2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented jointly by the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses, the American Board of Neuroscience Nursing, and the Agnes Marshall Walker Foundation
The American Association of Neuroscience Nurses (AANN), the American Board of Neuroscience Nursing (ABNN), and the Agnes Marshall Walker Foundation (AMWF) present the 2023 Annual Report. As a tri-board, AANN, ABNN, and AMWF work collaboratively to advance the science and practice of neuroscience nursing. AANN is the membership organization you can turn to for education and professional development; ABNN oversees the Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse (CNRN®) and Stroke Certified Registered Nurse (SCRN®) certification programs; and AMWF is our foundation that supports neuroscience education by offering certification, research, education, and conference grants. Together, we are the three pillars driving neuroscience nursing excellence.

This report highlights our accomplishments from March 2023 through March 2024 and looks at our goals for the duration of 2024.

The tri-board continues its collaboration on the mentorship program, with the goal of providing neuroscience professionals mentoring opportunities in clinical, research, and clinician educator pathways as well as advice on career development. AANN and ABNN also continue their collaboration with the Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional. This is an assessment-based certificate program with an online self-study educational course followed by a post-assessment. There is a 6-module program as well as an 8-module program specific to nurses working at accredited National Association of Epilepsy Centers. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more. The Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional is now in its third year, and AANN and ABNN recently worked together to develop the requirements for the renewal process. We are thrilled that nearly 1,400 nurses have completed the program.

A major accomplishment of the tri-board last year was identifying the need for a neuroscience advanced practice provider certificate program. We will have opportunities for contributors in summer 2024, and we expect the certificate program to be available in late 2025.

AANN and ABNN are also hard at work developing a spine certificate program. Similar in structure to the seizure and epilepsy certificate program, this certificate program will provide evidence-based education specific to spine, followed by a post-assessment. Contributors are currently developing the program content, and we expect it to be available for purchase in late 2024.

Over the past year, AANN kept our mission and strategic plan in mind and focused on the key areas of membership and engagement, education, and advocacy. AANN met your call for more education with several in-person and virtual events.

• The Advances in Stroke Care Conference was held in Louisville, KY, in August 2023.
• The AANN Amplify: A Virtual Stroke Symposium was held for the first time in October 2023.
• The Virtual International Neuroscience Nursing Research Symposium (INNRS) was held in January 2024.
• The Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP) Symposium and Annual Conference were held in March 2024 in Salt Lake City, UT.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines Editorial Board is working on updating the adult brain tumor, spine surgery, aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage, and care of patients with Parkinson’s disease, essential tremor, and dystonia guidelines this year.
The Education Provider Committee helped AANN achieve accreditation with distinction, the highest recognition awarded by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

The Neurological Assessment of the Hospitalized Child white paper was published, along with a corresponding toolkit. The white paper describes the essential components of the assessment, accounting for age and development. It assists the nurse in recognizing early neurological changes so that interventions can be implemented in a timely manner. The toolkit includes social media images, a sample email, newsletter content, and a press release. It can be used to educate and empower others about the importance of neuro assessments. We encourage you to share this vital resource with your neuroscience nursing colleagues.

The Neuro 101 Toolkit has been moved to our Learning Management System. The toolkit includes a quick-reference checklist that has been created for new-to-neuro nurses and preceptors supporting those who are new to neuro. Preceptor tools for orientation, travel skill acquisition, and advocacy resources are also included. The toolkit is free for AANN members and $30 for non-members.

The Journal of Neuroscience Nursing (JNN) received its highest ever impact factor of 2.3. We completed our first year with an associate editor, Dr. Lori Rhudy. And the journal was recognized as a top journal at the International Academy of Nursing Editors meeting. We continue to work on increasing the visibility of the journal on social media and YouTube. You can help us increase awareness by sharing JNN articles on social media. Remember to like and share. Please consider signing up to be a manuscript reviewer or submitting a letter to the editor or article. The JNN Editorial Board is always available for coaching assistance, if you need help.

