section 3

• Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN)

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OVERVIEW
The Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN) is a non-profit organization established in 1953 to promote & foster quality nursing education.

As a constituent of the National League for Nursing (NLN), CLN works closely with all the nursing schools and programs in Connecticut and supports them with numerous statewide educational initiatives related to Articulation and expanding the pool of Nursing Faculty within Connecticut.

VISION:
The Connecticut League for Nursing is the premier nursing organization within the state that facilitates access to education, resources and information for entry and professional advancement in the field of nursing.

MISSION:
To promote excellence in nursing education to build a strong and diverse nursing workforce to advance the nation’s health.

GOALS:
- To foster partnerships between academic and clinical nursing leaders that strengthens the quality and outcomes of nursing education
- Facilitate access to formal nursing education programs in the State of Connecticut.
- Provide affordable, accessible, and contemporary continuing education programs and forums that promote nurses’ professional advancement, leadership development, and managerial skills
- Support the National League for Nursing’s initiatives related to Nurse Faculty Development, Nursing Research and Nursing Workforce Demographics.
CONNECTICUT LEAGUE FOR NURSING
377 RESEARCH PARKWAY, SUITE 2D
MERIDEN, CT 06450-7160
(203) 235-6873 • WWW.CTLEAGUEFORNURSING.ORG

MEMBERSHIP
CLN is comprised of individuals and organizational members including: nurses, nurse educators, health care agencies, nursing schools and programs, as well as non-nursing organizations that support Connecticut’s nursing profession.

On an annual basis, CLN hosts two flagship events:

• RN Student Day in the Fall
• Annual Nursing Leadership Convention in the Spring

Members receive discounted registration rates to these events. Exhibitor and Sponsorship opportunities are available not only to support CLN, but market your products and services to nurses throughout Connecticut.

Join CLN Today. Become a Member!

Visit our website at www.ctleaguefornursing.org or call us at 203-235-6873 to secure an application.

HOW YOU WILL BENEFIT FROM MEMBERSHIP IN CLN:

• Jumpstart your career development plan through a variety of educational programs. Foster professional and personal growth by networking and be listed in our Annual CLN Membership Directory.

• Stay up to date with informational bulletins, CLN Newsletters, and updates on statewide nursing issues.

• Receive the “Guide to Nursing Education & Professional Development in Connecticut” outlining admission requirements for all Nursing Programs from LPN to Doctoral Degrees.

• Log into CLN’s website to post OPEN jobs and nursing positions FREE of Charge.

• Foster the development of nursing by supporting TWO annual Nurse Educator Awards for nursing excellence.
CURRENT INITIATIVES:

• Offering CLN’s **Background Check Services for Student Nurses**. Current schools include: Capital Community College, Central Connecticut State University, Gateway Community College, Goodwin College, Southern Connecticut State University, Stone Academy and the University of Connecticut.

• Championing a 3-year statewide **Simulation Teaching & Learning Initiative** (STLI) led by Linda Perfetto, President of the CLN Board of Directors.

• Participating in an **LPN to RN Fast-Track Initiative** conducted at Gateway Community College and functioning as a fiduciary for grant funds provided by the Annie E. Casey Foundation (Casey). Secured NEW grant funds in April 2012 from Casey to support statewide replication of this initiative beginning with Three Rivers Community College and Naugatuck Valley Community College in Fall of 2012.

• Promoting our **100% online RN Refresher Course** on a national scale with our partners from Charter Oak State College and secured “endorsements” from California, Hawaii, New Jersey and Ohio to market our program to their nurses seeking to return to practice.

• Participating in the **Statewide Connecticut Nursing Collaborative (CNC)** with 20 other Nursing Organizations within CT to address recommendations outlined in the RWJ/IOM Future of Nursing Report.

• Partnering with The Workplace, Inc.’s NEW **Health CareeRx Academy** to lend nursing expertise to individuals in career transitions and seeking to enter the healthcare field. CLN will conduct over (20) 3-hour CORE Skills Training Workshops, facilitate (20) 90-minute Mentoring Groups and engage in numerous one-to-one Coaching Sessions with individuals during 2012.

