Below is the full list of continuing education offered as part of our 2023 Convention

▶ Protesting Your Assignment: A Primer on Documenting the Issue (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)

Purpose Statement: Registered nurses—based on their legal, professional, and ethical responsibilities—have the right to accept, reject, or object in writing to any patient assignment that puts patients, themselves, and their co-workers at serious risk for harm. While registered nurses have the professional obligation to raise concerns regarding any patient assignment that puts patients or themselves at risk for harm, refusing a patient assignment carries legal and employment risks. This program is intended for nurses working in specialty care units who want to know the legal basis for the right to object to an assignment and how to professionally document their practice concerns on a Protest of Assignment Form.

Learning Outcome: Recognize the legal, ethical, and professional importance of filing POAs as a way for the nurse, through individual and collective effort, to establish, maintain, and improve the working environment, conditions of employment, and front-line staff-to-patient ratios that are conducive to safe, quality healthcare.

Objectives:
• Value the New York State Staffing Law as one legal right to Protest the Assignment when the RN identifies staffing and patient safety concerns.
• Identify the data needed to successfully provide notice to the healthcare employer of staffing and patient safety issues.
• Demonstrate how to most effectively fill out a Protest of Assignment.
• Explain how the Protest of Assignment data can be used to facilitate concerted activity and patient advocacy.

▶ Enhance Your Physical Assessment Skills (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)*

Purpose Statement: Advanced assessment skills are needed in order to adequately gather pertinent information and employ critical thinking skills in clinical decision-making. RNs will have the opportunity to practice advanced physical assessment techniques and learn new skills related to disease processes in this “hands on” interactive workshop.

Learning Outcome: Demonstrate appropriate identification of sounds related to specific disease process

Objectives:
• Demonstrate advanced skills in the performance of a comprehensive adult health assessment.
• Interpret sounds of the body acquired through assessments in a simulated setting.
• Assess alterations in normal health acquired through assessments.

*Registration for this program is limited and a second registration will be required for the session and acuity level of the physical assessment program.

▶ Patients Over Profits: RNs on the Frontline of the Care Crisis (2.0 CH/ 2 CEU)

Purpose Statement: This class will explore the central role of healthcare work in our society, how and why this work is gendered and racialized, and the ways in which the provision of care has been devalued, dismantled, and exploited for profit. We will consider how the devaluation of care contributed to the Covid-19 crisis and how the healthcare industry has used the pandemic as an opportunity to expand this devaluation and further erode staffing and our public health infrastructure, all while blaming a “nursing shortage.” We’ll hear from speakers, including RNs, on the impacts of the care crisis on healthcare workers and patients, and how nurses have fought back against the devaluation of their labor and the dismantling of our public healthcare system.

Ultimately, the course will look at both the challenges the current care crisis poses for the future of care work and nursing, and the opportunities it offers for envisioning and creating a world based on collective care rather than profit.

Learning Outcome: Participants will be able to identify the trends that have negatively impacted
patients and the nursing profession.

Objectives:
- Relate issues that nurses are facing to larger social and economic conditions that devalue care work and erode public health.
- Recognize the gendered and racialized aspects of care work and the exploitative nature of its devaluation.
- Examine how nurses have fought against and can continue to fight against the devaluation of care work.

What Nurses Need to Know about Leveraging the NYS Staffing Law and Contract Bargaining in Order to Advocate for Exemplary Staffing Plans’ Creation and Enforcement 2023 (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)

Purpose: In accordance with the Safe Staffing for Quality Care Act (S.1168-A/A.108-B) and §2805-t(2)(c) of the New York State Public Health Law, annual nurse staffing plans shall be developed by statutory clinical staffing committees. Additionally, the clinical staffing plan shall comply with and incorporate any minimum staffing levels provided for in any applicable collective bargaining agreement, including but not limited to nurse-to-patient ratios, caregiver-to-patient ratios, staffing grids, staffing matrices, or other staffing provisions (NYS PHL §2805-t(5)(c)). These provisions give nurses a dual opportunity to set legislative nurse-to-patient ratios into New York Law and their collective bargaining agreements. Nurses versed in the law and contract negotiations, therefore, should align their strategies to reach maximum power in setting staffing plans with ratios.

Additionally, there is a new complaint mechanism under this law that can and should coincide with collective bargaining agreement enforcement mechanisms.