ABNN’s certification toolkit and hospital registration program continue to be valuable resources for certificants. The toolkit includes education about the benefits of certification and sample letters to leadership to help make the case for certification. The Hospital Registration Program is an employer program designed to help nurses earn certification for the neuroscience and stroke specialties. As of March 2024, there are 56 hospitals currently participating in the Hospital Registration Program.

The CNRN program completed a job analysis study to update the content outline of the exam. The new, updated outline will be released early next year for the July 2025 exam window, so check the ABNN website in early 2025 if you want to see it.

We are proud to share that the SCRN exam is in the process of being reaccredited by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification. Reaccreditation is required every 5 years to ensure that the program is in compliance with certification exam standards, and it allows our exams to be accepted for Magnet status.

The Perceived Value of Certification Task Force has worked tirelessly to assess trends in the value of certification among nurses. The task force conducted a survey in 2021 on the value of CNRN and SCRN certifications. The task force then conducted part two of the survey with customers who did not hold the CNRN or SCRN credentials. This information helps to identify barriers to becoming certified. The results of the first survey were published in JNN, and the second-round results were shared at the Virtual INNRS.

AMWF awards grants for research, leadership, and educational pursuits. Grant recipients use the funds toward research, professional development, or certification to promote excellence in patient care.
The certification, recertification, membership, and new chapter grants are accepted on a rolling basis. AMWF also offers grants to assist with the registration fee and/or travel expenses to AANN conferences. Finally, the AMWF Research Grant is awarded to a neuroscience nurse to provide financial assistance for neuroscience nursing research projects that address the clinical practice, educational, certification, or administrative dimensions of neuroscience nursing. The new Linda Littlejohns Neuro Education Grant announced last year accepts applications in May and November each year. The new grant portal launched in early 2023 makes it easier than ever to apply for a grant. The foundation thanks everyone who donated this past year. Your support helps make our grant program possible. AMWF is proud to have granted over $230,000 to more than 400 neuroscience professionals over the past 11 years, thanks to your generosity!

Each year, the foundation donates a portion of the money raised at the Annual Conference to a local charity. This year we donated to Memory Matters Utah. This organization gives personalized care to those with Alzheimer’s or dementia and provides opportunities to socialize, play games, exercise, and make crafts. This service allows caregivers to have a break and relax knowing their loved ones are in good hands. AMWF was proud to support this worthy cause.

The foundation raises funds to award grants throughout the year. Every year on June 30, Agnes’s birthday, we hold a day of giving. Thanks to your support, we raised more than $2,000 for the 2023 Day of Giving! We encourage everyone to celebrate Agnes each June 30 with a donation.

We thank you for your continued support of AANN, ABNN, and AMWF, and we invite you to get involved!
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

AANN represents a diverse population of nurses pursuing excellence in neuroscience practice. Our organization is strengthened by our support of members regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, religion, age, sexual orientation, disability, or life experiences. It is through inclusion that we foster and respect the diverse ideas, opinions, and thoughts that ensure that AANN will continue to excel, innovate, and encourage learning and leadership. Embracing and celebrating our differences through diversity and inclusion ensures an environment of respect and engagement that will contribute to the growth and viability of the AANN organization.
AANN’S 2019–2024 STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUSES ON THREE MAIN GOAL AREAS:

MEMBERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT
Nurture an inclusive, engaged community. Involve others in decisions affecting them.

EDUCATION
Provide dynamic, relevant educational experiences.

ADVOCACY
Represent and advocate for neuroscience health.
2023 OPERATING TRENDS

2023 NET ASSETS
2023 OPERATING EXPENSES

- Conferences: 50%
- Educational Programs/Products: 14%
- Administrative: 23%
- Membership: 8%
- JNN/Newsletter Publication: 4%

2023 OPERATING REVENUE

- Conferences: 50%
- Educational Programs/Products: 26%
- Membership: 27%
- Conference Revenue: 36%
- JNN/Newsletter Publication: 6%
- Other: 5%
AMERICAN BOARD OF NEUROSCIENCE NURSING
2023–2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PhD RN ANP-BC CNRN

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PhD CRNP AGACNP-BC CCRN CNRN

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LEAH ZAMORA, CAE
MISSION
TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE PRACTICE OF NEUROSCIENCE NURSING THROUGH SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION.