• Hosted the **1st Annual Elder Care Summit** featuring the NLN Advancing Care Excellence for Seniors (ACES) Curriculum. Developed through a partnership of the National League for Nursing and Community College of Philadelphia. Connecticut Statewide Supporters include: The Connecticut Association for Home Care & Hospice (CAHCH), Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities (CAHCF), LeadingAge CT, and Connecticut Assisted Living Association (CALA).
ON-LINE PROGRAMS

CLN offers various on-line education programs to assist nursing professionals with re-entry into practice, as well as, offers programs designed to assist nurses with the transition to the homecare environment.

**RN Refresher Course:**

This non-credit, certificate refresher course has been designed by the Connecticut League for Nursing in collaboration with Charter Oak State College to prepare inactive RNs to return, after an absence of three years or more, to the practice of nursing in first-level medical-surgical staff positions in hospitals, long-term care facilities, or in home care. This 100% online RN Refresher Course is also being adopted on a national scale and secured “endorsements” from California, Hawaii, New Jersey and Ohio to market our program to their nurses seeking to return to practice.

**Course Content:** The course consists of four modules, all of which are offered entirely online, thereby eliminating the need to travel to a classroom. You can access the modules at any time of day or night convenient to your schedule. You must complete all four modules to earn a refresher certificate. Should you opt to participate in only some of the modules, for personal enrichment, you will earn the associated contact hours.

**Module Descriptions:**

**Module One (NUR041) - (Theory)** This module addresses basic concepts and skills applicable in the care of patients experiencing a variety of health care problems. Concepts explored include the nature of the health care delivery system; infection control; application of the nursing process in nursing practice and patient education; nursing care of older adults; legal and ethical issues in health care; nursing care of the patient experiencing surgery; nursing care for patients with fluid/electrolyte and nutritional imbalances; nursing care for patients experiencing pain; nursing care for patients with cancer. *(Contact Hours: 45)*
Module Two (NUR042) - (Clinical) In this module, students apply concepts reviewed in module one and use decision making and critical thinking skills in caring for patients in a virtual hospital setting. The virtual hospital has realistic architecture and access to patient rooms, a nurses’ station and a medication room. Students work with complex patient simulations and learn to access information resources (including an electronic health record) that are essential for high quality patient care. The clinical experiences of this module focus on cultural aspects of care; fluid balance; electrolyte imbalances; pain; perioperative care; blood transfusions; cancer; and end-of-life care. (Prerequisites: NUR041; Contact Hours: 35)

Module Three (NUR043) - (Theory) This module addresses selected health problems affecting the respiratory, cardiac, metabolic, renal, immunologic, gastrointestinal, neurological and musculoskeletal systems for which there have been recent therapeutic advances. In each instance, the physiological and psychosocial aspects of the problem are explored, and the contemporary medical/surgical, pharmacological, and nursing regimens are described. (Prerequisites: NUR041; Contact Hours: 45)

Module Four (NUR044) - (Clinical) In this module, students apply concepts reviewed in module three and use decision making and critical thinking skills in caring for patients in a virtual hospital setting. The virtual hospital has realistic architecture and access to patient rooms, a nurses’ station and a medication room. Students work with multiple complex patient simulations and also learn to access information resources (including an electronic health record) that are essential for high quality patient care. The clinical experiences of this module focus on care of patients with asthma; emphysema and pneumonia; pulmonary embolism; acid-base balance; atrial fibrillation; hypertension; diabetes; intestinal obstruction and colorectal cancer; and total knee replacement. (Prerequisites: NUR041, NUR042, NUR043; Contact Hours: 35)
ISSUES IN HOME CARE NURSING- HCN300

Responding to identified need from the Home Care industry, the Connecticut League for Nursing and Charter Oak State College have partnered to offer an expansive 3-credit course that provides an overview of the role of the home care nurse within the evolving home health care environment.

A particular focus is to learn how to integrate the principles of home care assessment, planning, intervention, evaluation, and documentation in designing care for patients. Students utilize a “Cutting Edge” simulated learning application- “The Neighborhood” and engage in unfolding case studies by working with 11 families & 40 clients, and participate in clinical experiences within a virtual community.

