

Chapter Update



Hazel Taylor chapter members volunteered at the Alabama Childhood Food Solutions food bank as part of the ANNA *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative.



Members of the Hazel Taylor Chapter presented a donation check to the Alabama Childhood Food Solutions food bank.

Alabama

Hazel Taylor #239

Our chapter had a busy fall, and we are already looking on to 2023. We participated in a successful *Feed Your Kidneys* event at the Alabama Childhood Food Solutions (ACFS) food bank in Sylacauga, AL. Several chapter members spent a Saturday morning volunteering to fill food bags for children so they can have food on weekends when they do not have access to food at school. We filled food boxes for the local Boys and Girls Clubs. ACFS serves 36 schools and six Boys and Girls Clubs. They also fill and provide food boxes to local families to supplement their nutritional needs.

We celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week in September with a dinner meeting at Perry's Steakhouse sponsored by Akebia. We had a great turnout!

We held the *38th Annual Nephrology Update* on October 14 at the Pelham Civic Center. The meeting was well attended, and we had great vendor support. The meeting featured a session on active shooter situations and how to protect staff and patients.

We are planning a Christmas education session for December 1. The event will be sponsored by Pentec, and **Deborah Degree** will discuss *Incredible Edibles*.

We will hold chapter elections in November/December. Be on the lookout for those names.

We will start off the new year with a dinner meeting supported and provided by



Desert Vista chapter members volunteered at Desert Mission Food Bank and helped restock "senior packs."

Akebia and Seth Tucker. We are excited to continue providing education to our members in 2023.

Arizona

Desert Vista #501

Our chapter was selected through the *Feed Your Kidneys* program to receive a grant to donate to a local food bank. We chose Desert Mission Food Bank as the beneficiary for the donated funds. On September 14, chapter members Donna,

Ellie, Mary Ann, Connie, Deb, Minerva, Laurie, and Gloria donated their time to assist in replenishing the senior bag supply and made 600 bags. Chapter President **Gloria Haught-Neese** presented the \$1,500 donation check to Sue Sadecki, the food bank director. Sue explained that these economic times have greatly affected volunteers and increased the number of individuals requiring assistance. Thank you to Mary Ann for the colorful matching team shirts and the themed decorated cookies.



Desert Vista Chapter President Gloria Haught-Neese and fellow chapter members presented a donation check to Sue Sadecki, director of Desert Mission Food Bank.

Patient Care America sponsored dinner and a presentation on *Gastroparesis in CKD* at Phoenix City Grill on October 20.

California

Nephros South #506

We are excited to welcome our most recent new members: **Chezlee Nelson** and **Lilas Suhartini** from Nevada and **Nicole Woods** from San Diego. We look forward to meeting you at our next event and invite you to become active members of our chapter. We welcome the energy of new ideas and different perspectives.

All chapter members recently received a survey to determine how our chapter can better meet the needs, interests, and goals of our nurses. We received positive responses about the importance of having a local chapter to provide continuing education and networking opportunities. Most found chapter leaders to be open to new ideas, foster a positive attitude about ANNA, and encourage involvement in the local chapter. Unfortunately, many found making a commitment difficult due to location and/or time of meetings, work schedule, and balancing professional time with personal time. We do plan to engage new members who expressed an interest in becoming involved in chapter activities. In future meetings, we will explain the roles of officers and the benefits of volunteerism.

We also plan to keep our members informed of current health policy and legislative measures and encourage members to make informed voting choices. We will continue to offer both in-person and virtual educational presentations.

One of the highlights of September was Nephrology Nurses Week. The nurses at San Diego VA Dialysis center celebrated all week with “Nephrology Nurses Give HOPE” pens for everyone, daily raffles, and special recognition of our CNNs,



The Chumash Chapter celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week by hosting an educational dinner event about living kidney donation on September 13.

Shanie Saldana, Fe Ranoco, Ann Gonzaga, and **Kathi Amarillas.** We concluded the week with an ice cream and bundt cake social.

Our chapter also celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week by hosting an educational dinner presentation sponsored by Ultragenyx on September 13. **Margo Black** from Vanderbilt University Medical Center presented *X-Linked Hypophosphatemia (XLH)*, which is a rare genetic disorder often unrecognized and not adequately treated, especially in adults.

The Nephrology Nursing Practice, Management, and Leadership Conference was in San Diego in October. **Gloria Booth**, our chapter health policy representative, presented the opening welcome remarks at the conference. We hope everyone found the conference beneficial and also spent time enjoying the many recreational and dining venues in San Diego.

A meeting in October featured a demonstration of the Tablo dialysis machine. Plans for meetings in November and December are underway.

Chumash #528

During Nephrology Nurses Week, our chapter celebrated local nurses by hosting an educational dinner event on September 13. Sponsored by Otsuka Pharmaceutical, the presentation focused on *Living Kidney Donation: One Solution for Patients with ESRD*. Thirty-four nephrology nurses,



The Chumash Chapter hosted an educational dinner event during Nephrology Nurses Week. Pictured (from left) are speaker Maria Dallal and chapter officers Svetlana Kacherova, Eva Chroust, and Susan Eshelman.



