

2020-2021 Annual Report

2020: The Unprecedented Year of the Nurse

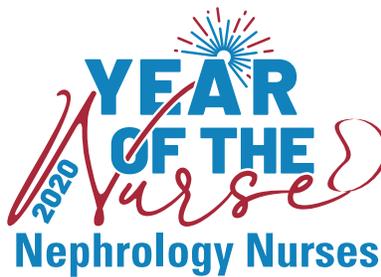


It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as ANNA President this past year. 2020 will be considered by some as “a year to forget.” However, I think 2020 will be most remembered by ANNA as an extraordinary year with many “firsts,” a few of which are highlighted in the timeline below.

The Year in Review

January

2020 for ANNA was “different” from the very beginning. In January, Dr. **Tamara Kear** began her tenure as ANNA’s first nurse Executive Director. I stepped into the role of ANNA President 3 months earlier than the customary time for the presidential transition, which usually occurs during the ANNA National Symposium. In hindsight, maybe this was an indication that the year ahead was not necessarily going to be a “normal” one.



pitals filled to overflow, shortages of dialysis machines, IV pumps, and ventilators, and an alarming increase in acute kidney injury and the need for kidney replacement therapies.

While the general population was told to isolate and stay at home, this was not an option for patients on hemodialysis and staff. Nurses demonstrated such courage in the wake of uncertainty, fear, and physical and mental exhaustion. In

addition, the pandemic created a global recession and economic crisis. As nurses, we were faced with the challenge of protecting and caring for the public while grappling with how to protect ourselves and our families.

February

The ANNA Board of Directors meeting in St. Petersburg, FL, was full of energy, optimism, and planning. Who knew, at that moment, it would be the last time during the year we would meet face to face!

April

The Board of Directors made the difficult decision to postpone the ANNA National Symposium until August 2020. ANNA launched the online Nephrology Nurse COVID-19 Surge Support Tool to help connect staff with providers in “hot spots” where COVID-19 had overwhelmingly increased. ANNA also collaborated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to offer a webinar to members providing the most current information on infection control practices for COVID-19 in the dialysis setting. More than 1,000 individuals attended the webinar.

March

Enter COVID-19. Two of the first reported COVID-related deaths were nursing home patients who received hemodialysis at Northwest Kidney Center in Seattle, WA. **Liz McNamara**, Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer, and Dr. **Suzanne Watnick**, Chief Medical Officer, at Northwest Kidney Centers, detailed their facility’s experience with COVID-19 with *Nephrology Nursing Journal (NNJ)* Editor **Beth Ulrich** for an *NNJ Extra* podcast episode. They discussed dealing with the onset of COVID-19, how their team worked together to provide care for patients and support staff members, and the lessons they learned.

May

ANNA collaborated with the American Society of Nephrology on a webinar to update the kidney community on COVID-19 and share mental health resources to support professionals.

We also celebrated Nurses Month with many ANNA members sharing pictures and encouraging words, even in the face of a pandemic.

Little did we know we would still be fighting this virus 1 year later and that millions of lives would be lost to this terrible pandemic. Our frontline nurses faced daunting challenges, personal protective equipment shortages, hos-

June

In the middle of the pandemic, George Floyd was murdered on May 25 and the tension of systemic racism in the United States exploded and reverberated across the world. ANNA responded, as did so many nursing organizations, and spoke out against racism, discrimination, prejudice, and hate.

July

One year after the Advancing American Kidney Health (AAKH) Executive Order was signed, ANNA continued to advocate for nephrology patients and providers through collaborations and letters to legislators even though we could not physically visit Capitol Hill. **Janet D'Alesandro**, ANNA's Communication and Media Relations Director, increased our presence in the media. Thanks to **Celess Tyrell**, ANNA's social media presence is more robust and engaging, reflecting the diversity of our membership.

ANNA's presence and involvement with kidney health issues are vital and make a difference as was evidenced by the long-awaited passing of the Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Kidney Transplant Patients Act in December 2020.

ANNA became a member of the Steering Committee of the Alliance for Home Therapies. ANNA leaders worked on new initiatives around diversity, equity, and inclusion at our Board of Directors Meeting.

August

ANNA held its first fully virtual National Symposium. Thanks to the Conferences Committee, the National Office staff, speakers, and attendees, it was a huge success! We also joined the American Nurses Association #MaskUp Campaign as we continued to press forward through the COVID-19 pandemic.

September

In celebration of Nephrology Nurses Week, we highlighted all ANNA Committees, including the newly reinstated Health Policy and Nominations Committees. ANNA was represented at the virtual symposium, "Lessons Learned from COVID-19: Preparing for a Future Pandemic" hosted by the Rogosin Institute. One of the lessons learned focused on the mental health and well-being of patients and

providers. ANNA Research Committee members **Vicki Montoya** and **Paula Dutka** and ANNA member **Charlotte Thomas-Hawkins** began working with Otsuka Pharmaceuticals to survey ANNA members to help determine some of the everyday stressors for nurses as well as the compounded impact of COVID-19 on nephrology nursing.

