



GREETINGS FROM THE SECTION CHAIR



Sue Stone
Section
Chair

Happy Summer!

Greetings to all our current, new, and future AWHONN California members! Hopefully you have had a chance to relax, recharge and spend time with friends and family.

It was wonderful to connect with many of you at the National Convention in New Orleans in June. California was well represented with over 200 members in attendance. We hosted a California luncheon with a chance to relax, meet new acquaintances and cool off from the NOLA heat and humidity! We showcased our new CA t-shirts and will provide options to purchase in the future.

Be on the lookout for early bird registration for our CA Section conference in February 2024. We expect a sold-out event, so secure your spot early to avoid disappointment. We are also offering a hybrid option. It's never too early to start planning a research poster for submission that demonstrates a Performance Improvement (PI) Project, Evidence Based Practice (EBP)/Innovative Project, Research, or a Case Presentation.

Have you checked out the AWHONN website lately? A Perinatal Bereavement Certificate Program is available at a reduced cost through August 31, 2023. The PPH Risk Assessment tool was released June 1, 2023, and is available through the PPH CCOE module or through the OPS: OB Emergencies Workshop.

Stay up to date with Chapter events by visiting the AWHONN CA website and Facebook page.

Enjoy the month of August before students return to school or head off to college. Thank-you for your continued support of AWHONN as you strive to make a difference in the lives of our birthing population and newborns everyday.

With gratitude,
Sue Stone

GREETINGS FROM YOUR SECRETARY/TREASURER

I hope you are all enjoying the sunshine and getting those Vitamin D stores replenished! It was so great connecting with many of you in NOLA during the AWHONN National Conference. We had some great educational content which is available online until August 15th, 2023, as well as some really nice social events! Our Section participated in a networking event with Florida, Massachusetts, and Washington, to make up the First Annual Four Corners Event. It was great fun!

Your CA Section and Chapter Leaders have been busy planning events, and we have intensive conference planning going on for the 2024 CA Conference, which will take place in February 2024 in Orange, CA.

We are committed to support you, our members and value your feedback. Please get in touch with us at awhonn.casection@gmail.com with suggestions or questions. If you are interested in volunteering on the chapter or section level, please see <https://california.awhonn.org/> for a list of our vacancies.

Hope to see you in February in Orange and/or in June in Arizona!

Stay cool,
Marinda



Marinda du Toit
Secretary
Treasurer

FROM THE EDUCATION COORDINATOR



SAVE	 SECTION CONFERENCE <small>Stay tuned for registration information for attendees and sponsors!!</small>
23-24 FEBRUARY 2024 <small>Preconference February 22</small>	THE
DATE	  Hotel Fera 100 City Drive South Orange, CA



As AWHONN continues to evolve, we are reminded of our commitment to support the nurses who strive to provide culturally proficient and gender-affirming care for all. We are adopting the following principles to guide us further toward our mission and vision. <https://bit.ly/3XAX7YV>

THE DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COORDINATOR



A safe place to learn, grow, understand.

My skin color is different from yours.
My life experiences are different from yours.
Let's listen to each other's stories.

Five white people and five people of color meet via zoom with trained facilitators for six weeks.

Brandy Frye, MSN, RNC-OB, CCRN-K, TNCC

In the spirit of inquiry and to better understand ourselves as well as those we serve, the CA AWHONN section leadership team is launching a pilot program in the fall of 2023.

The terrifying rate of morbidity and mortality experienced by people who do not identify as white is stunning! Nurses must come together as social justice advocates and be part of the solution. To fully address health disparities and to better serve the marginalized populations within our communities we must be willing to have brave conversations on our lived experiences

This program is a six-week program entitled Our Stories. If you are interested in hearing more about this program and possibly participating in the pilot, please complete this form.