VISION
EVERY PERSON WITH NEUROLOGICAL HEALTH NEEDS WILL RECEIVE CARE FROM ABNN-CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSES.
ABNN’S STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUSES ON THREE MAIN GOAL AREAS:

- Provide certification services.
- Identify and promote the value of ABNN certification and certificate programs.
- Promote a strategic and sustainable organizational structure.
2023 CNRN DATA

- **324** applicants
- **3,831** total certificants
- **527** recertified CNRN
- **160** new CNRN
- **8** alumnus CNRN
- **30** retired CNRN
- **62%** recertification rate
2023 SCRN DATA

1,401 applicants
619 recertified SCRNs
53% recertification rate
6,894 total certificants
619 recertified SCRNs
10 alumnus SCRNs
808 new SCRNs
13 retired SCRNs

SCRN
Stroke Certified Registered Nurse
2023 SEIZURE AND EPILEPSY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM DATA

56 6-module program completions

931 8-module program completions

1,377 total certificate holders
AGNES MARSHALL WALKER FOUNDATION
2023–2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
MICHELE GRIGAITIS-REYES,
DNP FNP-BC CNRN FAAN

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PhD CRNP AGACNP-BC CCRN CNRN

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CAE 2015–2023

Director at Large
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BSN RN CNRN

Director at Large
MADONA PLUEGER,
MSN APRN ACNS-BC CNRN FAES

Executive Director
MEREDITH NICHOLS,
IOM CAE 2024
MISSION
SUPPORTING NEUROSCIENCE NURSING THROUGH EDUCATION, RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND CERTIFICATION TO PROMOTE EXCELLENCE IN PATIENT CARE
“Receiving an AMWF grant allowed me the opportunity to attend the Stroke Conference and has impacted not only my career with knowledge about patients and strokes [but] has also encouraged my staff to pursue their SCRN. I will have 7 additional nurses certified by May.”

– Francine McGrotty, BSN RN SCRN

“I was extremely fortunate to receive an AMWF Grant to attend the AANN Annual Conference! This grant enabled me to attend the in-person conference for the very first time and be surrounded by all my fellow neuro nerds! While attending the conference, I gained vital knowledge to bring back to my hospital and unit, as well as an unparalleled opportunity to network with professionals from across the neuroscience nursing spectrum. I left the conference with a renewed sense of purpose and reinvigorated drive to push neuroscience nursing forward—this just would not have happened without receiving an AMWF Grant!”

– Shannon Belvel, BSN RN SCRN

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– Shannon Belvel, BSN RN SCRN

“The AMWF Grant has allowed me to expand my knowledge regarding seizure medications, special populations, and nursing considerations. The grant accelerated my career as an EMU nurse by providing more opportunity to work in the EMU and with patients with epilepsy. I have a greater ability to educate patient caregivers on antiepileptic drugs and procedures that take place in the EMU. I am grateful to have been educated and challenged to gain the Seizure and Epilepsy Certificate.”

– Carly Beier, BSN RN

“I applied for the Agnes Marshall Walker Foundation Grant for help in my new role as a stroke coordinator. Attending the conference gave me guidance on job duties and how to build a successful stroke program at Berkeley Medical Center. I went to the conference alone, but I met new friends that were just as passionate about neuroscience care. We even spent extra time together outside of the seminars to share our education ideas for nursing staff. Receiving the grant was truly an honor. Thank you for the opportunity to better care for my community in WV.”

– Jessica R. Copenhaver, BSN RN

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO AMWF IN 2023

WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF NEUROSCIENCE EDUCATION. YOUR DONATIONS MAKE AN IMPACT IN THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF NEUROSCIENCE AND STROKE NURSES.
THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO AMWF IN 2023. 
WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF NEUROSCIENCE EDUCATION.

