



100th Anniversary



**Nevada State Board of
Nursing
1923-2023**

Nevada State Board of **NURSING**

For over 100 years, the Nevada State Board of Nursing (NSBN) has regulated the practice of nursing. This special edition newsletter is dedicated to all those nurses who have worked over the last 100 years caring for patients and the citizens of Nevada.

Cathy Dinauer, Executive Director
Nevada State Board of Nursing

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2022 Board Members



Susan S. VanBeuge, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC,
FAANP, FAAN, Board President



Richelle O'Driscoll, Consumer Member,
Vice-President



Cheryl Maes, PH.D., APRN, FNP-BC, Board
Secretary



Jacob Watts, MBA, CNA



Branden Murphy, MSNed, CPN, CCRN



Ovidia McGuinness, LPN



Elizabeth Trilops, RN, MBA/HCM

2022

Nursing Board Staff Members

Executive Director

Catherine Dinauer, MSN, RN, FRE

Executive Staff

Fred Olmstead, Esq.

General Counsel & Accounting

Kimberly A. Arguello, Esq.

General Counsel & Information Technology

Sam McCord, BSN, RN

Director of Investigations and Discipline

Michelle Johnson, EdD, MS, APRN, CPNP-PC

Director of Nursing Education

Gail Trujillo, MS, CPM, SHRM-CP

Director of Licensure and Certification & Human Resources

Corina Jimenez

Executive Assistant

Investigation & Monitoring

Barbara Day, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, OCN, HPCN

APRN Consultant & Investigator

Elaine Ralph, MSN, BSN, RN, FN-CSP

Monitoring and Probation Investigator

Cynthia Peterson, RN, CLNC, CHCQM

Investigator

Rebecca Colunga-Garcia, MSN, RN

Investigator

Ray Martinez

Investigator

Christie Daliposon

Audit Investigator

Licensure & Certification

Patty Towler

Licensure and Certification Lead

Ariadna Ramos Zavala

Licensing and Certification Specialist

Sandy Webb

Licensing and Certification Specialist

LaShaun Thompson

Licensing and Certification Technician

Christina Lovato

Licensing and Certification Technician

Madison Webb

Licensing and Certification Technician

Gabriela Hernandez-Aguilar

Licensing and Certification Technician

Courteney Baccei

Fingerprint Specialist

C. Ryan Mann, MSN, RN

Application Eligibility Specialist

Support

Kristie Neuhauser

Accountant

Rhoda Hernandez

Technology and Computer Systems Specialist

Hannah Boll-Matulis

Management Assistant

Cydnee Perez

Management Assistant

Tamara Pachak, BSN, RN

CNA Training Program Specialist

The Beginning of the Nevada State Board of Nursing

The Nevada State Board of Nursing (NSBN) was created by statute in 1923. Trained nurses organized and with support from the Nevada State Medical Society petitioned the Nevada State Legislature to establish a State Board of Nurse Examiners.

Marguerite Gosse, a member of the Nevada Assembly (1922-1924) was responsible for passage of legislation requiring examination and certification of graduate nurses.



At that time, Governor James Scrugham was asked to appoint three registered graduates to the Board of Nurse Examiners who would meet regularly to provide publicly announced examinations and de-

velop lists of training programs.

The three women, Mary Evans, Emma Springmeyer and Alice Craven Board members of the Nevada Nursing organization, were instrumental in the passage of the law. The \$10 examination fee for registration allowed nurses to put RN after their names. RNs earned more money and the registration law reportedly increased the efficiency and standing of the nursing profession in Nevada.

Mary Evans, the first president of the Board of Nurse Examiners, was issued the first nursing license in Nevada. Between 1923 and 1931, there were 196 licenses issued.



Important Dates in Nevada Nursing History

1912-Sister's Hospital became St. Mary's Hospital in Reno. They established as the first nurse training program in Nevada. At that time, 18 nurses graduated. Nurses earned a monthly salary of \$50 and full employment.

1923-Assemblywoman Marguerite Gosse pushes for the regulation of nursing . AB 82 was signed into law.

1931-The Nevada Nurses Association (NNA) incorporated and District 1 was formed. The purpose of the organization was to establish a code of ethics, improved standards of nursing, and establish reciprocity between Nevada Nurses and those of other coun-

I attribute my success to this—I never gave or took any excuse. (Florence Nightingale)

1945- A Committee was established to study practical nursing in Nevada.

1949– The Professional Nurse Practice Act was amended to reinforce mandatory registration and provide penalties for violations. Practical Nurses became regulated.

1957– The first Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program in Nevada was established at UNR.

1963- Two LPNs were added to the Nevada State Board of Nursing.

1964- Nurse Training Act passed; it helped finance nursing education and the building of nursing schools.

1965- The first Associate Degree Program was established at Nevada Southern University.