If you are having difficulty accessing this form using the QR code, please reach out to the CA Section Leadership team awhonn.casection@gmail.com



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Tracy Weeber, NoCal & Amy Scott, SoCal

California News:

In a historic Medi-Cal budget bill, California included in the 2023-2024 budget some exciting news for care of women and birthing people. January 1, 2024, Medi-Cal provider rates will be increased to at least 87.5% of Medicare for primary care, non-specialty mental health services, and maternity care, which includes an increase in the global obstetric codes. This Medi-Cal rate increase will be the largest in California history. It will be an annual appropriation of \$1.38 billion in primary care rate increases, \$1.15 billion in specialty care rate increases, \$700 million to increase emergency department access (including \$200 million for emergency department physicians), at least \$500 million for family planning and reproductive health care, and \$600 million for behavioral health facilities, including increasing inpatient psychiatric beds (McCue, K. 2023. ACOG District IX community digest.)

National News:

As of June 27th, the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act took effect. This legislation was a cumulative effort of over ten years to require employers to provide accommodations for pregnancy-related medical conditions including childbirth, postpartum recovery, lactation, pregnancy loss, postpartum depression, as well as time off to access abortion care. It nullifies a prior requirement that required employees to prove they should be accommodated. The process now flips the script so employers will now need to work with staff to provide accommodations. This law builds on the Pregnancy Discrimination Act and closes loopholes. This translates into birthing people not losing their jobs for taking needed time off to care for themselves, even if they have been employed for less than a year. For a deeper discussion of the impact please go to: <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/new-workplace-accommodations-for-pregnant-people-are-now-in-effect-heres-what-they-cover>

On a topic of reproductive justice, on July 13th the FDA just approved Opill (norgestrel), the first oral contraceptive approved for use without a prescription. The decision comes at a time when nearly half of pregnancies in the U.S. are unintended and abortion has been restricted or banned in many states. It is a progestin-only pill that will be available at pharmacies and even online. For progestin-only contraceptives, there are few medical contraindications and very few safety concerns, and it's very easy for people to self-screen with the assistance of the pharmacist or online decision tools. Lack of access to contraception due to lack of access to providers negatively impacts women's ability to own their reproductive freedom. The downstream effects of unintended pregnancies, especially to BIPOC childbearing people, ranges from increased adverse perinatal outcomes to educational and financial barriers. After an Iowa state legislator made the statement that women who do not want to be pregnant should not have sex, we now have another tool to give women sexual and reproductive options. For more information please go to: https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-first-nonprescription-daily-oral-contraceptive?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

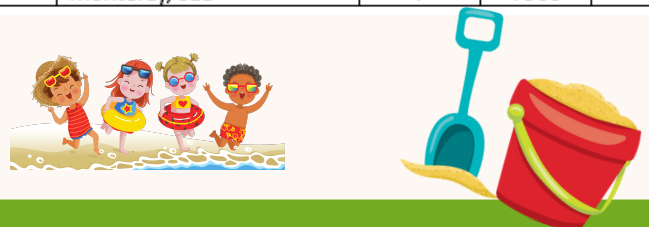
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Laura Senn, NoCal



AWHONN CA Section Chapter Boundaries 2023

Total number of CA AWHONN members= 3245 (as of 7/12/2023)				
Chapter	Counties	# of Hospitals	Approx # Births 2021	# AWHONN members
N1	Chico, Mendocino, Humboldt, Shasta, Lassen, Tehama, Lake, Lassen	14	2800	109
N2	Sacramento, Placer, Nevada, El Dorado	16	28,000	284
N3	SF, San Mateo, Sonoma, Napa, Marin	25	22,000	322
N4	San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Tuolumne, Madera, Amador, Mono	15	20,000	120
N5	East Bay- Solano, Alameda, Contra Costa,	18	42,000	328
N6	South Bay, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito	14	34,000	283
S1	San Diego, Imperial	15	40,000	267
S2	Inland Empire- San Bernardino, Riverside	27	46,000	355
S3	Orange	16	33,000	234
S4/S5	LA county- Long Beach & LA Valley	52	98,000	508
S6	Santa Barbara, Ventura	9	12,000	121
S7	Central Valley- Fresno, Kern, Tulare, Kings, Inyo	15	35,000	182
S8	Monterey, SLO	7	7500	73



YOUR SECTION LEADERSHIP TEAM

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- 1 NoCal School Liason
- 3 SoCal School Liason

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CHAPTER UPDATES

Some chapters are looking for dedicated volunteers to fill vacancies.
 Please see below and contact the Chapter Coordinator, listed, if you are interested

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

We had a great dinner presentation on June 15th at Twenty Eight Restaurant courtesy of Dr Stephen Garber and Pacira. The event sold out in one day and the evaluations demonstrated high satisfaction with the event.