**PLATINUM ($1,000+)**
- American Board of Neuroscience Nursing (ABNN)
- Anonymous
- Michele Grigaitis-Reyes
- Jan Hinkle
  in honor of Virginia Prendergast
- Jan Hinkle
  in honor of Cindy Sullivan
- Integra Foundation
  DaiWai Olson

**GOLD ($500–$999)**
- Erin Conahan
  in memory of Lynn Hundley
  Erin Fecske
- Pat Lane
  in honor of Sherry Fox and Lynn Hundley
  Linda Littlejohns
  MoKan Blues Chapter of AANN
- Michael Salvo
  in honor of Heather Skonier-Bear
  Triangle Chapter of AANN

**SILVER ($200–$499)**
- Joanne Hickey
  Kyna Seale
- Mona Stecker
  in honor of Eileen Krubitzer and Mary Krubitzer
- Triangle Chapter of AANN
THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO AMWF IN 2023.
WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF NEUROSCIENCE EDUCATION.

BRONZE ($50–$199)

Anonymous
in honor of all with brain tumors
Jane Arcangel
Anna Bailey
Rebecca A. Banat
Sarah B. Beam
Tracey Berlin
in memory of Lynn Hundley
Marie A. Buenvenida
Anne-Kathrin Cassier-Woidasky
Joan L. Censullo
Amy Cheung-Taylor
Megan Clark
Erin Fecske
Ebonye N. Green
Mary McKenna Guanci
in honor of Stephanie Qualls
Cindy Guede
in honor of neuro nurses stepping outside their comfort zones to do better for their patients and practice
Kim Jeznach

Lori Kennedy
Emilia Lamparska
Patricia C. Lane
Ann Leonhardt
Rachel Malloy
Melissa M. Meighan
Sam Melada
Kimberly S. Meyer
Molly Misuraca
Angela Moscho
Nursing Brains, LLC,
in honor of all neuroscience nurses
Leah Phillips-Black
in memory of Lynn Hundley
Madona D. Plueger
Kelly Podkowa
Karen D. Principe
Frances Rasool-Veal II
Lori M Rhudy
Terry Rigdon

Michael Salvo
Juan E. Sanchez
Nancy T. Scott
Tiffany Orth Sheehan
Staci Minks Smith
Julie E. Smith
in honor of neuro nurses
Bria Snyder
Mona Stecker
in memory of Lynn Hundley
Mona Stecker
in honor of Eileen Krubitzer
Andrea L. Strayer
Andrea Strayer
in honor of D6/4 and D4/4 at UW Hospital in Madison, WI
Michelle Van Demark
Bohdan Vinnychenko
Marianne Vyas
in honor of Barb Mancini
Leah Zamora
THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO AMWF IN 2023. 
WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF NEUROSCIENCE EDUCATION.

SUPPORTERS ($1–$49)

Anonymous
in honor of Linda Littlejohns
Elizabeth Arnold
Eugena Bergvall
Carol J. Blazier
Ericka Brunson-Gillespie
in honor of Louise Kennedy
Karen Bungart
Kelly Buttlar
Elizabeth Darby
Pamela S. Gehrich
Roxanna Gonzalez
Ashley Higgins
Miriam Hinther
Joan Meltyn Holmes-Asamoah
Nancy Jackson
Lourdes Januszewicz
Jason Keller
Warren Labonete
Salomé Loera
in honor of Pat Blissitt
Stephen Lombard
Barbara Martindale
Nursing Brains, LLC,
in honor of 10 years of AMWF
Rose Nkechintnyere Onyirimba
Jean Pruitt
Melissa Janette Silvera
Sarah Strzalka
Joyce Tam
Mary Ann B. Tion
Lianmari Toro-Pizarro
Sue B. Pugh
Barbara Warren-Bloms
Cynthia West
Rebecca K. Wilson
JNN Writing Excellence Award
RACHEL MALLOY, DNP RN CNRN SCRN

JNN Novice Writer Award
KATIE BROADWAY, MSN RN CNRN SCRN

Excellence in Advanced Practice Nursing Award
ELIZABETH O’B. WOODS, MSN AGACNP-BC

Excellence in Neuroscience Education Award
JESSICA TAMBE, MS RN SCRN

Mary Decker Mentorship Award
KIM B. APURADO, PhD RN CCRN CNRN SCRN

Team Harmony Award
CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER NEURO ICU NOMINATED BY KATHERINE EDUARTE

Rising Star in Clinical Practice Award
NANCY CHEUNG, RN

ABNN Certificant of the Year Award
ANGEL DUZAN, DNP RN ACCNS-AG CCRN CNRN SCRN ASC-BC

ABNN Certificant of the Year
Angel Duzan and ABNN President Marianne Beare Vyas
AMWF awarded $58,635 in grants in 2023 and, to date, $18,520 in 2024. Since 2014, AMWF has granted more than $230,000 to more than 400 nurses!

