



GREETINGS FROM THE SECTION CHAIR



Sue Stone
Section
Chair

Welcome to Fall!

I hope you are enjoying the cooler weather as the days become shorter and the leaves begin to change. As we approach the last few months of the year, I'd like to take a minute to reflect on some of the great opportunities our AWHONN California members have experienced this year.

The National Leadership Development Conference was held in January, here in Long Beach, CA, followed by our CA Section Conference in February in San Jose. AWHONN on Capitol Hill took place in April, and up next was the National Conference in New Orleans in June. Our Executive and Chapter Leaders attended the CA Leadership Development Conference in September. Our Conference Planning Committee is working tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the upcoming AWHONN CA Section Conference is an event you will not want to miss! If you would like a chance to attend the 2024 National Conference in Phoenix, AZ for FREE, be sure to check out the Section Membership Challenge running now through December 31st!

In support of National Diaper Awareness Week in September, we hosted a virtual Diaper Drive to support Sweet Beginnings Diaper Bank in Martinez, CA. We plan to continue this until the end of the year. So far, we have donated over 1700 baby wipes, almost 500 diapers and 350 sanitary napkins. Check out the flyer for further details.

Don't forget to register soon for the early bird discount for our upcoming CA Conference in February 2024.

Enjoy the upcoming holidays with family and loved ones.

Thank you for all you do for our birthing population!

Warmly,
Sue Stone

GREETINGS FROM YOUR SECRETARY/TREASURER

Ho-ho-ho! The holidays are here! I wish you and your families a happy holiday season, and I am thankful for each of you and all the hard work you do daily to improve outcomes for our patients!

Your CA Section and Chapter Leaders enjoyed some time together at our annual CA Leadership Development Conference and have great plans for 2024! We are opening registration soon for the 2024 CA Conference, which will take place in February 2024 in Orange, CA.

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

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

Blessings,
Marinda

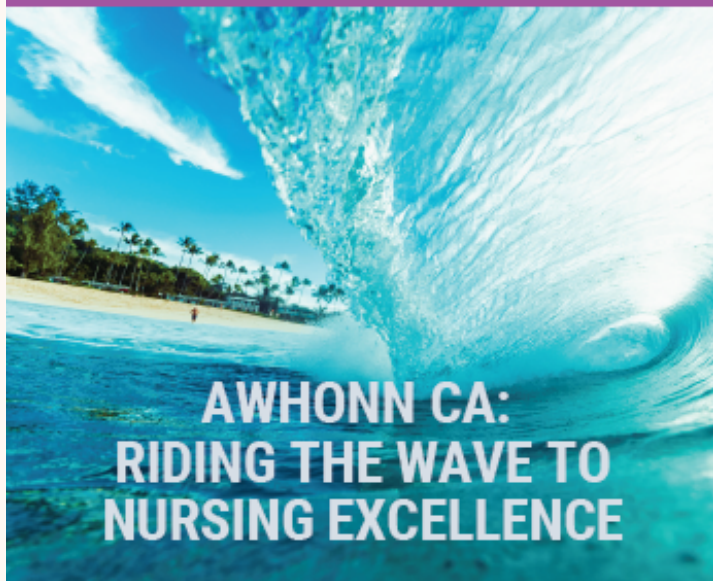


Marinda du Toit
Secretary
Treasurer

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION!!! SALE ENDS CYBER MONDAY!!!



2024 SECTION CONFERENCE



AWHONN CA: RIDING THE WAVE TO NURSING EXCELLENCE

TOPICS INCLUDE :

- Labor Support
- Maternal health & advocacy
- Human trafficking
- OB hemorrhage
- Breastfeeding

OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:

- Discuss implementation of eat, sleep, console
- Understand labor support techniques
- Review best practices to address OB hemorrhage



FEBRUARY 22, 2024 - OPS, LEADERSHIP, & STUDENT PRE-CONFERENCES.



FEBRUARY 23-24, 2024 - MAIN CONFERENCE



0800 - 1700



100 THE CITY DRIVE, ORANGE, CA



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
DR. DIANA RAMOS

CALIFORNIA
SURGEON GENERAL



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**SHAKIRA
HENDERSON**
AWHONN PRESIDENT



SPEAKER
**CHARLES
JOHNSON**

FOUNDER AT 4KIRA4MOMS,
INC.