Pictures from the Dinner presentation and Dr Garber with the OC Committee
 L-R: Toni L, Kathy A, Barbara M & Laura D.
 (not present Lauren B).



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OPENINGS: Education,
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The AWHONN South Bay/Long Beach chapter is holding a fundraising event for Casa Hogar, Cabo San Lucas which was featured in the movie Blue Miracle on Netflix and Disney Plus as part of actor Jeremy Renner's "Rennervations" show. We are kindly asking for donations in any amount at the following page: [Donate - Casa Hogar Cabo San Lucas](#). When you donate, please reference that it is a donation from an AWHONN member. Please watch and listen to this video from the director of Casa Hogar Jayson at this link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P65iGdbNIV0Wx7B7jevnpmqLF0egRtT3/view?usp=drive_link
Thank you for taking the time to donate and listen to Jayson, kind regards-
Rosemarie Cervantes

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OPENINGS: Education, Membership,
Legislative, Hospital Liaison



EAST BAY CHAPTER

Good afternoon, this is Nicole Reavis, the new East Bay Chapter Leader!

A fun fact about me is that as of earlier this week, I'm now 1 of the 10 nursing students selected to be a part of the Student Nurse Externship program at Stanford Valley Care in Pleasanton! As far as updates, I have very little as I'm still trying to recruit new members to join my chapter (who are hopefully other nursing students). I hope to have more updates as the year progresses!

Best, Nicole

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OPENINGS: Secretary/Treasurer,
Education, Membership, Legislative,
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OPENING: Hospital Liaison

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Growing IDEAS Program:

At the 2023 National convention in New Orleans, the Regional DEI Coordinators facilitated an event called Growing IDEAS (Inclusive, Diverse, Equitable, Accessible Sections). This program engaged over 80 participants in two interactive activities. The first one, called "Identity Signs" helped to deepen attendees understanding about identity and belonging. People grouped themselves in accordance to aspects of their identity, in response different questions posed by facilitators. The aspects of identity were: gender identity, race, class, language, nationality, sexual orientation, and religion. Second activity was a program called Transforming Commitment into Action. The goal was to brainstorm meaningful, actionable items for nurses to implement in pursuit of the commitment statement on the front of the "Commit Card" each person received when they found a spot at a table. We only had a short discussion time to share ideas. So, we gathered up the Commit Cards and have since typed up the ideas that were brainstormed. We are in the process of reviewing these ideas and will email out the synthesized information soon. If you are interested in having either of the activities facilitated for your chapter, please contact me at becca.licha@gmail.com. Best, Becca Licha, Chapter Coordinator for Santa Barbara/ Ventura County AHWONN Chapter and Regional DEI Coordinator