Learning Outcome: Identify the information needed to leverage the staffing law grids and recent bargaining gains to achieve exemplary staffing plans in years 2 and 3 of the staffing law, and to create ongoing enforcement strategies on both the staffing law and contractual fronts.

Objectives:
- Compare state staffing law and CBA staffing standards from real-life 2023 examples.
- Identify key trends and common characteristics of the staffing plans with the numbers recommended in the literature.
- Identify ways in which research supported plans were achieved during the state law procedure and collective bargaining procedure.
- Describe the process of how to forcefully file complaints against the employer for non-compliance of the law and compare that with common examples of staffing enforcement mechanisms in NYSNA’s contracts.
- Create a checklist of to-do items for Years 2 and 3 complaint and enforcement actions and ongoing staffing bargaining in the staffing law and collective bargaining spaces.

Awareness of and Healing from Compassion Fatigue and Burnout (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)

Purpose Statement: Burnout and compassion fatigue have become common terms in American culture to describe feelings of being overwhelmed or the inability to carry on with a certain level of stressors. The COVID-19 pandemic has only exposed and accelerated extreme levels of burnout and compassion fatigue among nurses. It’s essential for nurses to become knowledgeable about what burnout and compassion fatigue are, how they are experienced, and the ways to prevent them.

Learning Outcome: Explain methods for identifying and preventing Compassion Fatigue and Burnout.

Objectives:
- Differentiate between compassion fatigue and burnout.
- Describe signs and symptoms of compassion fatigue and burnout.
- Discuss intrinsic factors that can lead to compassion fatigue and burnout.
- Discuss ways to address and prevent compassion fatigue and burnout.

Five Ways to Prevent Violence in the Healthcare Workplace (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)

Purpose statement: Violence has become so common in all areas of healthcare facilities that the task of identifying ways to control it can seem overwhelming. This workshop will identify specific, effective workplace violence controls, such as new weapon detection technology, deployment of mental health professionals in non-behavioral health settings, access controls, visibility improvements and personal panic alarms that will improve safety for identified risks.

Learning objective: Participants will be able to recognize key deficits in workplace violence protections and identify specific controls to focus safety efforts on.

Objectives:
- Recognize deficits in workplace violence protections in the workplace.
- Identify specific controls to mitigate the risk of workplace violence.
- Create a plan to advocate for installation of identified safety measures.

Clinical Pharmacology Review (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)

Purpose Statement: Nurses have a significant practice and legal role in medication safety and are in a pivotal position to help reduce medication errors. Nevertheless,
studies show that nurses make an error in 27.6 percent of drug administrations and drug errors lead to 1 of 131 outpatient and 1 of 854 inpatient deaths. A good understanding of pharmacology is essential to the safe administration of medications.

Learning Outcome: Recognize the most commonly prescribed drugs for each major body system.

Objectives:

- Recognize indications and adverse effects of commonly prescribed drugs for each major body system.
- Discuss the nursing considerations for the administration of medications for each major body system.
- Discuss strategies to avoid common drug errors.
- List the 10 Rights of medication administration.

Social Justice Unionism as the Means for Nurses to Fight for Healthcare Justice and Better Patient Outcomes (2.0 CH/2 CEU)

Purpose Statement: During the Covid-19 pandemic, nurses as essential workers and their patients were at heightened risk of sickness and death due to lack of adequate protection. Many workers clearly saw connections between the response to the pandemic and larger instances of global social injustice. In this same period, national uprisings against police violence led many nurses with an ethical obligation to promote and protect the health and wellbeing of their patients to recognize that healthcare workers should oppose police violence and structurally unjust healthcare inequalities. Unions’ involvement in social movement struggles has been essential to advancing social justice—from our health care system to our communities: from the role of union workers in bringing down apartheid in South Africa, to union nurses’ fight for guaranteed health care across the globe, workers exercise our collective power through unions to impact system-wide change. Join us in a discussion on how nurses’ participation in the fight for social justice correlates to positive health outcomes for patients in hospitals.

Learning Outcome: Participants will recognize how nurses can use their collective power while working with alliances in the broader social justice movement to achieve improvements in patient care.

