

Nephrology Nursing Foundation Receives 501(c)(3) Status

Pitman, NJ – July 28, 2026 – The Nephrology Nursing Foundation has officially been recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, marking an important milestone in its mission to advance kidney care by investing in nephrology nurses.

As an independent charitable organization, the Foundation is dedicated to supporting nephrology nurses through philanthropic funding for education, innovation, leadership development, and workforce sustainability.

"The approval of our 501(c)(3) status allows us to begin building a sustainable source of philanthropic support for nephrology nurses," said Amber Paulus, PhD, RN, Chair of the Nephrology Nursing Foundation Board of Directors. "By investing in the people who deliver kidney care every day, we can strengthen the profession and improve outcomes for patients."

The Foundation's work will focus on four key priorities:

- **Workforce Resilience:** Burnout prevention, mental well-being, and career longevity initiatives.
- **Education & Access:** Scholarships, certification support, and equitable access to professional development.
- **Innovation & Pilot Funding:** Seed funding for nurse-led ideas, research pilots, and care delivery innovation.
- **Leadership & Pipeline Development:** Developing the next generation of nephrology nurse leaders.

Founded to support the specialty through philanthropy, the Foundation is dedicated to funding education, innovation, leadership development, and workforce sustainability. While the Foundation received its initial funding from the American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA), it is an independent nonprofit organization with its own Board of Directors, mission, and strategic priorities.

"Supporting the creation of the Nephrology Nursing Foundation reflects ANNA's longstanding commitment to advancing nephrology nursing," said Faith Lynch, DNP, RN, CNN, NEA-BA, AMB-BC, FANNA, CARH, ANNA National Immediate Past President. "While the Foundation is an independent organization, we're proud to have helped lay the groundwork for an initiative that will create lasting opportunities for nurses and ultimately improve kidney care."

The Nephrology Nursing Foundation is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors representing clinical practice, healthcare leadership, nonprofit management, and public service.

Nephrology Nursing Foundation Board of Directors

- Amber Paulus, PhD, RN – Chair
- Angie Kurosaka, DNP, RN, CNN, CCM, NEA-BC, FANNA – Secretary
- Lucy Todd, MSN, ACNP, CNNe – Treasurer

- Nikeyia Davis, MBA-HCM, MSN, APRN, AGPCNP-C, CNN, FNKF, FANNA – Director
- Jim Twaddell, MA – Public Member
- Faith Lynch, DNP, RN, CNN, NEA-BC, AMB-BC, FANNA, CARH – ANNA Board Liaison
- Celess Tyrell, Foundation Administrator

For more information, visit <https://nephrologynursingfoundation.org/>

About the Nephrology Nursing Foundation

The Nephrology Nursing Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to advancing kidney care by investing in nephrology nurses through philanthropy. Its vision is to create a future where nephrology nurses are resourced, resilient, and empowered to lead innovation that improves kidney health and patient outcomes.

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