Who Should Take This Course:
- Recent nursing school graduates,
- Current associate and baccalaureate degree nursing students,
- Seasoned nurses wishing to make a transition to home care from other areas of practice, and
- Other health professionals seeking a position within the home care industry

Benefits of taking HCN-300:
- Home care is expanding and there will be increased job opportunities in this area of practice;
- Adding this course on a resume will enhance your competitiveness in the hiring process; and
- For those who have had difficulty in finding employment, participation in the course will keep you engaged in nursing and prepare you for a new role that may not have been a primary focus in your undergraduate education.

To register for the course visit Charter Oak State College at www.charteroak.edu
For more Information, please email: homecare@ctleaguefornursing.org or call CLN at 203-235-6873.
HOMEHCARE ORIENTATION SOLUTIONS:
To best service your homecare agency with the orientation of new hires, the Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN) and Charter Oak State College are offering licensing of our Online Homecare Orientation Modules that were developed in collaboration with the Connecticut Association for Home Care (CAHC).

These programs are a cost-effective and flexible way to streamline and standardize the orientation process while reducing the overall time commitment of your agency’s staff. These modules are accessible to new hires 24/7 for the duration of your agency license.

Content of the Modules:

**Module One – Clinical Practice in the Home Care Environment**
- Unit One – The Evolving Role of the Home Care Nurse
- Unit Two – Components of a Home Visit
- Unit Three – Plan of Care
- Unit Four – Effective Team Communication
- Unit Five – Patient/Family Teaching Concepts

**Module Two – Home Care Regulations and Documentation Requirements**
- Unit One – Patient’s Rights, Privacy, and Confidentiality
- Unit Two – Regulations and Accreditation in Home Care
- Unit Three – Home Care Payors and Documentation Requirements
- Unit Four – OASIS

For your agency to license BOTH Homecare Orientation Modules for one-year and have your internal staff person serve as the Instructor of Record, the fee is $1,950.00.
HOMECARE ORIENTATION SOLUTIONS: (continued)

The licensing fee would provides:
• Access to the copywrited on-line Orientation Modules for one agency Instructor of Record;
• Copy of Textbooks used in course;
• A week-by-week template demonstrating one way to integrate the on-line Orientation Modules within the agency’s overall orientation program;
• Orientation/Training to the Course Content and Blackboard Platform for the Instructor of Record;
• On-line or telephone support by an “Expert Instructor” for the homecare curriculum; and
• Award of Contact Hours* for participation after validation of successful completion of all assignments

* (15) contact hours will be awarded for each Module

In addition, the Per Person Fee for registering your staff members is $250.00 (Includes both modules) plus the cost of books.

For more information or to schedule a one-hour FREE consultation, contact CLN at 203-235-6873.
ONLINE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR
HOME HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Program Overview:
This certificate program in Home Health Care Management is offered by Sacred Heart University in collaboration with the Connecticut League for Nursing. It is designed for nurses in management positions in Home Health Agencies to meet the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health (DPH) requirements. DPH requires nurses in managerial positions in home care who do not have a BSN to complete at least six credits in health care management or community health from an accredited college, university or school of nursing.

What the certificate prepares you for:
This is not a degree program but students may use the six credits earned as credit towards the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. The certificate prepares awardees for a position as a nursing supervisor in home health care consistent with the requirements of the State of CT for this position as held by a person without an earned BSN.

Course Work: Courses are offered online. The certificate is awarded after the completion of two courses.
• NU250 Leadership and Management (3 CR) or NU355 Leadership in Contemporary Nursing Practice (3 CR). These courses will focus on the professional nurse’s role in applying theory and principles of leadership and management in organizations across the health care continuum.
• NU382 Management of Home Health Care Agencies (3 CR). This course takes basic management concepts and applies them specifically to home care. Content includes financing home care including Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance; State and Federal regulations; accreditation regulations, quality improvement; concepts of case management; trends and issues in home care; legal and ethical issues in home care, and community resources.