1968– The first Refresher Course was established for inactive RNS.

1973- A Consumer member was added to the Board which resulted in a total of six board members.

1979– Nurse practitioners became regulated.

1982- 30 hours of continuing education become mandatory for re-licensure.

1989- The Nevada State Board of Nursing is given authority to regulate nursing assistants.

1994- The Nevada State Board of Nursing Alternative to Discipline Program is initiated.

1994– The Nevada State Board of Nursing begins fingerprinting all initial applicants for licensure and certification.

1995- A CNA was added to the Nevada State Board of Nursing for a total of seven members.

2003- Nurses are required to take 4 hours of continuing education related to bioterrorism.

2010- The Nevada State Board of Nursing begins fingerprinting applicants on renewal.

2012- The Nevada State Board of Nursing is given authority to regulate medication-aides certified.

2013- APRNS are given full practice authority in Nevada.

2018- Nevada State Board of Nursing becomes fully automated using an online licensure system, Optimal Regulatory Board System (ORBS).

2021- AB 91 requires that one Board member be an APRN.



Nevada State Board of Nursing's Executive Directors

Mary E. Williams (1951-1956)

Smiley Klaich Bayless (1956-1961)

Dorothy Button (1966-1967)

Della Fitzgerald (1961-1965)

Gertrude Baker (1965-1966)

Jean Peavy (1967-1982)

Lonna Burress (1984-1996)

Kathy Apple (1996-2002)

Debra Scott (2002-2016)

Cathy Dinauer (2016-Present)

Did you know?

1923

Mary Evans is the first nurse to be
licensed in Nevada

1949

Cleo Foster is the first LPN to be
licensed in Nevada

1986

Lawrence Krepps is issued the first
CNA certificate

1986

David Halfner and Stephen Panter are
the first CRNAs in Nevada

1987

Hazel Liston is the first APN in Nevada

1994

Pamela Altringer is the first EMS RN in
Nevada

LOOKING BACK 20 YEARS

The Nevada Board of Nursing is responsible for the licensure of nurses and certification of certified nursing assistants and medication aides-certified. The Board is also responsible for the approval of all pre-licensure nursing programs, certified nursing assistant training programs and the discipline of licensees and certificate holders who violate the Nevada Nurse Practice Act. Over the past two decades Nevada has seen a significant growth in the number of its licensees, certificate holders and education programs.



NURSES BY THE NUMBERS

2000	-	18,500 RNs/LPNs	-	5,400 CNAs	-	305 APRNs	-	67 CRNAs
2010	-	30,000 RNs/LPNs	-	7,200 CNAs	-	664 APRNs	-	140 CRNAs
2020	-	47,800 RNs/LPNs	-	9,000 CNAs	-	2,872 APRNs	-	194 CRNAs



EDUCATION IN NEVADA

2000	-	6 Fully approved nursing programs	-	312 Pre-licensure graduates
2010	-	9 Fully approved nursing programs	-	876 Pre-licensure graduates
2020	-	12 Fully approved nursing programs	-	1,224 Pre-licensure graduates

History of the 100th Anniversary Pin



The Nevada State Board of Nursing has designed this special commemorative pin to honor the 100th anniversary of the NSBN. This commemorative pin represents not only the nurses of Nevada but represents our great state of Nevada. The great Seal of the State of Nevada is derived from the Seal of the Territory of Nevada. The official seal state seal of Nevada displays many symbols that best describe the state's rich history.

If you are interested in getting a pin, please stop by one of our offices either in Reno or Las Vegas. You may also contact us at: nursingboard@nsbn.state.nv.us

A Message From the NSBN Board President:

Greetings from your Nevada State of Nursing President. It is an honor to serve as the Board President during the occasion of the 100th anniversary. Over the past 100 years, many changes have been seen in the nursing profession from role development to nursing leadership. We have so many milestones to be proud. As a member of the Nevada State Board of Nursing, it is an honor to serve as part of a long line of nursing and public leaders.

As we reflect on our history, there have been 109 board members who have served the Nevada State Board of Nursing. The board is made up of a consumer member, certified nursing assistant (CNA) member, licensed practical nurse (LPN) member, and four registered nurse (RN) members. Most recently, the law changed to include an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) member who is also one of the RN members. Each member brings a unique perspective and their experience from practice. If we were to add those years of collective experience, I suspect it would be in the 1,000's of years!

Looking forward, there are many wonderful events ahead as nursing continues to grow, transform, and modernize. There are so many opportunities for nurses at all levels of education to provide care, participate in education, represent as policy makers, and assume leadership positions in every area of health care. Nurses play an important role in the delivery of care as well as the leadership and management of health care organizations.

