is deeply passionate about mentoring and cultivating a culture of professional growth through structured, reflective, and creative initiatives. Virginia holds both a bachelor's and a master's degree in nursing. Outside of work, she enjoys quality time with her sons, practicing yoga, reading, and traveling.