Admission Criteria:
• Students must apply for the certificate program and enroll as a Special Student at Sacred Heart University
• There will be a $15 fee for processing the application
• Students must take the course for credit, which may later be applied to the RN to BSN degree

For More Information Contact:
Elizabeth Potenza, Department of Nursing, potenzae@sacredheart.edu or 203-416-3937
This 3-credit LPN TO RN ARTICULATION BRIDGE COURSE is sponsored by the Connecticut League for Nursing and has been approved by the Articulation Oversight Committee and the Directors of the Connecticut Associate Degree and Diploma Nursing Programs to meet the three-credit LPN to RN transition course requirement of the statewide articulation model.

Prerequisites:

• For a student to enroll in this course, they must be accepted into a Connecticut registered nurse program that participates in the Connecticut Articulation Model Agreement. In addition, they must be recommended and given permission by the director of that program to enroll in the course.

• Students must currently hold LPN licensure in the State of Connecticut.

The LPN to RN Articulation Bridge Course is designed to expand on the breadth and depth of the common content from the PNEP (Practical Nurse Education Program) and to introduce new theories, processes and skills specific to statewide registered nurse programs.

Primary content areas include:

• the nursing process;
• the utilization of critical thinking skills;
• sound decision-making principles and selected theories from the physical/social sciences, humanities, and nursing domains;
• the communication process;
• teaching/learning methodologies;
• the transition in role expectations between LPN and RN; and
• metrology.

To find out how you may meet the requirements to take this course, please speak to the nurse recruiter at the associate or diploma program you intend to apply to for admission.
100% Online RN Refresher Program

The RN Refresher Program is to assist licensed nurses currently out of practice with updating their skills for successful re-entry into practice.

www.ctleaguefornursing.org
The Connecticut Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program provides continuing education resources for an array of health professions, recruits underrepresented and disadvantaged youth and adults into health care careers and conducts health promotion activities. We help communities identify and address current and projected needs and facilitate community-academic partnerships that address local health care issues by providing these core functions.

The Connecticut AHEC Program Office, at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, brings the resources of the Health Center to virtually all of Connecticut’s 169 towns and cities. There are four AHEC regional offices in Connecticut that together provide statewide coverage. For more information about the Connecticut AHEC visit:
http://publichealth.uconn.edu/aboutus_AHEC.php

The Connecticut Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program and its four regional centers sponsor a wide range of activities designed to recruit underrepresented and disadvantaged students into higher education health careers training programs.

The Youth Health Service Corps (YHSC) is the statewide primary recruitment program for high school students in grades 9-12.

**Youth Health Service Corps Program**

In 2004, the Connecticut AHEC Program developed and implemented the Youth Health Service Corps (YHSC) which engages diverse high school students as leaders in meaningful community service that addresses community health needs. Students are trained using a six module curriculum that prepares them to serve in health care settings that provide care to underserved populations.

Once prepared, students choose independent service or group service projects to complete a minimum of fifty hours of service. YHSC has now become a national program replicated by 60 AHEC centers in 22 states across the nation. For more information about YHSC visit: http://ahecnation.org or call 203-758-1110.
Health Careers Resource Guide

The Connecticut AHEC Program developed the H.O.T. (Health Occupations and Technology) Careers in Connecticut, a comprehensive resource guide on health careers in Connecticut. Designed both for students and for adults considering a career change, the guide provides information on 100+ health professions for which there is a training program in Connecticut.

Each profession includes basic descriptions, academic requirements, places of employment, employment trends, licensure/certification, professional organizations and salary ranges.

Additional information is provided on the nursing career pathway, minority enrichment programs, student self-assessment and web links. The guide is available on the web at www.HealthCareersinCT.com.
ASNC is a professional organization of school nurses and school nurse administrators who are actively involved in school nursing and school health administration. We also welcome nurses who are interested in school nursing.

VISION STATEMENT
The Association of School Nurses of Connecticut is recognized as a leader in the promotion of student health, education and effective school nursing practice.