2023 GRANTS

**CNRN OR SCRN CERTIFICATION GRANT**
- Jessica Dwomick
- Efret Ghirmazion
- Susan Godersky
- Brittany Huff
- Mebin Kuriakose
- Arron McIntyre
- Mercedes Meza
- Katie Rachal
- Nicole Santel
- Jennifer Slabik
- Amanda Szpila
- Gregg Evan Tasi
- Joshua Villagran
- Megan Wallace

**RECERTIFICATION GRANT**
- Margaret Cohenour
- Brittan Hanson
- Rachel Longseth
- Janice McLaughlin
- Joy Mello
- Gustavo Ortiz
- Leland (Doug) Smith
- Leah Workman
- Huiling Yang

**ADVANCES IN STROKE CARE CONFERENCE GRANT**
- Kim Apurado
- Shannon Aston-Hill
- Stacy Bratko
- Katherine Brown
- Jessica Busboom
- Benjamin Claussen
- Jessica Copenhaver
- Melissa De Rusha
- Chelsea Dormevil
- Joshua Ernst
- Ellen Hardin
- Jennifer Hummer
- Mary Jobson-Oliver
- Theresa Maloney
- Francine McGrotty
- Cody Monyelle
- Angela Moscho
- Danielle Nielsen
- Amanda Patterson
- Ma Jessa Sacedor
- Juan Sanchez
- Shelana Taylor
- Caitlin Wilschevick

**VIRTUAL INNRS GRANT**
- Wiphawade Potisopa
## 2023 Grants (Cont.)

### Membership Grant

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<tr>
<td>Lori Allen</td>
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<td>Kristi Lueschow</td>
<td>Sheena Ramazanu</td>
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<td>Jacinda Beug</td>
<td>Crystal Gray</td>
<td>Laura Madarasz</td>
<td>Megan Rendall</td>
<td>Holly Weeks</td>
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<td>Gin Calaiacovo</td>
<td>Brittany Huff</td>
<td>Susynne McElrone</td>
<td>Ma Jessa Sacedor</td>
<td>Stephanie Winslow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genevieve Lyons Cobb</td>
<td>Jennifer Hummer</td>
<td>Priscila Medeiros</td>
<td>Tammy Sandlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberley Collise</td>
<td>Amy LaMere</td>
<td>Rachel Paciorek</td>
<td>Laura Stuart</td>
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### Research Grant

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Megan Moyer</td>
<td>Denise Rios</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Julia Valenziano</td>
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### Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional

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<tr>
<td>Priyanka Aranha</td>
<td>Megan Correia</td>
<td>Amanda Lopez</td>
<td>Madeline Rogers</td>
<td>Laura Vargas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preston Barrett</td>
<td>Angelik Cortez</td>
<td>Yan Mao</td>
<td>Ma Jessa Sacedor</td>
<td>Dara Vasquez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carly Beier</td>
<td>Katelyn Enzor</td>
<td>Kaylee Martin</td>
<td>Allison Sadler</td>
<td>MeChell Whitemon-Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Boyer</td>
<td>Lesley Kirkendall</td>
<td>Lawrence Racsa</td>
<td>Charles Shamoun</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2024 GRANTS

NEURO-APP CONFERENCE GRANT
Jasmin Stefani  Jennifer Viner

NEUROSCIENCE NURSING ANNUAL CONFERENCE GRANT
Lindsay Ahearn  Roumelia Decontreaus  Theodora Kalatzi  Amber Morgan
Cindy Blank-Reid  Ebonye Green  Lesley Kirkendall  Nobuko Okubo
Spencer Busler  Abbi Heater  Jennifer McCurry  Erica Ruggiero
Chrystal Collins  Caitlin Hengge  Sarah Meltesen  Nichole Wardle-Sanford