

**From the President.....**

Hey y'all,

It is summer and y'all have good weather to enjoy so I will keep this brief!

Here are a couple quick updates and a chance to win a free conference registration for the Michigan ENA Conference May 2-3, 2023, in Frankenmuth!

Be the 3<sup>rd</sup> person to respond to this email and win! Literally, just respond and say "Hello" and you can win!

Updates:

- Our next state meeting is July 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.
- We are currently accepting applications for 2023 conference speakers – application is attached!
- 2022 General Assembly Delegates have been selected and are:

- |                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| ○ Rebecca VanStanton | ○ Kelly Ashcraft               |
| ○ Chelsea Meixner    | ○ Jac Getzinger                |
| ○ Kim Johnson        | ○ Tina Stroich                 |
| ○ Josie Kik          | ○ Tori Guyton                  |
| ○ Marilyn Enriquez   | ○ Alisha McKay                 |
| ○ Chris Baker        | ○ Lindsey Sams                 |
| ○ Gail VanStanton    | ○ Eleanor Pluta                |
| ○ Aimee Westmore     | ○ Jennifer Garrett (alternate) |

**• 2022 Nominations for Michigan Emergency Nurse Awards are now open.**

Nominate an amazing colleague, friend, or leader for a 2022 award! Information can be found at: <https://connect.ena.org/mi/new-item/new-item4>

- Definitely pay attention to this one.....recognize someone NOW for their hard work, dedication, or general awesomeness in emergency nursing!!!!

And with that I will leave you with one last message,



Rebecca

## Government Affairs Update:

Using your voice to affect change

We all gripe about things all the time. Staffing, workplace violence, mental health care, lack of placement for our psychiatric patients, etc. the bad news is that all these things cost money, and many of them are directly affected by rules, laws or regulations at the state or federal level. The good news is that YOU as a nurse have a voice, and that voice can make a difference! Remember whether it is at the local, state or national level, you and your fellow citizens put those people in office, and you have a right (and I argue a responsibility) to share with them your needs and the issues you see as things that need to change. Here are some basic steps you should take in order to make a difference by talking to your elected representatives: Know who you need to talk to, share your story, give your ask, thank them for their time, and follow up with an email or call.

SO...this is a scary thing to do, but you can do it! To be effective, there are a few basic guidelines that you should always follow.

1. Know your issue. You want to affect change? Know what the current law is, and why you want to change it. This can be done several ways. First, there is likely a group who also has mutual interest who PAYS people to research the topics. Look around! Some great resources are

<https://www.mha.org/issues-advocacy/>

<https://mitrauma.org/legislative/>

<https://miadvocacy.org/>

<https://www.minurses.org/>

Remember these are lobbyist groups, and may not completely agree with you on all things, but it is a good place to start. There are also other places too look, this is just a short list.

For national level bills, a good place to go is <https://www.ena.org/government-relations>

2. Find out who your elected officials are. For your state level representatives, you can go to

<https://www.senate.michigan.gov/fysbyaddress.html> to find your senator, or

<https://www.house.mi.gov/> for your house representative. For the National level, our national senators are Gary Peters <https://www.peters.senate.gov/> and Debbie Stabenow

<https://www.stabenow.senate.gov/> Your house representative at the national level can be found here. <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

It is not enough to just know who they are, but it is a good idea to know something about them.

Know what party they are in, know what their priorities are about in the past, and know if they have voted on a similar bill in the past. Know their interests and platform. You can usually find this on the politician's website. Find out what they are passionate about, and try to figure out how to use that to your advantage. Tie the issue to their area. Follow your politicians on social media—it is a great place to find out what their likes and interests are. This includes local representatives, senators, congressmen, etc.

3. Expect that you may not get to speak to the actual political figure. Remember they are the figurehead, and their time is very valuable. It is a GREAT idea to create a relationship with the aides. They do all the work and research, and then present the issues to the politician. Even speaking with an aide, expect that your time slot is about 15 minutes. Have what you want to say wrapped up in that time. What are you going to say? Here is a good outline.