Objectives:

- Recognize that involvement in broader social, gender, racial, climate, and economic justice movement is connected to the fight for healthcare justice and better patient outcomes.
- Examine how patient care experiences viewed through a social justice and ethical lens calls for nurses to join with their coworkers across facilities, titles, and geographical borders to fight for a just society.
- Examine case studies and identify two ways in which engaging in the broader social movement can benefit racial, gender, climate, economic justice for nurses and patients.

Nurses Organize to Have One Strong Unified Voice to Address Patient Care (2.0 CH/2 CEU)

Purpose Statement: Nurses must work collaboratively and collectively for the benefit and health of their patients. Where Nurses have a voice in patient care, the quality-of-care increases dramatically. To expand statewide standards and ensure Nurses have a voice, it is imperative nurses join together at all facilities. Nurses are the best educators and organizers of their co-workers to accomplish this endeavor. This program will introduce tangible skills to nurses while also educating and training Nurses on the value of organizing.

Learning Outcome: Participants will be able to discuss the principle and mechanics of organizing non-organized Nurses.

Objectives:

- Discuss why it is important to organize the unorganized.
- Describe the role Nurses can play in organizing.
- Identify tangible organizing skills.
- Describe how to get involved in organizing campaigns.

Showcasing The Historic Contract Campaigns in the Public and Private Sector as a Model for Advancing Health Outcomes for Patients and Working Conditions for Nurses (2.0 CH/2 CEU)

Purpose Statement: The 2022 NYC private sector contract campaign and the 2023 NYC H+H public sector campaign involved coordinated bargaining to advance health outcomes for patients and working conditions for nurses in 12 private sector and 11 public sector facilities and dozens of clinics in New York City. These campaigns were a model of cross-facility communication, collaboration, and mobilization. As a result, nurses achieved historic advances in wages, recruitment and retention, staffing ratios and enforcement of those ratios, as well as patient care victories and wins for the community. This workshop will showcase how collaboration, coordination and solidarity can lead to major gains in working conditions for nurses and advancing health outcomes for patients.

Learning Outcome: Participants will identify the key elements and factors that can lead to major contractual gains for nurses and advancing health outcomes for patients that are a direct result of their coordinated, collective action across facilities.

Objectives:

- Examine the key elements of campaign strategies that can result in advanced outcomes for patients and better working conditions for nurses.
- Identify institutional resources and how those resources supported nurses in achieving specific gains for working
- Discuss the impact and domino effect of successful campaigns and victories on other nurses’ collective bargaining efforts.
- Discuss how the public’s response to nurses’ message can help to achieve better outcomes for nurses and patients.
- Identify the ways in which the bargaining units involved in the campaign were strengthened.

**Safe Nurse Staffing Data: Enforcing Standards Statewide (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)**

**Purpose Statement:** The historic staffing victories and legislation won by NY unionized nurses for registered nurses through collective bargaining and collective action create opportunities for bedside nurses to advocate and improve conditions for their patients and their practice. The safe staffing legislation went into effect in 2022, and through the formation of provider level staffing committees, it gives our nurses a voice in developing and maintaining minimum staffing standards that have a statewide accountability mechanism. Additionally, collective bargaining and collective action in 2022 and 2023 yielded contractual enforcement standards that for the first time have significant penalties for providers that violate safe patient staffing.

This workshop will empower nurses to enforce their staffing standards in their facilities via collective bargaining agreements or the new staffing law or both through the use of concerted data collection. It will produce the ability to create a self-sustaining enforcement mechanism through which nurses can continue to protect their patients and their practice.

**Learning outcome:** Participants will recognize the value of statewide staffing law opportunities in collective bargaining agreements to enforce staffing, and use RN generated data to enforce standards set in collective bargaining agreements and the state law.

**Objectives:**
- Describe the statewide staffing law passed in 2021, and its enforcement capacity.
- Identify tactics that can be used in the facility to enforce standards set in the CBAs and the guidelines required by law.
- Examine how to implement these tactics on a unit, in a facility, and in a health system.
- Discuss how these tactics can be used long-term to facilitate perpetual enforcement of staffing standards.
- Identify opportunities in participant units or facilities to engage on these tactics and create model plans to facilitate implementation.