MISSION STATEMENT - Association of School Nurses of CT
Is to support and enhance the effectiveness of school nurses in their specialty practice by empowering them to develop and implement comprehensive school health programs which serve the health needs of children, their families and the school community thus strengthening the educational process of Connecticut children.

MISSION STATEMENT: National Association of School Nurses
Is to advance the practice of school nursing and provide leadership in the delivery of quality health programs to the school community.

Goals:
• To promote and advance the quality of school health and health education, statewide.
• To promote the highest professional and educational advancement of school nurses.
• To promote research to enhance excellence in school nursing.

Membership
• All active members of the Association must be registered nurses engaged in school nursing, or school nurse administration

Benefits of Joining ASNC/NASN
• NASN Newsletter/JOSN 6/year and ASNC Newsletter 4/year
• Scholarships, grants and awards
• Continuing education credits from ASNC and NASN
• Annual NASN Conference /ASNC dinner meetings
• Networking opportunities with peers
• Discussion Lists and Weekly NASN Digest
• Leadership opportunities within the organization
• Legislation updates on School Nursing and Children’s Health
Professional society for APRN's in Connecticut for the advancement of the role of the APRN. We employ our own lobbyist to help promote the profession.

Membership Benefits:

- Full service organization providing continuing education, public relations support and review of legal guidelines for practice
- Access to mentors/preceptors
- Professional networking with access to membership directory
- Annual continuing education conferences
- Community service events that pursue health maintenance and disease prevention; coordinate activities to increase awareness and knowledge of the role of the APRN
- Job postings on website
- Informative website with activities and professional highlights
- Reduced membership rates to AANP and ACNP

For more information, contact:

Vanessa Pomarico, MSN, FNP-BC, APRN
President
Phone 203-710-1480
Email president@ctaprans.org
Established in 1970, The Connecticut Association for Home Care and Hospice (CAHCH) is a non-profit organization leading and representing home health and hospice providers in Connecticut.

CAHCH is dedicated to serving its members by providing leadership in shaping the future of home health care policy, regulation, and legislation to ensure accessibility of quality home care, hospice and community-based health services for Connecticut’s residents.

CAHCH hosts over 80 educational programs each year including webinars, teleconference, and in-person training sessions. The Association invites students to become individual members and participate in its many educational offerings. CAHCH issues a weekly e-newsletter as well as clinical and regulatory bulletins and legislative updates on pressing issues affecting home health providers around procedural and reimbursement issues on both the State and Federal level. CAHCH is actively involved in statewide initiatives to address workforce recruitment and continuing education/career ladder opportunities in home and community-based care.

CAHCH hosts peer networking meetings for 12 special interest groups (SIGs) that meet regularly throughout the year. SIGs are forums for exchanging information and discussing issues common to certain professional disciplines including: Agency Directors, Clinical Supervisors, Companion Agencies, Financial Managers, Home Health Aides & Supervisors, Hospice Coordinators, Human Resources, Marketing & Fundraising, Medical Social Workers, Therapists & Rehabilitation Supervisors and Quality Management.

Visit www.cahch.org to register for educational opportunities, learn about how to become an individual member of CAHCH, and to view a listing of member home health and hospice agencies in Connecticut.
The Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to enhance health and wellness of all individuals and communities through public health nursing practice.

Our mission is to provide expertise in public health nursing in areas of leadership, advocacy, education, and collaboration. CAPHN’s Vision is to advance the role and identity of Public Health Nursing workforce by advocating for all Registered Nurses who work to prevent disease, promote and protect the health of Connecticut communities.

Through active leadership with practice partners and by practicing to the fullest extent of our education and training we work to continually improve the quality of health and life for the citizens of our state and country.

**Membership Benefits: By joining our association you will:**

1) Become an active advocate for improving the quality of health and life for the citizens of Connecticut.
2) Keep abreast of the current healthcare issues and healthcare reform that effect all of our lives.
3) Enjoy the comradeship of colleagues that will empower you to do the work of Public Health Nursing.
4) Join the professional efforts to improve the level of practice for Public Health Nurses.
5) Gain pride and recognition for the work and efforts you put forth in practicing Public Health Nursing.

