The success of a 1968 dialysis symposium for physicians and nurses in Philadelphia led to the announcement of a formal educational program for nurses the following year.

In Atlantic City in April 1969, a formal educational meeting, “A Dialysis Symposium for Nurses,” was sponsored by the Kidney Disease Control Program under the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

During this historic meeting in Atlantic City, a small group of nephrology nurses met to formally begin a new organization.

During the Atlantic City Meeting, the name American Association for Nephrology Nurses (AANN) was formally adopted for the new nursing organization.

In Atlantic City, AANN held its first elections, developed its charter and bylaws, and established its membership fee of $2.50.

Bernice I. Hinckley was elected as the Association’s first President.

The new organization spent the following year promoting networking with other dialysis professionals and industry sponsors as well as implementing plans to increase its membership.

The First Annual AANN National Symposium, held in Washington, DC in April 1970 in conjunction with ASAIO, attracted 450 registrants. Proceedings from the symposium were published.