SANTA BARBARA/VENTURA CHAPTER

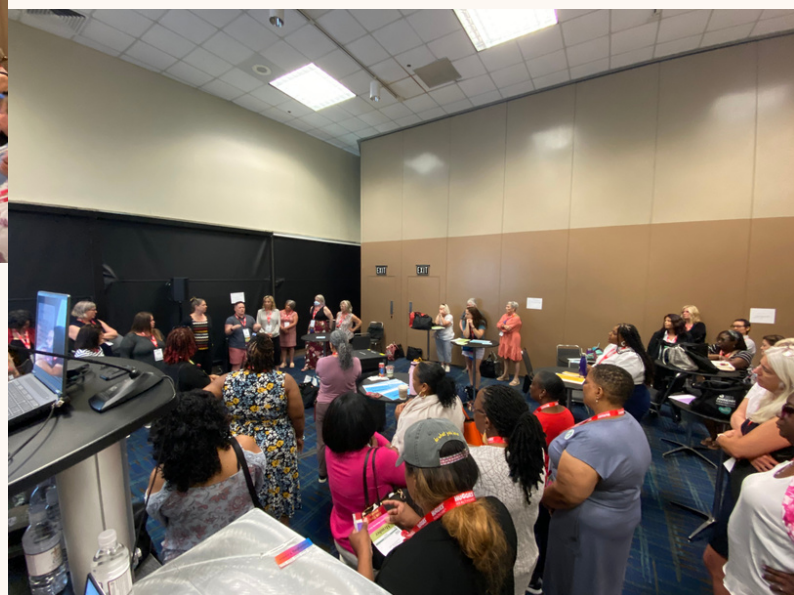
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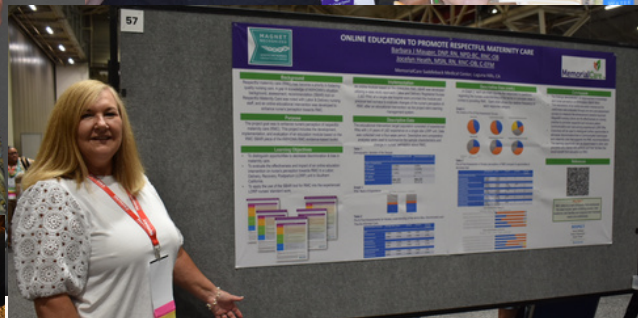
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OPENINGS: Education,
 Membership, Legislative,
 Hospital Liaison



#AWHONN2023



#AWHONN2023



Obstetric Patient Safety: OB Emergencies Workshop 3rd Edition

Despite efforts from many collaborating agencies and professional organizations, the maternal mortality rate in the United States continues to remain high. The Obstetric Patient Safety (OPS): Obstetric Emergencies Workshop 3rd Edition is designed to help clinicians identify, assess, and manage the care for patients with an obstetric emergency through simulation and debriefing. Clinicians working in the following departments: perinatal, emergency, medical-surgical, ICU, and critical access will find this course essential to caring for patients experiencing an obstetric emergency.



Learning Outcomes:

- Identify key factors that place the patient at higher risk for an obstetric emergency.
- Demonstrate effective management for pregnant or postpartum person during an obstetric emergency.
- Role-play with a multidisciplinary team using simulation-based cognitive, behavioral, and technical learning strategies to practice management of a patient experiencing an obstetric emergency.

Participant Materials:

- The cost is \$120 and can be purchased through the [AWHONN Store](#)
- Materials include the prerequisite course, participant handouts, and Workshop resources. Nursing contact hours or CME: 10.75 (0.75 pharmacy) Expires: May 31, 2025
- NOTE: Successful completion of the prerequisite course is required prior to attending the live portion of the Workshop.

Workshop Date: August 26, 2023

Workshop Time: Registration 8:00a; Class: 8:30a -5:00p

Location: Huntington Hospital, Braun Auditorium, 100 W. California Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.

Additional information: The pre course assignments must be done by August 25, 2023. Lunch is on your own.

Register by following this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/uRefPmB4Qg>

The course content also meets the Joint Commission requirements PC.06.01.01 Reduce the likelihood of harm related to maternal hemorrhage and PC.06.03.01 Reduce the likelihood of harm related to maternal severe hypertension/preeclampsia.

The Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses is accredited with distinction as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Accredited status does not imply endorsement by AWHONN or the ANCC of any commercial products displayed or discussed in conjunction with an educational activity. AWHONN is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider #CEP580.

Physicians, this activity was planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of AffinityCE and AWHONN. AffinityCE is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. AffinityCE designates this live activity for a maximum of 10.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]. Physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Mention of any products in AWHONN's Obstetric Patient Safety: OB Emergencies Workshop does not constitute an endorsement by AWHONN.