For more information contact Membership Committee Chair:
Beth Ann Mertz: mertb001@hartford.gov
CT Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN)

Promoting Nurses to Improve the Health of Our Hispanic Community

The Connecticut Chapter offers nurses numerous professional development opportunities to foster career development. We are also involved in many local organizations that work towards addressing the issues that affect the CT community: such as obesity, breast cancer, available health care to all CT citizens, the environment and just as important the future of our profession. We are currently participating in:

- Get Healthy CT Task Force, the Muevete USA Campaign
- Fairfield County Environmental Justice Network
- Comité Hispano Pro Implementación de la Reforma de Salud (CHIRS)
- CNA and CNL the Future of nursing discussions
- A relationship with CT Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation

National Membership Benefits
As a member of NAHN™, you have a voice in national issues impacting the health care of Hispanics. All members are eligible to participate in NAHN™ activities, to be candidates for NAHN™ elected positions, and participate in the election of NAHN™ board members. Benefits of membership include continuing education, professional networking, and leadership development. Visit www.nahnnet.org for more information.

- Subscription to the NAHN™ quarterly journal Hispanic Health Care International (HHCI)
- Annual National Conference with Continuing Education Unit (CEU)
- Quarterly electronic newsletter
- Scholarship opportunities for students

Chapter Membership Benefits
Connecticut Chapter provides members with the opportunity to address issues impacting health care of Hispanics at the local and state levels. Benefits of chapter membership include local continuing education, professional and social networking.

- Local awards and scholarships and networking opportunities
- Regular meetings to discuss local community issues
- Chapter newsletter on local activities, events, and job opportunities
- Chapter events: conferences, leadership training and networking
- Student nurse mentorship programs

Contact: Maria D. Krol DNP (c), MSN, RNC-NIC,
203-610-9528 mkroletctchapter@gmail.com
The Emergency Nurses Association (ENA – www.ena.org) is the professional nursing organization that is your advocate for patient safety and excellence in emergency nursing practice. ENA serves more than 39,000 members from every segment of emergency nursing and provides leadership, professional development opportunities and representation to expand one of the most vibrant and exciting nursing professions.

The ENA state council, Connecticut Emergency Nurses Association (CTENA) exists below the national level and membership is automatically obtained upon joining the national association. State councils are chartered to implement the philosophy, objectives and leadership and serve as the decision making body at the local level. Currently, Connecticut has over 525 members.

**Membership benefits include:**
- Subscription to *Journal of Emergency Nursing*
- *ENA Connection* – ENA's newsletter keeps members up-to-date on Association activities and issues of current relevance to your profession
- Educational scholarships and research grants in the discipline of emergency nursing available through ENA Foundation
- Institute for Quality, Safety and Injury Prevention – empower emergency nurses to integrate quality, safety & injury prevention into everyday practice
- CEN, CPEN and CFRN Certification – The Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN) is the corporation responsible for certification of emergency nurses; preferred pricing
- Annual National Conference – contemporary continuing education by nationally known experts who represent diverse interests of emergency nursing; discounted member rate

**Professional educational and networking opportunities include:**
- CTENA Board of Director monthly meetings held locally and open to all members
- Attend Learn & Dine—one hour educational programs prior to Board of Director meetings every other month and earn CEUs
- TNCC and ENPC-Nationally standardized courses provided throughout the state
- ASCEND – Annual one day educational conference on November 8, 2012; discounted member rate
- ADVANCE – Annual one day strategic planning session in Dec.; open to all members
- SCOPE – Quarterly newsletter from CTENA distributed via e-mail to all Connecticut emergency nursing members

**Contact Information:**
Barbara Banda, President CTENA barbbanda@aol.com
Helen Kenny, President-Elect CTENA hmkenny@cox.net
Websites: www.ena.org; www.ctena.org
Connecticut Licensed Practical Nurses Association (CLPNA) offers professional development and growth, networking and educational opportunities such as:

- Continuing Education
  - Three Educational Seminars Annually
- Two $500 Scholarships for Members
- CLPNA Newsletter “Vital Signs” - published three times a year
- Networking with other LPN’s throughout the State
- Representation on the State Board of Examiners for Nursing
- Annual State Convention

The Objectives of CLPNA are to:

- Foster the nursing ideal of comprehensive care of the ill and aged.
- Protect the welfare and interest of Licensed Practical Nurses
- Endeavor by lawful means to secure recognition for the LPN
- Further the highest principles and ethics of the Licensed Practical Nurse
- Uphold the standards and ethics of LPN’s and interpret them to the public
- Promote the effective functioning of the LPN Association
- Cooperate with members of health groups and with organizations interested in better patient care
- Collect and distribute information on practical nursing
- Further the continuing nursing education of LPN’s
- Promote, support and speak for LPN’s in regard to legislative action
The Connecticut Nurses’ Association (CNA), established in 1904 as the professional organization of registered nurses in Connecticut, is a state/constituent member of the American Nurses Association. A member of CNA may choose to participate in the state of Connecticut membership only or elect to join for full membership in CNA and ANA. Depending on their choice of membership configuration, CNA members receive benefits and opportunities to participate in leadership positions within CNA and/or ANA.

Vision Statement
Connecticut Nurses’ Association is the magnet for Connecticut nurses – universally recognized as the force anticipating and creating the future nurses want and the public needs.

Mission Statement
The Connecticut Nurses’ Association speaks with a unified voice for nurses across all specialties, in all forums. The Association exerts its organized influence on education, legislation, and compensation to protect and advance the practice of nursing and the health of the people in CT. We connect our members to each other and to our collective passion, power and purpose.

Philosophy of CNA:
The Connecticut Nurses’ Association believes that nursing is an essential service in the health care delivery system and vital to the health status of people. The Connecticut Nurses’ Association believes:

- CNA exists to serve both the vital need of the individual nurse and the nursing profession.

- CNA members are the foundation of the association. Their contribution of time, energy, ideas and support are critical to the success of CNA.

- Participation in public policy and its generation is an essential responsibility of professional practice.

- CNA has a responsibility for health care advocacy for the citizens of CT.

- The highest ethical standards will guide the business of CNA.

- All Nurses in Connecticut should be minimally prepared with a baccalaureate degree in nursing.
The Connecticut Nurses’ Foundation (CNF) is an organization created expressly for the purpose of preserving the heritage of nursing and advancing both the art and science of nursing. Through historical research and the awarding of scholarships and research awards, the foundation ensures the availability of nurses committed to a research-based practice, while at the same time advancing the scientific foundation for the practice. The Foundation is committed to the support of its nursing peers, many of whom could not engage in academic pursuits without financial assistance.

**Mission and Goals:**
The Connecticut Nurses’ Foundation (CNF) was organized in 1983 as the charitable and philanthropic arm of the Connecticut Nurses’ Association (CNA). It’s mission is to provide developmental and strategic resources essential for CNA to achieve its objectives.

The Foundation has provided scholarships and research grants to nurses in Connecticut, has acquired and maintained a building to house the activities of the Foundation and the Association, and has maintained archives and a library of items of historic nursing significance. The Foundation has also participated in fund raising, including a capital campaign.

Since the first two $100 scholarships were awarded in 1988, the CNF has awarded over $40,000 to Connecticut nurses and student nurses.
NCBNA offers:

- The opportunity to network with professional nurses at all levels (LPN to Post Doctorial)
- Access to scholarships for nursing programs
- Access to mentors
- Professional development workshops
- The opportunity to give back to the community by participating in community service projects
- Membership in the National Black Nurses Association, Inc. (NBNA) www.nbna.org
- The opportunity to attend the Annual National Black Nurses Association annual conference and network with from across the US
- The opportunity to contribute to the NBNA Nursing Journal

For more information, contact:
Lisa Davis, MBA, BSN, RN
President, NCBNA, Inc.

If you live or work in the southern half of Connecticut, please contact the Southern Connecticut Black Nurses Association, Inc. at: www.scbna.org.
What is the SBEN?
Begun in 1905, the SBEN was established by the state government to protect the public’s health and safety by overseeing certain aspects of the practice of nursing of Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, but not Certified Nurse Aides.