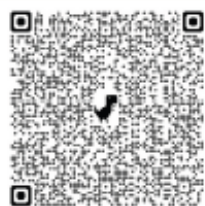
SPEAKER
SARAH LAVONNE

BUNDLEBIRTH
NURSES



SPEAKER
**DR. DAVID
LAGREW**

MATERNAL FETAL
SPECIALIST, HOAG
HOSPITAL



**HOTEL
REGISTRATION**

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED; NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR. GET YOUR EARLY BIRD PRICING NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 30TH 2023!

FULL REFUND WILL BE ISSUED IF CONFERENCE IS CANCELED DUE TO NATURAL DISASTER, OR IF REQUESTED BEFORE 11/30/2023.

50% REFUND WILL BE ISSUED IF REQUESTED BEFORE 12/31/2023.
NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED AFTER 01/01/2024.

12 CEs will be earned for full conference attendance. This provider has been approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, BRN Provider Number 580. This certificate must be retained by the licensee for a period of four (4) years after the course concludes.



**CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Tracy Weeber, NoCal & Amy Scott, SoCal

California Legislative Updates:

The time for the Governor to sign or veto bills ended October 14th. The Senate can override the a veto with a 2/3 vote.

1. **AB 847 by Assemblymember Luz Rivas (D-Sylmar) – Medi-Cal: pediatric palliative care services.**
 - This bill, Sophia's Act, would authorize extended eligibility for pediatric hospice services and palliative care services for those individuals who have been determined eligible for those services prior to 21 years of age to after 21 years of age.
 - The bill would create a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the department to seek any federal approvals it deems necessary to implement these provisions.
 - This bill would state the Legislature's intent to investigate future legislation to make pediatric palliative and hospice care more accessible to families.
2. **SB 459 by Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park) – Domestic violence: restraining orders.**
 - Known as the Sam Sisters Law.
 - Existing law allows a civil court, after notice and a hearing, to issue an order to enjoin a person from, among other things, attacking, stalking, or threatening another person.
 - Under existing law, the protective order may be valid for up to 5 years, as determined by the court, and may be renewed for 5 or more years, or permanently, at the discretion of the court.
 - This bill would require the Judicial Council, on or before January 1, 2025, to create one or more specific forms for the purpose of requesting a modification of an existing restraining order.
3. **SB 525 by Senator María Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles) – Minimum wages: health care workers.**
 - SB 525 rolls out a \$25 minimum wage for health care workers pursuant to these parameters:
 - i. Organizations with 10,000 full-time equivalent workers or more will pay a minimum wage of \$23 in June 2024, \$24 in June 2025, and \$25 in June 2026.
 - ii. Minimum wage after 2026 will be indexed to the lower of inflation or 3.5%.

Federal Legislative Updates: A recap of AWHONN Federal Advocacy for 2023 - 118th Congress

Of note: Thousands of bills introduced each Congress. Where do bills die? In committee.

Briefly, the process: Introduced | Passed Senate | Passed House | To President | Becomes Law

1. Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Worker Act - both House (H.R.2663) and Senate (S.1176) Bills:

- Passed the in the House for both 116th & 117th Congress, ran out of time in the Senate for these prior Congresses. The bill has been reintroduced in 118th Congress.
- California state law on workplace violence is strong the goal would be to do this for the nation. This bill would instruct the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to issue a standard requiring health care employers to have a plan to prevent violence from happening and respond when it does. Current OSHA standards are voluntary.
- US Senators from CA have cosponsored this.
- Action item: Check to see if your US Representatives from CA have cosponsored this; if not reach out and ask them to. Tracy and I are a resource to help you with this!

2. Perinatal Workforce Act - both House (H.R.3523) and Senate (S.411) bills:

- Was introduced as part of the Momnibus during 116th & 117th Congress, and now again for 118th Congress.
- Overarching focus is on funding for development of and investment in culturally congruent perinatal workers.
- This bill would:
 - Require HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra (of note, prior role was the Attorney General four fair state of California, 2017-2021) to provide guidance on states on the promotion of racially, ethnically, and professionally diverse perinatal care teams and to study how culturally congruent perinatal care promotes better outcomes for moms, especially in communities of color.
 - Provide funding to establish and scale programs that will increase # and diversity of student population that will enter perinatal health workforce.
 - Study the barriers that prevent women, particularly from underserved communities, from entering perinatal care professions and receiving equitable compensation.
- US Senators from CA have NOT YET cosponsored this.
- Action item: Reach out to them and ask them to cosponsor this. Check to see if your US Representatives from CA have cosponsored this; if not reach out and ask them to.