November

ANNA's Nephrology Nursing Practice, Management & Leadership Conference was fully virtual and quite successful. ANNA partnered with Otsuka to present the survey data that was collected on nephrology nurses' well-being. We will continue the work on this very important issue as we provide additional resources for you on the ANNA website.

We announced the candidates running for the 2021-2022 Board of Directors. ANNA introduced another first to help inform your vote. The Nominations Committee hosted a webinar "Who's Who with the 2021-2022 ANNA Candidates" moderated by Committee Chair **Loretta Jackson Brown**. The candidates discussed their qualifications, answered questions, and shared their visions for the future of ANNA.

As the ANNA year comes to a close, I reflect on the remarkable fortitude, innovation, resiliency, and boldness demonstrated by ANNA members. I believe as we continue to focus on ANNA's Mission and Vision and fiercely advocate for nurses and patients to be considered a priority, we will TRANSFORM how we practice and treat kidney disease. We have accomplished a great deal this year, and I look forward to continuing to forge ahead as **Dave Walz** takes the reins as 2021-2022 ANNA President, which is another first by the way. Dave Walz will be ANNA's first male president!

Thank you for trusting me to serve as ANNA President during this most challenging but insightful year. I want to especially thank the National Office staff, the Board of Directors – **Sara Kennedy, Barbara Odom, Cindy Richards, Tanya Scott, Nancy Colobong Smith, Lucy Todd, and Dave Walz** – and Executive Director **Tamara Kear** for meeting every challenge, making difficult decisions with courage and grit, and leading ANNA. We are stronger, wiser, and ready for 2021! ↑

Lillian Pryor, MSN, RN, CNN
ANNA President
Dogwood Chapter #224

2020

YEAR IN REVIEW

80 chapters



8 committees



8,051 members



71 student members

3 task forces



9 specialty practice networks



online educational library

5,798 users



34,382 contact hours earned



nephrology nursing journal

6 issues



548 pages



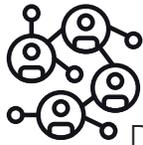
46.8 contact hours



135 pharmacology minutes



BROADCAST



PRINT

DIGITAL

44

interviews, articles & press releases

ANNA website

COVID-19 RESOURCES
11,501 views



COVID-19 SURGE SUPPORT TOOL
14 States | 39 Facilities/Organizations | 9,038

MENTAL HEALTH/WELL-BEING RESOURCES
1,027 views



PODCASTS

33 episodes



2,265 downloads

social media



11,050 followers



2,055 followers



3,084 followers



419 followers

ADVOCACY



47 letters/endorsements

educational conferences

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

699 attendees



55 speakers



22.5 contact hours



NEPHROLOGY NURSING PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

283 attendees



55 speakers



16.5 contact hours



MISSION

The American Nephrology Nurses Association improves members' lives through education, advocacy, networking, and science.

Learning, Leading, and Connecting **2019-2021 Strategic Plan**

Mission Statement

ANNA improves members' lives through education, advocacy, networking, and science.

Vision Statement

Influence kidney health through the expertise of nephrology nurses.

Rationale for Strategic Plan

The healthcare environment continues to be in a sea of change, and to be a vibrant, robust association, we must change as well. ANNA needs to look at new and innovative ways to meet the needs of members, attract new members, and help members care for their patients. Our strategic plan guides us in moving forward together.

Core Beliefs

As individual members of ANNA and together as an organization, we intend to act consistently with our core beliefs that:

1. Nephrology nurses have an opportunity and responsibility to enhance the quality of care delivered to people with kidney disease.
2. As an organization, we have the responsibility to provide sound educational programs necessary to develop, maintain, and augment competence in practice, and that we as individual practitioners have the responsibility to continue to deepen our knowledge, sharpen our skills, and develop our competencies.
3. ANNA must support research to develop evidence-based practice, as well as to advance nursing science, and that as individual members, we must support, participate in, and apply evidence-based research that advances our own skills, as well as nursing science.
4. We must support and engage in collaboration that results in higher quality patient care and more cost-effective healthcare delivery.

Core Beliefs (continued)

5. We benefit as an organization and as individuals when we embrace and nurture diversity in all its dimensions.
6. Nurses must be respected in the workplace, and ways of demonstrating this respect are to support them in their professional growth and employ them at their highest level of education and training.
7. ANNA must provide nurses with leadership opportunities, and nurses need to seize opportunities to develop and polish their leadership skills.
8. We benefit intellectually and spiritually when we socialize together.

Strategic Questions

1. How should we proactively lead in this changing healthcare landscape?
2. How can we become vital to more nephrology nurses given the influence of employers, changing demographics, and competing demands for resources?
3. How should we assure continued organizational vibrancy?

Strategic Priorities

1. Lead proactively and strategically.
2. Attract, engage, and retain members.
3. Provide quality, relevant accessible services.
4. Influence health policy through advocacy.

2019-2021 Strategic Plan was approved by the Board of Directors, July 2019