

Board Member Perspective

Insights from ANNA's Emerging Nephrology Nurse Professional Fellow

Serving as ANNA's Emerging Nephrology Nurse Professional Fellow during the 2022-2023 year was an amazing opportunity. This unique and rewarding position on the ANNA Board of Directors (BOD) allowed me to see how this amazing organization works diligently behind the scenes to guide the association to the next level. ANNA, like most professional organizations, has many challenging tasks, including providing value to its members as well as attracting new members. The BOD strategically and methodically examines each avenue that leads to a purposeful solution. While the Emerging Nephrology Nurse Professional Fellow does not have voting power on the BOD, I was always welcome to share my thoughts and ideas during my tenure in this position. What an honor and invaluable opportunity it was to be able to share my insights and input at each board meeting!

I am active in my local chapter, the Hazel Taylor Chapter #239 in Alabama. Not only have I been encouraged to participate in activities both locally and nationally, but I have welcomed opportunities to serve as a leader. Attending my first in-person ANNA National Symposium was an experience I will never forget. The wealth of information shared by speakers and the networking opportunities offered were priceless and prompted me to attend more ANNA conferences. I believe ANNA has and continues to support members to hone, grow, and sharpen their leadership skills, not only to serve as leaders within ANNA but also to pursue leadership opportunities in their profession and communities.

A key characteristic of a leader is the ability to influence. ANNA board members and leaders are true influ-

encers and motivators. I was thoroughly impressed with each member of the BOD and my mentor, 2022-2023 ANNA President-Elect **Jennifer Payton**, for the support I received throughout my term. Even though my term has ended, I am excited and honored to know the support and encouragement I received from each member of the BOD will continue.

My motivation to serve remains unchanged. As a professional nurse, I am challenged not only to keep my nursing skills sharp but also to stay abreast of the constant changes occurring within our wonderful profession. I am a leader and an advocate for my patients and colleagues. I have been a nurse for 9 years and have been working in nephrology for 4 of those 9 years. ANNA is the premier professional organization for nephrology nurses with many invaluable benefits at a cost-effective rate. Becoming a member is an investment with a big payoff. I encourage my fellow ANNA members, especially those new to the profession, to get involved in your organization. We each have something unique to bring to the table that can support the association's mission. Get involved in your local chapter and encourage co-workers to join. There are opportunities for everyone to serve! ↑



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Celebrate Your Specialty during Nephrology Nurses Week 2023!

Each year, ANNA designates the second full week in September as Nephrology Nurses Week. In 2023, Nephrology Nurses Week will be observed September 10-16. ANNA invites you to celebrate this special week and honor the professionals whose dedication, compassion, and commitment to their patients make nephrology nursing such a unique specialty. Start planning now for ways to recognize your nephrology nurse colleagues and celebrate in your workplace. For more information regarding Nephrology Nurses Week, available resources, and products to enhance your celebrations, visit annanurse.org/education-events/events/nephrology-nurses-week. ↑