The Chumash Chapter hosted an educational dinner event during Nephrology Nurses Week. Attendees included incoming chapter officers Lisa Leggett and Evelyn Bjornstorm and current chapter officers Eva Chroust and Svetlana Kacherova



High Country chapter members attended a dinner meeting featuring the Tablo hemodialysis machine.

dietitians, and social workers attended. It was a great opportunity to learn, network, and have fun. All attendees received kidney pins with their birthday gemstone, and some left with raffle prizes.

We are planning an educational Zoom meeting with contact hours later this year for members in Hawaii and Chumash chapter members. We hope this will be a good opportunity to increase ANNA membership and promote nephrology nursing.

Thank you to past chapter officer **Debra Bennett**, a long-time secretary and treasurer, for her hard work, dedication, and contributions to our chapter. We wish her a happy retirement and best of luck with this new chapter in her life!

Welcome to our incoming chapter officers: **Lisa Leggett** and **Evelyn Bjornstorm**. Our current chapter officers are President/Treasurer **Susan Eshelman**, President-Elect **Eva Chroust**, Secretary **Svetlana Kacherova**, and Health Policy Representative **Shilpa Ullal**. Please contact them if you have any questions or need more information about our chapter.

Watch for announcements about upcoming educational meetings and chapter activities on our chapter Facebook page.

Colorado

High Country #502

Our chapter, which represents Colorado and Wyoming, held a dinner meeting in Denver in August to see the Tablo machine up close. In September, we held a webinar meeting to learn about novel venous access devices. In October, a few members participated in the Denver Kidney Walk.

Our chapter leaders could use more help from volunteers. Please contact Secretary **Tricia Patterson** if you would like to be part of the leadership team.

Florida

South Florida Flamingo #206

Welcome to our new members: **Rowena Prada** and **Julio Suarez**. We encourage you to support new members as they learn what ANNA has to offer and introduce them to our chapter networking opportunities.

On August 31, **Dr. Darlena Banas** and Paola Pozo with FMC Renal Pharma



Members of the South Florida Flamingo Chapter celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week at Villagio restaurant in Coral Gables on September 15.



South Florida Flamingo chapter members celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week at Cafe Vico in Fort Lauderdale on September 13.

hosted a meeting on *High-Potency Phosphate Binding to Activate Control with Velphoro®* at Perry's Steakhouse and Grille. Attendees enjoyed the evening and learned new information.

During Nephrology Nurses Week, Dr. Cris Gibson and Amgen hosted our meeting on *Osteoporosis in CKD* at Cafe Vico in Fort Lauderdale on September 13. The chapter presented Dr. Gibson, the Medical Science Liaison for Amgen, with an award for his continued support of our chapter. Attendees received Nephrology Nurses Week gifts and the night ended with a drawing for two 1-year memberships, which were won by **Kyle DePiola** and **Janice Dunsmore**. There were also drawings for nephrology shirts and zippered bags. Door prizes were also given. We all enjoyed the special evening!

Dr. Gibson and Amgen also hosted a Nephrology Nurses Week event on *Osteoporosis in CKD* at the Villagio



The South Florida Flamingo chapter reunited for an educational dinner at Tarantella Ristorante in Weston. Raffle winners included Arlene Barnett, Agnes John, Theresa Conte, Marvina Chen, and Maggie Sinclair.



The Suncoast Chapter celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week with a cocktail reception.



The Suncoast Chapter hosted a successful annual meeting with expert speakers presenting on a variety of topics.



Marie Montagna and Cindy Toombs, members of the Suncoast Chapter, packed food boxes at the All Kidney Patients Support Group.

Restaurant in Coral Gables on September 15. **Angela Robinson** and **Maggie Freeman** won 1-year memberships. Drawings and door prizes were awarded as well.

On October 6, we held a collaborative meeting with the ANNA North Central Florida Chapter. **Dr. Darlena Banas** presented *Current Understanding of the Pathophysiology and Unmet Need in Anemia*. It was fun to get together with another chapter and make new contacts and friends.

We welcomed a new sponsor: Alex De La Rosa and ChemoCentryx. They hosted our meeting at the City Fish Market in Boca Raton on October 20. Dr. Arvind Madan with Nephrology Associates of Central Florida presented *Advances in Treatment for Anca-Associated Vasculitis*.

The topic was well received, and we had many questions.

Another new sponsor, Dr. Martha Mendoza and Sanofi, hosted our meeting at Capital Grille in Ft. Lauderdale on October 25. Dr. Esquenazi presented *Fabry Disease: Recognizing a Variable Condition in the Nephrology Clinic*. We appreciate hearing about a topic not often addressed and found the information extremely interesting.

Watch for upcoming educational meeting announcements on ANNA Connected and our chapter Facebook page.

Suncoast #213

Welcome to our newest chapter members: **Wandez Folks**, **Takisha Mackey**,

Hadid Rodriguez, **Jesenia Saunders-Garcia**, **Roy Sookdeo**, and **Kelli Sweeney**. We hope you will reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

We held a successful annual meeting at the Safety Harbor Inn and Spa on September 9-11. The meeting featured new information and interesting speakers. Topics included Network 7 updates, transplant updates, challenges in the transplant process for the Hispanic population, obesity and transplantation, and transplant nursing concerns. We also had an update on disaster response and preparedness, which was very timely during hurricane season. In addition, we learned about updates in infection control and some interesting information about monkeypox. The packed agenda also



Windy City chapter members, including Dean Baron, participated in a food packing event at Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg, IL.



