

Board Member Perspective

Reflections on My Experience as an ANNA Board of Directors Resident

This past year, I had the incredible opportunity to share both voice and space with some of the most inspiring leaders in nephrology nursing during the 2024-2025 ANNA term. Under the compassionate leadership of 2024-2025 ANNA President **Nancy Colobong Smith**, every discussion at the Board of Directors (BOD) table was guided by her light, vision, and commitment to advancing nephrology nursing.

The leaders I worked alongside demonstrated their commitment to ANNA's mission and vision. Their advocacy, thoughtful decision-making, and strategic conversations on the "how-to" of member engagement and growth gave me a firsthand look at the power of leadership on boards in action. This experience has deepened my appreciation for what it means to lead within our kidney care community. I have completed my term with the confidence and aspiration to serve as a future Board member.

I was especially fortunate to be mentored by **Dr. Faith Lynch**, 2024-2025 ANNA President-Elect, whose innovative theme and guidance truly inspired me. Her mentorship opened my eyes to the inner workings and hidden gems of nephrology nursing – insights that have motivated me to continue learning, leading, and encouraging others to do the same.

Reasons to Apply for ANNA's Incredible Opportunity in Nephrology Leadership

I wholeheartedly encourage nurses at all stages of their careers to apply for this unique opportunity. Participating in

ANNA's leadership initiatives allows you to engage in meaningful discussions, travel to represent our profession (one of the added benefits), and bring back fresh perspectives, leadership skills, and renewed purpose to your workplace.

Stepping into this role has allowed me to form special friendships, foster meaningful professional connections, and contribute to a culture of strategic growth and collaboration in nephrology care. I hope you, too, are brave enough to take that step – because opportunities like this can transform your career and your impact in ways you might never imagine.

If you are curious about the experience, time commitment, or simply want to learn how nephrology has opened doors in my own nursing journey, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at znolasco614@gmail.com. There was a time when I was working in emergency and acute care nursing, and I never thought I would leave. But nephrology came knocking, and it has led me to a space of growth, leadership, and a growing purpose that I am so grateful for today. Don't wait. Don't hesitate. Apply now! All my best! 

Zoila Nolasco, DNP, MBA, NEA-BC, CPXP, AMB-BC
ANNA Board Resident, 2024-2025
Long Island Chapter #122



Turn Knowledge into Action

Learn to Advocate for Your Community

The recording of the webinar entitled *ANA Presents: Becoming an Advocate* is now available in the ANNA Online Library. This engaging session features guest speakers Bob Brown, State Government Affairs Coordinator, and Robyn Peacher, Director, State Government Affairs, from the American Nurses Association (ANA).

Learn how to identify resources for developing advocacy skills and participating in health policy activities within your community. The discussion highlights practical ways nurses can make their voices heard and influence change in kidney care and beyond.

This on-demand learning opportunity is free for ANNA members and \$20 for nonmembers. Go to <https://library.annanurse.org/p/s/ana-presents-becoming-an-advocate-26230> to access the recording and take the next step in becoming a more confident and effective nursing advocate.