**Mental Health (In)Justice: The Struggle for an Inclusive and Just Healthcare System for Nurses and Patients (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)**

**Purpose Statement:** Health, according to the World Health Organization, is "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease and infirmity." Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being, which affects how we think, feel, and act and helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. As nurses, with highly stressful and demanding jobs, it is important to understand, recognize and prevent the onset of mental health issues. It is equally important to understand our patients’ medical needs holistically, including their patients’ mental health needs, and how much is affected by existing social structures. Since the early 19th century, there has been a huge shift in how both the medical profession, policy makers, healthcare providers and society, as a whole, understand mental health, the causes of mental illness, and treatment of mental health. It is crucial that nurses learn about the broader societal issues that include systems of oppression, precarious economic and social well-being and a lack of social structures and systems, especially for the most vulnerable, as impacting our patients’ health. Patient advocacy around mental health resources must include access to care, improved funding for mental health services as well as removing the social structural barriers which have the greatest impact.

**Learning outcome:** At the conclusion of the program, participants will value how to advocate for themselves and their patients to remove structural inequities in order to improve their and their patients’ mental health and wellbeing.

**Objectives:**
- Examine the evolution of the understanding of mental health and the need for prevention and protection.
- Recognize that many causes of mental health conditions are rooted in structural/social/workplace circumstances.
- Examine social conditions and circumstances, especially systems of oppression, as potential causes of mental illness.
- Identify two ways in which by promoting patient and nurse advocacy, nurses can contribute to dismantling the unjust systems that provoke mental health issues in their patients, themselves and their coworkers.

**Solidarity Can Save Us: Nurses Defending Democracy, Public Health, and Well-Being (2.0 CH/.2 CEU)**

**Purpose Statement:** This workshop will present examples of campaigns where nurse union members developed strategies to connect improved public health outcomes to defending democracy, showing that nurses’ vision and
advocacy for a just and democratic society built on values of care, compassion, and community are key to defeating the existential threat of anti-democratic attacks on our healthcare system, our unions, and our lives.

Learning Outcome: Participants will compare and contrast democratic and anti-democratic systems and the potential impacts on public health outcomes.

Objectives:
- Discuss examples of threats to democracy throughout the country and across the globe and its impacts on healthcare.
- Describe health disparities caused by systemic racism and gender oppression.
- Discuss examples of nurse advocacy to improve public health outcomes.

Learning Outcome: Nurses will be able to identify potential coalition partners and discuss strategies to build coalitions.

Objectives:
- Discuss why it’s important to build coalitions.
- Describe how to build strategic coalitions.
- Discuss examples of nurses building coalitions and their impact on patient outcomes.

Nurses Building Political Power – How and Why We Build Coalitions (2.0 CH/.2CEU)

Purpose Statement: This workshop will examine campaigns where nurse union members successfully connected their issues to coalition partners like community groups, community leaders, and elected leaders. When we build strong coalitions, we expand our capacity and broaden our influence. This workshop will help us link this strategy to our contract campaigns as well.

Learning Outcome: Nurses will recognize the interconnectedness of self and others and identify exercises that help regulate mood and reduce stress.

Objectives:
- Demonstrate gentle Qi Gong movements of the body to help reduce stress.
- Demonstrate tapping, otherwise referred to as emotional freedom technique.
- Explain how mindful concentration and Reiki can regulate mood.

Relaxation and Self-Healing: Holistic Nursing as a Way of Life (2.0 CH/2 CEU)

Purpose Statement: Holistic Nursing is an attitude, a philosophy and a way of being that requires nurses to integrate self-care, self-responsibility, spirituality, and reflection in their lives. The practice of holistic nursing will often lead the nurse to greater awareness of the interconnectedness of self, others, nature, spirit and relationship with the global community. Participants of this program will be offered an opportunity to learn basic theory and practice components related to exercise, regulated breathing, mindful concentration, and gentle movements of the body that help regulate mood and reduce stress and are used as a means to maximize transpersonal care.

Learning Outcome: Nurses will recognize the interconnectedness of self and others and identify exercises that help regulate mood and reduce stress.

Objectives:
- Discuss gentle Qi Gong movements of the body to help reduce stress.
- Demonstrate tapping, otherwise referred to as emotional freedom technique.
- Explain how mindful concentration and Reiki can regulate mood.

The New York State Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Centers Commission on Accreditation.

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Declaration of Vested Interest: None

Participants will be eligible to earn up to 12 CH and 1.2 IACET CEUs for attending this year's Convention programs.