Windy City chapter members, including Bessie Baldovino and Geraldine Zingraf, helped pack food at Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg, IL.

included transitional care units and how to start a SMART training program. On the professional end for nurses, we learned about empowering ourselves through specialty certification and the pros and cons of hiring new graduate nurses. Finally, we learned about mental health concerns in adults with chronic kidney disease, genetic testing, and nutritional challenges in peritoneal dialysis.

Thank you to our generous vendors: CSL-Vifor (for lunch with speaker John Williams and for sponsoring a table), Fresenius (for lunch with speaker Flavius Nascento speaking and for sponsoring a table), Baxter, Natera, Outset Medical, Care-Dx, Pentec, and AstraZeneca. Without their support, we would not be able to offer this caliber of a meeting.

We celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week with a cocktail party in the Historic Room of the Safety Harbor Resort. We enjoyed networking and lots of laughter with new and retired members.

During our meeting, we held a raffle and donated \$150 to our *Feed Your Kidneys* partner, All Kidney Patient Support Group (AKPSG). We had a speaker from this group and discovered that she was a dialysis patient who had several transplants and realized during her journey that at the end of the month many of the patients in her clinic had to choose between buying medications or food. After her last transplant, she founded AKPSG, which helps to meet the need for food each month. If you would like to help AKPSG, volunteers meet on the third Monday of each month to pack food boxes and on the third Tuesday of each month to finish packing refrigerated items and distribute the food boxes to patients. Food is distributed at the end of the month



Members of the Windy City Chapter gathered for a fall educational meeting on "Major Depressive Disorder in CKD."

because that is when patients often have to make a decision to either buy food or medications or pay a utility bill. AKPSG is located at 1055 28th Street South in St. Petersburg, FL. Patients have been referred by social workers in the dialysis clinics in Pinellas County.

We would like to create a chapter website to make it easier for everyone to keep up with our chapter and register for our meetings. This was a suggestion from our meeting. Are you a novice or professional web designer? Would you be willing to help us create a website? If so, please contact President **Marie Montagna** (mmontagna1949@gmail.com) or Secretary **Cindy Toombs** (cindy.toombs@me.com, 813-476-4141).

Watch your ANNA Connected emails for invitations to upcoming educational events.

Illinois

Windy City #305

Chapter officers **Dean Baron**, **Bessie Baldovino**, and **Geraldine Zingraf** participated in a food packing event at Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg, IL, on August 21. It was a joyful and fulfilling event. Teams from different organizations packed 25,704 Manna Packs, which will feed 70 children for a year. This activity was part of the ANNA's *Feed Your Kidneys* campaign.

Our chapter enjoyed an engaging discussion on the topic, *Major Depressive Disorder in CKD*, during our fall educational meeting. Thanks to Otsuka Pharmaceutical/NephU for sponsoring this dinner event on September 29. Thank you also to Dr. Jaimini Patel and Dr. Heather Fields, Otsuka Pharma Medical Science Liaisons, for an insightful presentation.



Bluegrass Chapter President-Elect Gail Starnes (left) and President Teresa Villaran display the Nephrology Nurses Week proclamation the chapter received from Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear.



During Nephrology Nurses Week, Bluegrass Chapter President-Elect Gail Starnes (left) presented a donation on behalf of the chapter to Sherry Chandler for the Kentucky Nurses Association disaster relief fund.

Kentucky

Bluegrass #322

Our chapter continues to focus on community. A chapter member spent 12 hours during the month of September manning phone lines to take requests for Thanksgiving food baskets for the God's Pantry Sharing Thanksgiving Program 2022.

We celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week with a proclamation signed by Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear. For Nephrology Nurses Week, our chapter donated \$500 to the Kentucky Nurses Association (KNA) disaster relief fund, which helps our neighbors in eastern Kentucky who are suffering through devastating floods that hit the state.

Chapter President **Teresa Villaran** was elected to the KNA Government Affairs Cabinet. This will increase our chapter's visibility in our state and help with legislation that impacts our profession and patient population.

Louisiana

Acadiana #252

Our chapter cohosted educational meetings in August and September. Both meetings were informative and held in collaboration with nephrology partners. It was great to gather with chapter members at both events. During both meetings, attendees were encouraged to get involved and share ideas to grow the chapter as well as move the chapter forward.

Maryland

Baltimore #101

Our chapter won the 2022 Chapter Rising STAR Award for Membership and received \$500. The funds will be used for providing educational meetings during the coming year.



The Baltimore Chapter received the 2022 Chapter Rising STAR Award for Membership.

By the time you read this article, we will have held an all-day conference at Sinai Hospital on October 23. Topics included a technician update (required every 2 years in Maryland), access management, quality improvement measures, home therapies, and safety procedures, including active shooter scenarios. This was our first full-day program in several years! Thank you to our sponsors: LifeBridge Health (for providing the venue), Azura Vascular Care, and Vifor.