Introduce yourself and where you are from in one or two sentences. Make them aware of who you are representing. (for instance, if you are speaking on behalf of ENA, or you are from \_\_\_ town and work in \_\_\_\_\_ area. Be very careful to represent yourself, and not your hospital or hospital system. You can say “I work for Henry ford as a nurse” but make sure you include “I am here on my own time to discuss \_\_\_\_\_”

Choose an issue and focus on that issue. They likely have lots of meetings, so make your issue stick out. Tell a personal story that is related to the issue. Something emotional is a great bonus. For instance, if asking for support on the violence bill, tell about a time that you or a co-worker was assaulted and had to take time off of work. For asking for support for funding for nursing education, speak about your time in school, or about the shortage of nurses. \*If there is a bill introduced, know the title and the number. READ the bill prior to coming to the meeting, know who introduced it. IF your politician already cosponsors it, thank them. If they do not, ask them to cosponsor.

Thank them for their time. Get a picture, and post it on social media. That evening or the next AM, write an email thanking them. Follow up in 1-2 weeks if you asked them to do something. (Like sponsor or cosponsor a bill.)

Here are some don'ts.

DON'T dress frumpy or gimmicky. Wear professional, business attire.

DON'T be negative. Try to focus on positive interactions. Yes, some politicians are arrogant and some even are confrontational. Be polite, and explain why you need their help. Appeal to their ability to help.

DON'T read your statement. Try to speak naturally, and try to be conversational. Preparing in advance will help.

DON'T be discouraged—anything in government really does take time. Bills take months. This is intentional—it allows for everyone to review it and look at the long term consequences.

Repeated emails and queries is actually a positive thing—in a way you create a relationship with the office.

In summary, YOU can make a difference! Do not be afraid to get involved, use your voice and speak up!

As a nurse you have a profession that gives you a cause. Advocacy for your profession is really advocating for your patients—something we are trained and able to do.

If you have any questions or need help, please feel free to contact me at [Nurseomi@comcast.net](mailto:Nurseomi@comcast.net) or

586-419-3522.

Naomi J. Ishioka RN MSN CEN NDHP-BC

Director at large

Government affairs chair

Michigan ENA



Michigan State Council

# REGISTER TODAY!

May 2, 2023 | 8am - 5pm | 1- Day TCRN Review

## SOLHEIM'S TRAUMA CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE (TCRN®) REVIEW COURSE

INSTRUCTED BY JEFF SOLHEIM MSN RN CEN TCRN CFRN FAEN FAAN

### LOCATION

Bavarian Inn Lodge  
1 Covered Bridge Lane  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

### COURSE CONTACT

Rebecca VanStanton  
Michigan ENA  
rvanstan@umich.edu

### PRICING

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This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the Emergency Nurses Association,  
an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.





Michigan State Council

## **Michigan Emergency Nurses Association 2023 Conference Call for Speakers**

The Michigan EN23 Conference will be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023 at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth, Michigan. The annual Michigan ENA conference brings over 150 nurses and 30 vendors together each year to re-group and renew their passion for Emergency Medicine.

We are looking for engaging and enthusiastic speakers to provide up to date information on a variety of topics including, but not limited to:

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ➤ Trauma                | ➤ Cardiac/ Respiratory  |
| ➤ Toxicology            | ➤ Forensics             |
| ➤ Psychiatry            | ➤ Opioid Abuse          |
| ➤ Pediatrics            | ➤ Radiology             |
| ➤ Leadership/Management | ➤ Regulatory Readiness  |
| ➤ Disease Process       | ➤ Disaster Preparedness |
| ➤ Gender Equality       | ➤ LGBTQ                 |
| ➤ Triage                | ➤ Mental Health         |
| ➤ Pathophysiology       | ➤ Geriatrics            |

Michigan EN23 will bring bedside nurses, educators, managers, directors, advanced practice providers, trauma services, and EMS partners together so topics should be relevant for all parties.

### **Honorarium:**

To be determined based on travel criteria and speaker experience.

### **Submission of Proposals:**

The attached presenter form must be submitted electronically no later than July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to Michigan Education Chair- Chelsea Meixner [meixnerc91@gmail.com](mailto:meixnerc91@gmail.com)

Speakers will be notified by no later than Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 of acceptance.

**Please contact the Michigan Emergency Nurses Association Education Chair with any questions-  
[meixnerc91@gmail.com](mailto:meixnerc91@gmail.com)**



**Please return this form along with a copy of your Curriculum Vitae no later than July 18th, 2022 to  
Michigan Emergency Nurses Association Education Chair- Chelsea Meixner  
[meixnerc91@gmail.com](mailto:meixnerc91@gmail.com)**

**ENA**  
West Michigan Chapter

## Membership Map

# ENA

Michigan State Council

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