



# President's Report

Stephanie McClellan, DNP, MBA, RN, CMSRN, NE-BC

As a nurse, one of the first lessons we are taught are the skills of assessment, communication, and intervention. As a nurse leader for the association and on a national level, I had the pleasure of exercising these same skills

at the annual ANA Membership Assembly (MA) in June 2024. Joined by DNA Secretary, Dennise Washington, and Executive Director, Christopher Otto, Delaware had full presence

*continued on page 1*

## CONTACT INFORMATION



HealthCom Media  
259 Veterans Lane, Doylestown, PA 18901  
For advertising rates and information, contact sales@healthcommedia.com.  
Telephone: 215-489-7000 | www.healthcommedia.com



Delaware Nurses Association  
4765 Ogletown Station Road, Suite L 10, Newark, DE 19713  
https://denurses.org/ | Phone: (302) 733-5880

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President:** Stephanie McClellan, DNP, MBA, RN, CMSRN, NE-BC

**President-Elect:** Kathleen Neal, PhD, RN

**Treasurer:** George Zangaro, PhD, RN, FAAN

**Secretary:** Dennise Washington, MSN, APRN, ACNS-BC, CCRN

**Director-at-Large, Clinical Nurse:** Andrea McDaniel, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Editorial Director:** Karen Panunto, EdD, MSN, RN

**Membership Growth Director — Kent County:** Sharon Mills-Wisneski, PhD, RN

**Membership Growth Director — Sussex County:** Candace Hamner, MA, BA, RN

**Membership Growth Director — New Castle County:** A'Sian Rochester, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, SCRIN, WTA-C

**Professional Development Director:** Sandra Nolan, PhD, RN, AHN-BC, CNE

**Advocacy Director:** Catherine Shull Fernald, DNP, RN, RNC-OB, NEA-BC, FACHE

**Associate Director-at-Large, Clinical Nurse:** Kevin Forsyth, BSN, RN

**Associate Advocacy Director:** Trina Turner, DNP, RN-BC, LNC, ONN-CG, CNEn

**Associate Editorial Director:** Rose Rossi, PhD, MBA, RN

**Associate Professional Development Director:** Lisa Drews, Ed.D., MSN, RN, CNE, CNEcl, CNML

**Associate Membership Growth Director — Kent County:** Gifty Boateng, MSN, RN, CPAN

**Associate Membership Growth Director — New Castle County:** Laura Rausch, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC

**Associate Membership Growth Director — Sussex County:** Stephanie Steele, RN

For advertising rates and information, please contact HealthCom Media, sales@healthcommedia.com. DNA and HealthCom Media reserve the right to reject any advertisement. The views and opinions expressed in the editorial and advertising material in this issue are those of the authors and advertisers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or recommendations of DNA, the Board of Directors, or the Publisher, Editors, and staff of HealthCom Media. Certain statements about the uses, dosages, efficacy, and characteristics of some drugs mentioned here reflect the opinions or investigational experience of the authors. Nurses should not use any procedures, medications, or other courses of diagnosis or treatment discussed or suggested by authors without evaluating the patient's conditions and possible contraindications or dangers in use, reviewing any applicable manufacturer's prescribing or usage information, and comparing these with recommendations of other authorities. *The DNA Reporter*, (ISSN 0418-5412) is published quarterly every March, June, September, and December by HealthCom Media for the Delaware Nurses Association, a constituent member association of the American Nurses Association.

### DELAWARE NURSES ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP & STAFF

#### Executive Director

Christopher E. Otto, MSN, RN, CCRN  
executivedirector@denurses.org

#### Administrative Coordinator

Kathleen Devine, MPA, BS  
admin@denurses.org

### ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATES

Black Nurses Rock Delaware Chapter  
Delaware Emergency Nurses Association  
Delaware State Affiliate - American College of Nurse-Midwives  
Delaware Coalition of Nurse Practitioners  
Delaware Association of Nurse Anesthetists

### PUBLISHED BY

HealthCom Media  
259 Veterans Lane, Doylestown, PA 18901  
For advertising rates and information, contact sales@healthcommedia.com  
Telephone: 215-489-7000 | www.healthcommedia.com