Elections are approaching. If you are interested in serving in our chapter, contact a current officer or email baltimoreanna@gmail.com. For an overview of each role, download the "Chapter Officer Roles at a Glance" from the ANNA website at annanurse.org/download/reference/chapter/chapterRolesAtGlance.pdf.

Michigan

Michiganna #312

Our chapter was one of 11 chapters chosen to receive a grant to support a local food bank as part of ANNA's inaugural *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative. On September 1, members participated in a community service event and volunteered at the Mercado Food Hub Pantry in southwest Detroit. The chapter presented the ANNA-funded donation of \$1,500 to Carmen Mattia from Mercado, who was very appreciative of the donation.

Nine members and friends volunteered to bag and distribute the fresh food to waiting families. A line of cars stretched for blocks to receive the food. We had sunny skies overhead and smiles greet us from each family. We served 560 families overall. It was an eye-opening experience for those of us who are able to provide for our families. It was a rewarding experience and well worth repeating. The need for community service assistance is great enough to support our joining together two to three times a year. Please consider signing up next time.

Our chapter is holding elections for open positions for 2023, including president, president-elect, and health policy representative. Consider volunteering for these chapter officer positions to ensure stability and continuation of your chapter! New people and ideas help the chapter stay relevant and thriving. All inquiries can be emailed to the chapter at 312.michiganna@gmail.com.

Members should be receiving ANNA Connected emails with information from the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM) to share with patients and colleagues. Our collaboration with NKFM is meant for members to encourage patients to learn and manage their disease progression. NKFM offers education workshops and physical activities available online via Zoom and in person (mostly in the southeast Detroit area). NKFM is also looking for professionals to volunteer and assist at kidney screenings and online with education workshops and PATH workshops. If you are available, contact NKFM Senior Program Coordinator at the phone number provided on the flyers.

Plans are underway for a year-end social activity, so plan to attend the fun adventure! Watch for information via ANNA Connected. If you are not receiving ANNA Connected emails, check your



Members of the MichigANNA Chapter presented a donation check to Carmen Mattia at the Mercado Food Hub Pantry.

account settings on annanurse.org and ensure your chosen email is one that you access frequently.

Minnesota

Southeast Minnesota #316

Attendees at our chapter's Annual Educational Event held October 16 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Rochester, MN, enjoyed excellent presentations. Topics included IgA Nephrology, The New and Improved Renal Diet, ESRD Networks: Your Partner in Improving the Lives of Patients with Kidney Disease, Transitional Care Units, Mental Health and Chronic Kidney Disease, and Empowering Patients with Kidney Disease. The committee would like to thank the following exhibitors for their support: Amgen, Calliditas Therapeutics, and Pentec Health, and Otsuka.

The committee will be reviewing conference evaluations and looking at planning for the 2023 program. We welcome members' input on topics and speakers! Anyone who speaks is welcome to share their topic and interest with us. Find us on ANNA Connected or at seminnesota316@gmail.com.

Mississippi

Magnolia #249

Six chapter members volunteered at New Zion Healing Temple Pantry in September as part of the *Feed Your Kidneys*



Magnolia chapter members helped distribute bag lunches at the New Zion Healing Temple Pantry.

initiative. The event came at a perfect time. Not only was the city of Jackson, MS, still being hit hard by COVID-19, we were experiencing a water crisis. Citizens

without water pressure could not drink or cook with the water.

New Zion Healing Temple Pantry distributed items via a drive-through service. A tented area was arranged for cars to pull up, and everyone in the car received a packed lunch. Chapter members distributed fans from the Mississippi Kidney Foundation that had information about how to arrange for a free kidney screening. We also shared handouts on healthy eating. In addition to helping assemble lunches, we passed out water and pantry staples such as peanut butter, cereal, and canned goods to those who wanted them. We served 174 during the 2-hour drive through. Some of those served were dialysis clients from surrounding dialysis clinics!

Missouri

St. Louis Metro #307

Congratulations to our chapter award winners! **Lisa Koester-Wiedemann** and **Annette Hood** won Nephrology Nurse Practitioner of the Year, **Phyllis Townsend** won Nephrology Nurse of the Year, **D'Aja Davis** won Dialysis Patient Care Technician of the Year, and **Louise Elpers** won the Lifetime of Service Award. Our chapter was proud to recognize just a few of our outstanding members at our all-day fall education event. Our 2022 *St. Louis Metro Fall Nephrology Education Day* was held in person on September 15 at the Forest Park Golf Clubhouse. We offered 6.0 contact hours for the day; 2.0 of those were provided by Pentec Health. We featured topics relevant to all areas of nephrology nursing. Thank you to our vendors who supported this live event: Alexion, Amgen, AstraZeneca, Calliditas, Fresenius Medical Care, NxStage, Otsuka, Pentec Health, and Qsource (Network 12). We enjoyed a great day of learning and networking!

Our chapter also enjoyed an educational dinner provided by Vifor on August 25 in Springfield, IL. We learned about pruritus in patients with stage 5 chronic kidney disease. The dinner was held at Indigo Restaurant. Dr. Linda Freeman, medical science liaison, was our speaker.

Chapter members learned about the use of Korsuva® to treat pruritus in dialysis patients during an education dinner at CC Broiler City Grill in Columbia, MO. Dinner was provided by Vifor, and Dr. Singer, a nephrologist, was the presenter.