3. MOMMA's Act - House and Senate bills:

- Was introduced and died in both the 116th and 117th Congress. It was to be reintroduced in May 2023 for 118th Congress by Representative Robin Kelly and Senator Dick Durbin, though that has not actually happened. The bill is open for comment.
- Goals: The MOMMA's Act would give states, providers, and patients the support required to reduce the maternal morbidity and mortality rate in the United States.
 - Improve Maternal Mortality reporting from states
 - Sharing best practices
 - Improving Maternal Health grant program
 - Medicaid (Medi-Cal) and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage for postpartum women
- A key thrust of this bill: Standardized data reporting allows researchers to understand the larger causes of maternal mortality and morbidity, which informs professionals developing and implementing safety practices to prevent and intercede in the leading causes of maternal mortality and morbidity before they reach dire levels

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



Laura Senn, NoCal

What is the **Percent** of AWHONN members **per birth** in California?



Confidence Looks Good on You!

- **Less than 1 %!!**
- We need you to ask a friend or colleague to **Join AWHONN Today!!**

New Members Contest- by Chapter
Total of 808 New Members since Jan 1, 2023
Total # of Members in CA- 3399 for 420,300 births

Chapter	# Births per Year	Start 2023 #s	Current Members By 11/11/23	% Members by # Births per Year	4Q			1Q				Current New	% New Members since 1/1/23
					Oct adds	Nov adds	Dec adds	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q		
N1- Chico	28000	100	113	4%	2			15	6	5	28	27%	
N2- Sacramento	28,000	283	290	1%	12			19	24	11	54	19%	
N3- SF & N. Bay	22,000	299	264	1%	9			39	28	22	89	29.7%	
N4- San Joaquin	20,000	130	138	7%	5			11	7	7	26	19%	
N5- East Bay	42,000	319	330	8%	7			31	20	12	63	19.7%	
N6- Santa Clara/Cruz	34,000	249	238	7%	5			31	18	10	60	23.7%	
Total	148.8K		1610	1%									
S1- San Diego	40,000	256	278	7%	8			33	9	17	60	23%	
S2- Inland Empire	46,000	328	361	8%	9			48	29	22	99	30%	
S3- Orange	33,000	240	237	7%	3			20	21	8	49	20%	
S4/S5- LA county	98,000	470	521	5%	6			53	41	36	131	27.6%	
S6- St. Barbara/Vent	12,000	126	122	1%	1			8	4	5	17	13.5%	
S7- Central Valley	35,000	170	191	5%	12			22	16	10	48	28%	
S8- Monterey/SLO	7500	85	79	1%	4			10	5	4	19	22%	
Total	420.3K	3055	3399	0.8%	81	?	?	340	228	159	808		

Highest Percentages of Members-By Chapter

Total % Members by # Births/yr

% New Members since 1/1/2023

- ✓ N1: CHICO- 4%
- ✓ N3: SF & NORTH BAY- 1.2%
- ✓ N2: SACRAMENTO- 1%
- ✓ S8: MONTEREY- 1%
- ✓ S6: ST. BARBARA/VENTURA- 1%
- ✓ S2: INLAND EMPIRE- 0.8%
- S2: INLAND EMPIRE- 30%
- N3: SF & NORTH BAY- 29.7%
- S7: CENTRAL VALLEY- 28%
- N1: CHICO- 27%
- S4 & S5: LOS ANGELES- 27.6%
- N6: SANTA CLARA/CRUZ- 23.7%

A Day in the Life of a L&D Nurse- Love what you do!