Let's take time to look back and thank our colleagues whose leadership and vision brought us to 2023. At the same time, we can look forward to a bright future for all nurses filling vital roles in every aspect of care delivery, policy, education, and leadership as we navigate the next 100 years of the Nevada State Board of Nursing.

Warm Regards,
Susan VanBeuge, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN
Board President, Nevada State Board of Nursing

Meet the staff!

We have 18 staff members in Reno, 9 in Las Vegas, for a total of 27.

LAS VEGAS



Back Row: Ariadna Ramos, Rebecca Colunga-Garcia, Christina Lovato, Corina Jimenez, Sandy Webb. Front Row: Patty Towler, Michelle Johnson, Lashaun Thompson, Kim Arguello.

RENO



Back Row: Courtney Baccei, Cathy Dinauer, Gabriela Hernandez-Aguilar, Ray Martinez, Barbara Day, Tamara Pachak, Fred Olmstead. Middle Row: Rhoda Hernandez, Christie Daliposon, Kristie Neuhauser, Cindy Peterson, Cydnee Perez. Front Row: Ryan Mann, Gail Trujillo, Elaine Ralph, Sam McCord, Hannah Boll-Matulis, Madison Webb.



NSBN NURSES

WHO IS PATTY TOWLER?

Staff Spotlight

My name is Patty Towler and my first day with the Nevada State Board of Nursing was on March 7, 1994. When I started with the Board of Nursing I never, in my wildest dreams, would have imaged that I was beginning a 30-year career with the agency in the licensing and certification department. I am considered the historian since I have been with the Board so long and it's not unusual to receive calls from my coworkers asking "why do we do it this way?" or "what did we used to do?" As we celebrate the Board's one hundredth-year anniversary of the Board, I can't help but reflect on all the changes and advances that I have been fortunate to be a part of with the Nevada State Board of Nursing.

Thinking back to 1994 there are many changes that come to mind when compared to our current processes. Most notably is how the Board would correspond to our licensees and certificate holders; yes, we were still using typewriters and sending hard copy letters. In addition, each day staff would print licenses or certificates that were issued during the day and place them in the mail for USPS delivery. Staff were also required to send all licensees and certificate holders renewal applications for anyone that was expiring within the subsequent 60 days. This process alone would take two days to complete. Luckily, time and technology significantly progressed and we have made many process improvements since the beginning of my tenure.

Fast forward to today, we now offer many paperless online options including online verifications for licensees and certificate holders, online initial and renewal applications, and secure instant messaging to and from applicants and licensees. In 2018, the Board upgraded it's operating system for the third time since my employment began and although change is never fun it's always for the best. Implementing and adopting to a new system was an extremely difficult process but we worked together and accomplished this challenge as a team. The nursing board and nursing practice has come a long way since I began and will continue to evolve to meet the needs of Nevada's citizens.

During my time at the Board I have been lucky to work with 4 executive directors, 6 Governors for the State of Nevada, and navigated through 15 legislative sessions and countless regulation changes. We've gone from scantrons, various test vendors, to the next generation NCLEX. I've helped train multiple new hires and assisted thousands of applicants; some through their entire nursing careers. For all these changes and many others over the last 28 years, I have been grateful to be part of such an incredible agency.

It's hard to believe that I was present for the Board's Diamond Jubilee (75th year anniversary), the 90th anniversary celebration, and now the 100th anniversary celebration. In closing, I would like to thank all of my supervisors, coworkers, nursing professionals and all those I have worked with over the last 28 years; it has been not just a pleasure but an honor to be part of such an amazing team and agency, Happy 100 years Nevada State Board of Nursing!

A HEALED BONE

The Sign of a Civilized Society

By Margaret Mead

A broken femur that has healed is evidence that another person has taken time to stay with the fallen, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended them through recovery.

Years ago, the anthropologist Margaret Mead was asked by a student what she considered to be the first sign of civilization in a culture. The student expected Mead to talk about clay pots, tools for hunting, grinding-stones, or religious artifacts.

But no. Mead said that the first evidence of civilization was a 15,000 years old fractured femur found in an archaeological site. A femur is the longest bone in the body, linking hip to knee. In societies without the benefits of modern medicine, it takes about six weeks of rest for a fractured femur to heal. This particular bone had been broken and had healed.

Mead explained that in the animal kingdom, if you break your leg, you die. You cannot run from danger, you cannot drink or hunt for food. Wounded in this way, you are meat for your predators. No creature survives a broken leg long enough for the bone to heal. You are eaten first.

A broken femur that has healed is evidence that another person has taken time to stay with the fallen, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended them through recovery. A healed femur indicates that someone has helped a fellow human, rather than abandoning them to save their own life.

“Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilization starts,” Margaret Mead said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; For, indeed, that's all who ever have.”

Ira Byock (2012). *The Best Care Possible: A Physician's Quest to Transform Care Through the End of Life*

Nevada State Board of NURSING



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