Members of the Magnolia Chapter presented a donation check to New Zion Healing Temple Pantry.



Magnolia chapter members helped assemble bag lunches and included handouts with information on healthy eating for community residents.



The St. Louis Metro Chapter recognized members with awards during the chapter's Fall Education Day on September 15. Recipients included Louise Elpers, Annette Hood, D'Aja Davis, and Phyllis Townsend. Not pictured is Lisa Koester-Wiedemann.



As part of the *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative, the St. Louis Metro Chapter presented a donation check to the Oasis Food Pantry in St. Charles, MO, on September 24.

We participated in the *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative. Our chapter volunteered on September 24 and presented our food pantry partner with a \$1,500 donation provided by ANNA. Chapter members pitched in by providing food items for 40 taco dinner kits. Chapter volunteers sorted the food items into taco kits and shopped the pantry to fulfill individual client grocery lists. We enjoyed working with the Oasis Food Pantry. They have been feeding hungry neighbors for over 30 years.

Heart of America #313

On September 27, chapter officers, family members, and friends participated in a *Feed Your Kidneys* volunteer event. Combining the ANNA *Feed Your Kidneys* grant with donations from chapter members, we donated close to \$2,000 to Harvesters. With the help of 20 volunteers, we packed 895 boxes. Three groups volunteered that day, including our ANNA chapter, and together we packed a total of 2,600 boxes.

Several chapter members, including **Suzie James**, **Molly Cahill**, and **Christine Corbett**, attended the Nephrology Nursing Practice, Management, and Leadership Conference. Dr. Corbett serves on the ANNA Conferences Committee and gave a presentation on change for advanced practice. **Molly Cahill** spoke on *Linking Chronic Kidney Disease and Diabetes: Relationship, Challenges, and Burden of Disease* during a lunch sponsored by Boehringer-Ingelheim and Lilly.

Our chapter held an educational event at St. Joseph Hospital on October 13.



Members of the St. Louis Metro Chapter participated in an educational dinner on CKD-associated pruritis in Springfield, IL, on August 25.



Members of the Heart of America Chapter volunteered at a local food bank as part of the *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative. Pictured (from left) are Amy Dix, Karl Bauder, Suzie James, Jennifer Branch, Glory Chux, Molly Cahill, and Nayeli Bustillos.



Members of the Heart of America Chapter recruited colleagues, family, and friends to work a shift at a local food bank.

We had a great turnout with over 35 nephrology professionals attending, including nurse practitioners, registered nurses, technicians, dietitians, and social workers. The meeting featured the following topics and speakers: Clinical Trials and New in Nephrology Medications, **Dr. Awad**; Workplace Safety, **Deb Babbitt**; Marijuana and CKD, **Nicole Ryan**; Renal Diet, Plant-Based, CKD vs. ESRD, **Tammy Rew** and **Susie Shaffer**; Dialysis Access Issues, **Donna Bednarski**; Getting to the Heart of Malnutrition, **Deborah Degree**; Palliative Care, **Dr. Christine Corbett**; and Transplant: Pre/Post-Transplant, Hemodialysis, and Legislative Updates, **Dr. Jennifer Branch**. Thank you to all our sponsors who made this event possible.

We held officer elections on November 10. Thank you to Amber Shepherd at Care Diagnostic for sponsoring this event.



Members of the Platte River Chapter volunteered at a local food bank as part of the *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative.

Nebraska

Platte River #324

September was full of educational and social opportunities for nephrology nurses. Our chapter was a recipient of a *Feed Your Kidneys* program grant. Several chapter members met at the Food Book of the Heartland on September 13 to box food for Omaha and the surrounding communities and present the food bank with the \$1,500 donation. It was a fun and rewarding time!

We held our *9th Annual Education Day* on September 15 at the Scott Conference Center at the University of Nebraska in Omaha. The meeting drew 42



Members of the Platte River Chapter volunteered at a local food bank as part of the *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative.

attendees, 19 who attended in person and 23 who participated remotely. The furthest distance from which a person attended remotely was Florida, with others attending remotely from Colorado, Iowa, South Dakota, and Nebraska. Thank you to all the vendors who attended the conference.

After the conference, some attendees met for an educational dinner presentation sponsored by Outset. We listened to nephrology nurses' personal stories using the Tablo, Outset's state-of-the-art portable dialysis machine. Attendees asked a lot of questions and were able to touch and examine the inside of the Tablo to better understand its operation.

Our chapter held another educational dinner presentation on October 20 with Rena Care.



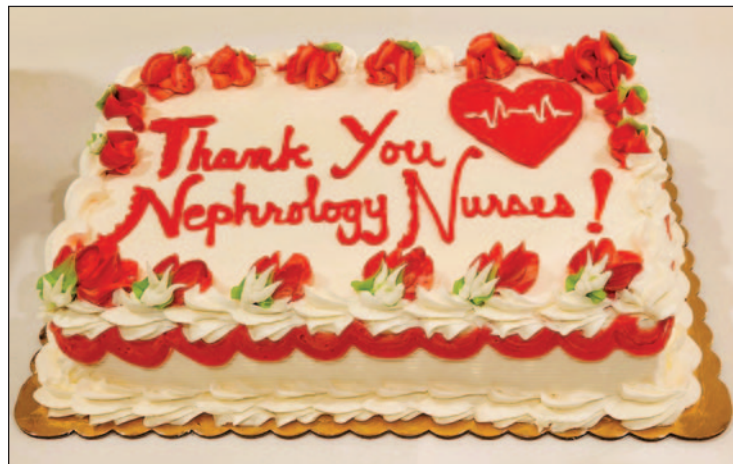
Members of the Platte River Chapter participated in an educational event.