E-Membership: Your Fast Pass to AWHONN

Big Discounts-

- For Student Nurses
- For E-Members

E-Member	Student Member	Emeritus Member
\$120 /yr	\$60 /yr	\$96 /yr
Instant access to AWHONN Journals	Instant access to	Instant access to

YOUR SECTION LEADERSHIP TEAM

Section Chair

Legislative Coordinators

Marketing Coordinator

Sue Stone, MSN RN PHN RNC-OB, C-EFM
rstone.rn@gmail.com

Tracy Weeber - Northern California
tracy.weeber@gmail.com

Sharon Dey-Layne, RNC-HROB, MSN, CNS, C-OB, C-ONQS
shardey99@gmail.com

Section Secretary/Treasurer

Amy Scott - Southern California
msamy67@gmail.com

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Coordinator

Marinda du Toit, RNC-OB, C-EFM, IBCLC, BCur
marinda.awhonn@gmail.com

Membership Coordinator

Brandy Frye, MSN, RNC-OB, CCRN-K, TNCC
brachelmsn@gmail.com

Education Coordinator

Laura Senn, RN, PhD, CNS
LauraSennCNS@gmail.com

NoCal School Liasons

Robyn Garrett, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM
rrgarrettrnc@gmail.com

Hospital Liaison

Susan Collins
suescollins@yahoo.com

Vendor Management Coordinator

Holly Gless
gless.international@gmail.com

Nicole McCaughin
nmccaughin@gmail.com

Sherri Mendelson
tomsherri1@ca.rr.com

Section Fundraising Coordinator

OPENINGS

Shari Kelly
sharilynkelly@gmail.com

1 SoCal Membership Coordinator

1 NoCal School Liason

3 SoCal School Liason

CHAPTER UPDATES

Some chapters are still looking for dedicated volunteers to fill vacancies.

Please see below and contact the Chapter Coordinator, listed, if you are interested

SOUTH BAY/LONG BEACH CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator
Rosemarie Cervantes
rxcervantes@gmail.com

OPENINGS: Treasurer,
Education, Membership,
Legislative, Hospital Liaison

Hello Everyone,

My name is Rosemarie Cervantes. I have been a chapter leader in Los Angeles since 2013. I will be leading the South Bay & the Long Beach chapter.

We had fun at the Hologic sponsored event in Long Beach in October.



INLAND EMPIRE CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator
Justine Arechiga
Justinelynn08@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Josie Lopez, RN
Jslopez525@gmail.com

Education
Cindy Garcia

Legislative
Jennifer Ayala

OPENINGS: Membership,
Hospital Liaison

LA VALLEY CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator
Andrea Korsak, MSN/ed, RN
andrea.korsak@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Wendy Kim, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM
wendy.kim.323@gmail.com

OPENINGS: Education, Membership,
Legislative,
Hospital Liaison

CENTRAL VALLEY CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator
Myoshi Lee
avocante03@aol.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Sarah Putman, MHA, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Sarahputmanwns@gmail.com

Education
Christine Leach
christineleach86@gmail.com

Hospital Liason
Brenda McMurtrey, RN, BSN, MBA-HCM, C-EFM
Brenda.mcmurtrey@dignityhealth.org

OPENINGS: Membership; Legislative

SANTA BARBARA/VENTURA CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator
Rebecca Licha, RNC-OB
becca@beccalicha.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Ma Theresa Quisao, MSN, RNC-OB,
C-EFM
mahalteresa@yahoo.com

OPENINGS: Education,
Membership, Legislative, Hospital
Liaison

SANTA CLARA/SANTA CRUZ CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator
Deanna Starr Williams
dwilliamsak@gmail.com

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

EAST BAY CHAPTER

OPENINGS: Chapter Coordinator,
Secretary/Treasurer, Education,
Membership, Legislative, Hospital
Liaison

SALINAS/MONTEREY BAY CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator
Julie Vasher, DNP, RNC-OB, CNS,
C-EFM
julievcsn@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Janeen Whitmore, PhD, DNP, RN,
CNE, CHSE
Janeen.awhonn@gmail.com

OPENINGS: Education,
Membership, Hospital Liaison,
Legislative

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator

Barbara Mauger, DNP, RN, NPD-BC, RNC-OB
barbarablack10@hotmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Kathy Ayala, MSN, RN-BC
kathyayala1218@gmail.com