The SBEN achieves this mission pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-88 by advising the Commissioner of Public Health about regulations for nursing programs and approving programs within schools of nursing, and by adjudicating complaints filed against licensed practitioners and imposing sanctions when appropriate. The SBEN takes action against the licenses of those nurses who have exhibited unsafe nursing practice. In addition, the SBEN reviews and provides advisory guidance regarding scope of practice questions.

The SBEN has 12 Board Members appointed by the Governor. Together, they meet regularly to oversee Board of Nursing activities and to take disciplinary action on nurses’ licenses as necessary.

An educated consumer is an important partner to the SBEN in making sure that unsafe nursing practice is reported. Toward that end, this information is for consumers who want to know how to register a complaint about a nurse with the Department of Public Health (DPH) for investigation and possible review by the Board.

Consumers’ Right To Know
You have the right to know who is taking care of you or your loved ones. Whenever any health care is being provided, you should always ask of the caregiver “Who are you?” and “What are your credentials?” Note the provider’s name and title.

Good health care providers are interested in your well being. They want to share their expertise to assist the patient/client to achieve the optimal level of function. Do not be afraid to ask your health care provider questions. They are there to help you.
Here is what you can expect:
• to see the license of the care provider, upon request
• confidentiality
• a copy of your health records, upon appropriate request
• the ability to refuse or terminate health care at any time
• a professional demeanor from the health care provider that respects your rights and individuality
• a choice in the involvement of your family.

What Is A Violation?
State laws (CGS Sections 19a-17 and 20-99) authorize the SBEN to take action against nurses’ licenses for conduct that fails to conform to the accepted standards of the nursing profession which may include:

• Patient/client abuse (verbal, physical, or mental)
• Negligent or incompetent care
• Illegal conduct, e.g. theft of property, fraud, misrepresentation
• Abandonment
• Lack of confidentiality
• Unprofessional conduct
• Substance abuse (drugs/alcohol)
• Sexual misconduct

If you believe that harm has been done or if you question the behavior of your nurse for any reason, call the DPH and register a complaint.

Filing Your Complaint
In order to help the DPH investigate your complaint, you should provide the following information, if possible:

• Nurse’s name (first & last), license number, and Social Security number
• Type of nurse (RN, LPN, APRN)
• What the nurse did and to whom
• Date, time & place it happened
• Nurse’s employer
• Names of witnesses, if any
• Your name and phone number
The DPH and SBEN take complaints about nurses seriously. When a complaint is received, an investigation is opened by the DPH. First, a determination is made as to whether or not the facts, as alleged, violate the Connecticut Nurse Practice Act or any other laws or regulations that govern the nurse’s practice. Although the Department investigates some anonymous complaints it is beneficial to the investigation when the Department is able to contact the complainant for additional information as needed.

If a violation appears to have occurred and the violator is an RN, LPN, or APRN, an investigation into the facts is conducted by DPH. Evidence is gathered and interviews are conducted. If the evidence supports the allegations, the nurse is invited to DPH to discuss the merits of the case and a possible remedy. This is called a Compliance Conference. If the licensee does not dispute the facts, the SBEN, DPH, and the nurse may negotiate the appropriate remedy.

If the licensee contests the charges, they are entitled to a formal hearing. During this hearing, both sides may present evidence and witnesses. Attorneys for the DPH will be present, and nurses may engage an attorney for their defense or may represent themselves. The SBEN will adjudicate the case and then issue a remedy.

Remedies vary according to the violation. These may include:
• Summary Suspension (immediate cessation of the nurse’s right to practice)
• Reprimand the licensee
• Impose a civil penalty (fine)
• Probation of the license with a set of conditions or restrictions
• Suspend the license
• Revoke the license
• Dismiss the complaint.

Never hesitate to report a seemingly incompetent or unsafe nurse. Everyone is entitled to safe nursing care. By participating in this fair process, when the situation warrants, you will have helped your SBEN and the DPH ensure that the public is protected.