New Jersey

Jersey North #126

Our chapter had a busy fall season. We celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week with a wonderful dinner and educational presentation on September 15 at Que Pasta in Saddle Brook, NJ. Special thanks to **Lynn Leonard** and **Deborah Degree** from Pentec Health who sponsored our evening and presented an educational activity entitled *Getting to the Heart of Malnutrition* with 1.0 contact hour awarded. This activity was offered without cost to all chapter members; renal dietitians also were invited to join us. Gift bags were distributed, and a good time was had by all! Thank you to Pentec for supporting our chapter and to all chapter members for your hard work, professionalism, and dedication to patients.

We are recruiting chapter officers for the roles of president-elect and health policy representative. Without increased participation from members, we will not be able to continue to provide the level of activity we currently enjoy. These roles will begin in May 2022, but mentorship is available immediately. Perks for these roles include free admission to chapter events and significant financial reimbursement for national events. Chapter meetings are routinely held via conference call. Please contact Chapter Secretary **Cathy Picarelli** (catherine.picarelli@hmn.org) for more information. If you do not want to commit to an officer role but can join our education committee, we welcome that help as well.



The Jersey North Chapter celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week with a cake!



Jersey North Chapter President Alice Hellebrand (left) welcomed speaker Deborah Degree from the Dogwood Chapter to the chapter's Nephrology Nurses Week dinner and educational activity.



On September 21, the Northeast Tri-State Chapter hosted its first in-person program since the pandemic.



Members of the Greater Charlotte Chapter participated in an educational dinner sponsored by AstraZeneca.



On September 13, members of the Greater Charlotte Chapter volunteered at Second Harvest Food Bank in Charlotte as part of ANNA's *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative. Pictured are Luke Thomas, Dianne Audette, and Anne Thomas.

Unfortunately, we did not receive any applications for our annual chapter scholarship. Look for the announcement next year if you are advancing your degree.

Planning for our upcoming 2023 events is currently underway. The annual spring conference will be held on March 30, 2023, at Ravello's Banquets in East Hanover, NJ. Find all details for this event and register on our chapter website at annajerseynorth126.nursingnetwork.com.

New York

Northeast Tri-State #120

Our chapter has been busy planning the 2022-2023 year. In September, we held our first in-person program since the pandemic, and it was so nice to get together! NxStage sponsored our dinner program on *Transitional Care Units* at Longfellow's in Saratoga, NY.

Our next educational offerings will be held virtually via Zoom. Watch ANNA Connected for specific information. The dates will be February 2, February 9, and February 16 in the evening. Each session will last for 1 hour, offer 1.0 contact hour, and be free to chapter members. The topic will be chronic kidney disease.

If you would like to get more involved at the chapter level, please reach out to a chapter officer via ANNA Connected.

North Carolina

Greater Charlotte #202

Thank you to Michelle Pikel with AstraZeneca for hosting our educational dinner in September. We enjoyed the presentation by Dr. Coleman and networking with our nephrology colleagues.

Our chapter held a Fall *Feed Your Kidneys* program offering contact hours on November 12 at Metrolina Nephrology's Freedom Drive location in Charlotte. For a donation to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina of \$25 or \$25 of nonperishable food items, attendees earned contact hours and learned more about kidney disease dietary choice and how to enjoy the holidays. The speaker was Chivonne Hunter, and the event included food and door prizes.

We continue to remain in contact with our County Council representatives and work on the transportation needs of our dialysis patients.



Blue Ridge chapter members, including Lucy Todd, Patti Brooks, and Joe Kessler, volunteered at the MANNA FoodBank in Asheville, NC.



Blue Ridge chapter members (from left) Joe Kessler, Lucy Todd, and Patti Brooks donated a \$1,500 check to a representative of the MANNA FoodBank in Asheville, NC.



The Three Rivers Chapter hosted a lunch and learn event in September.



The Three Rivers Chapter donated \$500 to the National Kidney Foundation (NKF). Pictured are Sue Ralph, chapter president, and Maggie Pratt, NKF representative.

Blue Ridge #262

Our chapter was one of the 11 chapters selected to receive a *Feed Your Kidneys* grant from ANNA. Chapter members worked closely with the MANNA FoodBank in Asheville, NC. It was a pleasure to donate the \$1,500 check to MANNA during Nephrology Nurses Week.

We look forward to hearing from our chapter members on how we can improve our communication. Visit us on ANNA Connected or our Facebook page.

Welcome to new member, **Chrissie Middleton!**

Ohio

Buckeye #314

We are excited to announce our new chapter officers: President **Lorrie Strassel**, President-Elect **Kristen Hill**, Treasurer **Robin Wenk**, Secretary **Stephanie Peterman**, and Health Policy Representative **Amy Durbin**.