Education

Lauren Bendon
lauren.bendon@gmail.com

Legislative

Wendy Burrell
nanawendyb@gmail.com

Membership

Toni Lopez, BSN, RN, RNC-OB
Toni.sardone@yahoo.com

Hospital Liaison

Laura Dragan
ldraganrnc@hotmail.com

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator

Melaney Stricklin, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM
melaneyst@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Rachel Fanelli
rfanelli89@gmail.com

Membership

Leslie Thielen
nickjoedrew@gmail.com

Education

Morgan Melville, MSN, CNS
morgankmelville@gmail.com

Legislative

Beth Hennessy
bethhennessyrn@gmail.com

Hospital Liaison

Mari Praus
prausrncob@gmail.com

SF BAY AREA/NORTH BAY CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator

Sheri Buda
sabuda3@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Amy Bradley, MSN, RNC-OB
asilverstar.bradley@gmail.com

Education

Kelley Lee-Brennan
kelley.l.brennan@gmail.com

Membership

Samantha Buda
samibuda@gmail.com

Legislative

Meghan Duck
meghan.m.duck@gmail.com

Hospital Liaison

Judy Olive
judyol4awhonn@gmail.com

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator

Allyson Sapp, MSN, RNC-OB
ahsapp@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Carroll-Ann Daley
carrollann.daly@sharp.org

Membership

Kim Paiva, BSN, RNC-OB
kimmypaiva@gmail.com

Education

Amy Murray, CNS, MSN, RNC-OB
amydmurray@yahoo.com

Legislative

Sharon Aduna, MSN, RN
Sharon.aduna@sharp.com

OPENING: Hospital Liaison

CHICO CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator

Lori Silva
Lori.rn64@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Linda Rowe/Karen Murphy
lrowe7@juno.com

Education

Ann Brennan
Chicoanna@yahoo.com

Membership

Luz Alva
Luzalva@sbcglobal.net

OPENINGS: Legislative, Hospital
Liaison

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY CHAPTER

Chapter Coordinator

Juli Weaver, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Jweaver.rn@sbcglobal.net

Secretary/Treasurer

Erica Marchand, BSN, RNC-OB
ericabmarchand@yahoo.com

Education

Angela Almanza, MSN, RNC-OB
Angelaalmanza24@icloud.com

Legislative

Melissa Mora
melissa@peakrn.com

OPENING: Hospital Liaison,
Membership

STUDENT MEMBER UPDATES

Madeleine Hartmann

-My name is Madeleine Hartmann and I live in Santa Monica. I moved here from Chicago in 2018. I am determined to use my passion for women's health and obstetrics to be a life-long learner and an evidence-based provider for women and infants. My own journey through a major women's health diagnosis fuels my desire to be a women's health advocate and deepens the empathy that I have for patients. My interests outside of nursing include integrative medicine, yoga, pilates, and spending time at the beach-all of which serve as powerful tools that help me maintain my own health and wellness.

-I attended the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Mount Saint Mary's University in Los Angeles.

-I graduated August 26th, 2023

-I found out about AWHONN while doing my own web search

-My dream position is a Labor and Delivery nurse at a reputable Los Angeles-area hospital.

-My plans after graduation are to take the NCLEX and to apply to L&D New-Grad Programs at various hospitals. I am also running the Malibu Half-Marathon in November to raise money for endometriosis! [Link to donate: https://gofund.me/0fa382d9](https://gofund.me/0fa382d9)



Mia Navarro

Fun Fact: I share pre-nursing advice and my nursing school journey on TikTok to 33k+ people!

What school are you attending? San Jose State University

When will you graduate? May 2024

How did you hear about AWHONN? My OB professor is one of the coordinators of the AWHONN California section

What is your dream position? Certified Nurse Midwife, Nurse Educator, or any speaking opportunity about an OB topic I care about.



I am currently in my final semester at the University of San Francisco's ME-MSN program with plans to graduate this December. I just passed my NCLEX last month! I heard about AWHONN through my maternity course and a few peers from older cohorts. After the first night on my Labor & Delivery clinical rotation, my fate was sealed! I dream of becoming the most encouraging, supportive, and knowledgeable Labor & Delivery nurse that I can be! A few fun facts about myself: I play ultimate frisbee, my favorite flower is a Forget-Me-Not, and I have 3 nephews who always keep me on my toes!

Best,
Emily Beck