**Chief Executive Officer/Group Publisher**  
Gregory P. Osborne

**Vice President, Finance and Operations**  
Jennifer D. Reedman

**General Counsel**  
Joe McGinley

**Director of Publishing Services**  
Christian Evans Gartley

**Executive Editorial Director**  
Cheryl L. Mee, MSN, MBA, RN, FAAN

**HCM Sales Manager**  
Rachel Laird

**National Account Director**  
Mary Chris Schuieren

**National Account Manager**  
Bret Badger

**Sales Associates**  
Justin Seng, Ryan Steiner

**Art Director**  
Michael F. Higgins

**Marketing**  
Craig Veltri

**Web Developer**  
Michelle Rush

**Graphic Designer & Digital Media Coordinator**  
Aileen Schulcz

**Digital Media Specialist**  
Andrew F. Wheeler

**Advertising Sales Marketing Coordinator**  
Shane Osborne

**Disclaimer:** Subscription to *The DNA Reporter* may be purchased for \$20 per year, \$30 per year for foreign addresses. Articles appearing in this publication express the opinions of the authors; they do not necessarily reflect views of the staff, board, or membership of DNA or those of the national or local associations. *The DNA Reporter* welcomes unsolicited manuscripts by DNA members. Articles are submitted for the exclusive use of *The DNA Reporter*. All articles submitted must be original, not having been published before, and not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Submissions will be acknowledged by e-mail or a self-addressed stamped envelope provided by the author. All articles require a cover letter requesting consideration for publication. Articles can be submitted by e-mail to Christopher E. Otto, MSN, RN, CCRN at executivedirector@denurses.org

at MA. Day one was spent on Capital Hill, joined by more than 30 Delaware nurses to advocate for restricting mandatory overtime, Nurse Faculty Shortage Reduction Act (H.R. 7002, S. 2815), Improving Care and Access to Nurses (ICAN) Act (S. 2418, H.R. 2713) and to protect timely access to quality nursing care in long-term care facilities. Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester heard directly from Delaware nurses on these topics.

On day two, representatives from state nursing associations and ANA leaders gathered to discuss and hear vital issues from nurses affecting the profession. The first dialogue forum focused on the impact of licensure and employment practices on nurse's mental and emotional well-being, including how to eliminate barriers. The second forum addressed care coordination and collaboration for veterans receiving community care, ensuring access to care and nurses prepared to provide care. The third forum focused on the comprehensive revision

of the Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements. State nursing associations were asked to provide comments on the proposed changes.

We heard from ANA's interim CEO, Angela Beddoe, on an enterprise initiative in which we envision ANA in 2040 and closing the gaps to prepare us for the future. Her bold vision includes ensuring nurses have "best in class practices, innovation, engagement, education, research, programs, and financial vitality." This address was a powerful and forward message with eyes fixed on a destination the ANA hasn't seen before and we are excited for it.

On day three, the voting body moved to support the work on the dialogue forums from the previous day. In addition to this, a motion was made and approved on transparency in investments and ethical partnerships. This work confirms that nurses are activists and change makers. This is an exhilarating time for the work of the nursing profession and

for ANA and state nursing associations to be positioned to make a greater impact than ever. New ANA Board of Director members were elected and announced. Those include:

- President Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, PhD, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, Oregon Nurses Association;
- Secretary Amanda Oliver, BSN, RN, CCRN, CPST, ANA-Illinois;
- Director-at-Large Edward Briggs, DNP, MS, APRN, Florida Nurses Association;
- Director-at-Large Ahnyel Burkes, DNP, RN-BC, NEA-BC, Louisiana State Nurses Association; and
- Director-at-Large, Staff Nurse Josephine Agyei, BSN, RN, ANA-New York.

Thank you to all our members for trusting us to use a collective voice on these key issues. The future is bright, and I am excited to continue to advance nursing and our profession in Delaware and nationally. ■

## Executive Director's Report

Christopher E. Otto, MSN, RN, CCRN



### Nurse Advocacy in Action: Your Voice Matters!

June is always a busy month. It is the month that DNA hosts our annual

"Nurse's Day at Legislative Hall" in Dover, ANA's Hill Day in Washington, the end of Delaware's legislative session, and the ANA Membership Assembly. This June, Delaware's nurses made an impact!

Over 20 LPNs, RNs, and APRNs participated in DNA's day at Legislative Hall in Dover. Over a dozen constituent meetings were held, with nurses advocating for multiple topics. Nurses got to meet with DE's three nurse legislators, too, Lt. Governor Dr. Bethany Hall-Long, House Majority Leader, Representative Melissa "Mimi" Minor-Brown, and Representative



Valerie Jones-Giltner. These nurses made an immediate impact on the legislative process.

House Bill 140, end of life options/death with dignity, was passed out of committee the following day and eventually passed both chambers. House Bill 401, school nurse access to lead screening status and results, passed on the House consent agenda and eventually passed the Senate. Senate Bill 195, programmatic support and funding for DMOST, passed out of Senate committee and eventually passed both chambers.