Watch for information coming soon on meetings, fall outings, and happy/social hours. We look forward to meeting you and will need your help to build our chapter back into a strong one.

Pennsylvania

Three Rivers #104

Our chapter was busy planning our fall lunch and learn, which was held on September 18. Allyson Almeida spoke about phosphorus binders and how to teach patients to take them. She presented new information about the medication, Velphoro®.

Our chapter presented a donation of \$500 to the National Kidney Foundation (NKF). Maggie Pratt from the NKF came and spoke to our group about the different fundraising opportunities and resources for patients and families dealing with chronic kidney disease.

We have more upcoming events planned for the months ahead.

Keystone #110

Our chapter is busy planning our first *Day of Learning* post-pandemic. We are collaborating with the Dogwood Chapter in Georgia to provide a virtual day of speakers with contact hour credit. Watch your email for an invitation to join us.

Welcome to our new members: **Ana Lopez, Felix Ramos, Linda Wen, Kellie Peters, and Wilfredo Tobias**. We look forward to “seeing” you at our virtual Day of Learning (November 17) and local members at our upcoming dinner meetings.

South Carolina

Palmetto #203

We look forward to a new year of meetings and educational events. Our chapter held our first hybrid meeting (in-person/virtual) on October 27. The program was sponsored by GlaxoSmith-Kline, and Dr. Brielle Gray presented *Unmet Need of Anemia of CKD*.

Welcome to our newest chapter members: **Taylor Ard, Lockleer, Sharon Lambert, Sherry Endiott, April Piland, Demetria Copone, Lastasha Washington,** and **Dionne Alexander**. We look forward to meeting you in person or virtually!

Thanks to everyone who responded to our chapter survey through ANNA Connected. We encourage you to watch for announcements and details on ANNA Connected regarding activities planned in 2023.

We are looking for members who want to get more involved in the chapter. Several chapter positions are available with support and mentorship from seasoned officers. Our current chapter officers are:

- President **Glinda Stricklin**,
glinda.stricklin@freseniusmedicalcare.com or glindastricklin@yahoo.com
- Secretary **Deb Brooks**,
brooksdeb@icloud.com
- Treasurer **Carrie Fabel**,
carriedf2@gmail.com

Tennessee

Memphis Blues #240

We are pleased to reflect on our chapter's accomplishments during 2022. However, the year-end review is also a time to plan our goals for the coming year. We look forward to many exciting opportunities for growth, community involvement, education, and increased social media presence in 2023. Our new Facebook page enabled **Charlene Vollmer**, a nephrology nurse from Chatham, IL, to join one of our educational programs!

We are pleased to offer monthly educational programs in conjunction with a monthly membership meeting. We have welcomed many new members throughout the year and look forward to welcoming more members in 2023 to support the care of people with kidney disease in our community.

This is an exciting time for research and development in nephrology. Our



Alamo City chapter members presented a donation check to the San Antonio Food Bank. Pictured (from left) are Anita Saldana, Gail Dewald, Jane Wilson, Cathy Lewis, and Esme Guerra.

monthly education meetings have reflected innovation in pharmaceutical agents, genetics, and diagnostics in chronic kidney disease and end-stage kidney disease. For example, our November meeting offering contact hours, was sponsored by CareDx, a molecular diagnostic using donor derived cell free DNA (dd-cfDNA) for long-term management of allografts. As usual, our chapter members were eager for the education on this new opportunity for early identification of inflammation and injury to kidney grafts.

As we begin to approach the close of 2022, we are excited about our 2023 goals. Join us as we increase community outreach, educational opportunities, collegiality, and networking opportunities!

Texas

Alamo City #205

September was our busiest month yet! We started the month by being selected to receive one of the ANNA *Feed Your Kidneys* grants, thanks to **Anita Saldana** and **Cathy Lewis**. Ten chapter members volunteered to help assemble meal kits for grade school children on September 9. What fun we had, and we felt great about giving back! **Jane Wilson** was interviewed by a local television station (KENS 5), which did a great overview of the day.

San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg and Texas Governor Gregg Abbott both presented the chapter with proclamations



Alamo City chapter members, including Anita Saldana, Esme Guerra, and Cathy Lewis, volunteered at a local food bank in conjunction with the *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative.

Chapter Update

designating September 11-17 as Nephrology Nurses Week.

Our big event and fundraiser took place on September 24. We hosted a 7.0 contact hour seminar with 52 attendees! **Gail Dewald, Jane Wilson,** and **Elia Keck** served on the planning committee who made this program possible. Thanks to University Health for the use of their auditorium and to all our sponsors for making it a fun and educational day. We had top speakers and some great food, too! **Donna Painter**, ANNA Past President and Dallas chapter member, spoke on *Hot Topics in Health Policy*.

Dr. Molly Jansen and NephU sponsored our educational dinner on *Debunking Five Common Myths Around Peritoneal Dialysis* on October 20. Thirty-five members and a few chapter followers attended this great meeting at Fleming's Steakhouse.

November found us at the Heart and Stroke Walk on November 12. Our chapter donated money and enjoyed a great Saturday morning stroll in the fall weather. Our educational dinner on November 17 featured Dr. Charles White, who was sponsored by CSL Vifor. This was another well attended dinner with time to network with colleagues.

Our chapter is working hard to grow our membership and provide quality education and networking time. Welcome to our new members and our long-term members who attend our meetings!

Utah

Intermountain #516

Our chapter had the opportunity to volunteer at the Utah Food Bank on September 10, the National Day of Service. Chapter volunteers included **Kristin Larson, Melanie Harper, Danette Borg, Sally Russell, Nicole Tafelmeyer,** and **Irin Daniels**. Friends and family members also joined us for the volunteer session. **Kristin Larson** presented the \$1,500 donation check from the ANNA *Feed Your Kidneys* program to the CEO and president of the Utah Food Bank, who was very grateful for the donation.

Because September 10 was the National Day of Service, many surrounding areas were holding food drives in the morning and were loading trucks with the food. When a truck arrived at the food bank, we unloaded the bags of food and sorted them accordingly – canned food,



Deb Castner received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Tidewater Chapter.



Congratulations to Bev Grier-Smith, who was recognized by the Tidewater Chapter for her outstanding service.



Pacific Northwest chapter members volunteered at a local food bank in support of the *Feed Your Kidneys* program.

dry food, and fragile items – and placed them in large bins. Many people volunteered at the food bank that day, and we worked beside a team from Delta Airlines. It was a great, rewarding day!

Virginia

Tidewater #241

Our chapter celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week with a virtual social meeting.

We highlighted our accomplishments as a chapter and honored two members for their outstanding service to our chapter. **Debra Castner** and **Beverly Grier-Smith** each received a framed certificate of appreciation and a 2-year ANNA membership renewal. Congratulations and thank you!

Chapter members played virtual bingo-style games customized to celebrate nephrology nursing and the arrival of the fall season. Congratulations to our prize



Pacific Northwest chapter members volunteered at a local food bank in support of the *Feed Your Kidneys* program.



Pacific Northwest chapter members volunteered at a local food bank in support of the *Feed Your Kidneys* program.



Wisconsin chapter members participated in the *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative by volunteering at a local food bank.

winners: **Brenda Ferebee, Andra Grantum, Nicole Hopper, Tonja McCoy, and Jenny Steed.** Who knew nephrology nurses and pumpkin bingo could be so competitive? Each member had a blast!

It is our distinguished honor to have been chosen by the ANNA Chapter Support Team as the recipient of the August 2022 Shooting STAR Award!

In September, our chapter provided a timely virtual educational presentation on monkeypox with contact hour credit, which was well-attended. In addition, monkeypox resources from the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention were sent to all chapter members via ANNA Connected to help everyone become more prepared to address the challenges of this highly contagious virus.

Our chapter provided much needed support to Union Mission Shelter in Norfolk as they approach their busy season in late fall/early winter.

We are in the early stages of planning a chapter educational offering on a new oral drug for anemia due to chronic kidney disease in adult patients on dialysis and not on dialysis.

Washington

Pacific Northwest #503

Our chapter participated in the *Feed Your Kidneys* program by volunteering at a food bank in the Seattle area. Thank you to **Irene Krall, Nancy Colobong Smith, DeAnne Day, Parminder Minhas, Naomi DeVega, and Lili Ignath** for giving their time to such a worthy and important cause. We also provided grants to food banks in other parts of our region, including the Alaska Kidney Patient Association which has a food pantry with “dialysis-friendly” food and the Bremerton Foodline in Kitsap County, WA. Thank you to all who participated in this impactful event!

On November 10 our chapter hosted an educational event in Tacoma entitled *Acute Kidney Injury: Transition from ICU to Dialysis Center* presented by Trish Fuhrman, Clinical Liaison Lead for Pentec Health.

Please check us out on ANNA Connected and visit our Facebook page for more information about our chapter.

Wisconsin

Wisconsin #304

Our chapter continues to slowly grow. Welcome to our new members. We

encourage you to be active participants in our chapter.

A few chapter members participated in the *Feed Your Kidneys* initiative. We held a virtual happy hour and scavenger hunt to celebrate Nephrology Nurses Week.

Our chapter will be hosting an educational opportunity over dinner during the month of November. Details to follow.

Puerto Rico

Caribbean #210

Chapter officers and attended the Puerto Rico Nephrology Society Congress in August, demonstrating our commitment to promoting collaborative practice between nursing and nephrology faculty.

We celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week with great enthusiasm! Many dialysis units, the transplant center, and other areas of Auxilio Mutuo Hospital joined us to celebrate. We also gave away a 1-year ANNA membership to further celebrate Nephrology Nurses Week. We thank all those who joined with one voice to celebrate nephrology nursing.

Congratulations to chapter officer **Marien Saade**, who was interviewed for *Medicine & Public Health* virtual magazine regarding contingency measures for kidney patients during hurricane Fiona. We thank ANNA for approving a \$2,000 contribution to the Puerto Rico food bank for supporting families affected by hurricane Fiona.



Members of the Caribbean Chapter attended the Puerto Rico Nephrology Society Congress. Pictured (from left) are Johnnie Carrasquillo, Mari Carmen Flores, Darleen Gordon, and Yaritza Pizarro.



Caribbean chapter members and staff from the Fresenius Kidney Care Vega Alta dialysis center celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week.