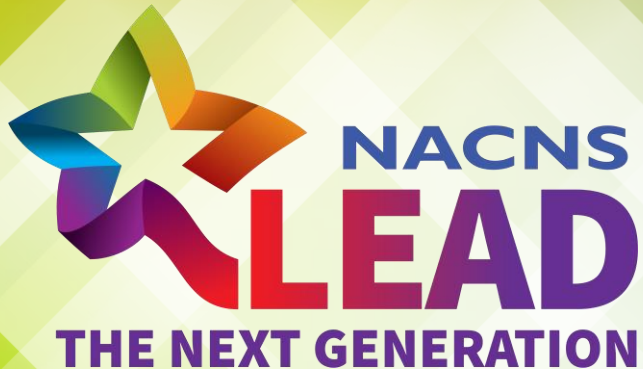


2023

NACNS Town Hall

**Leading the Next Generation: Unveiling NACNS
Achievements for the CNS Role**

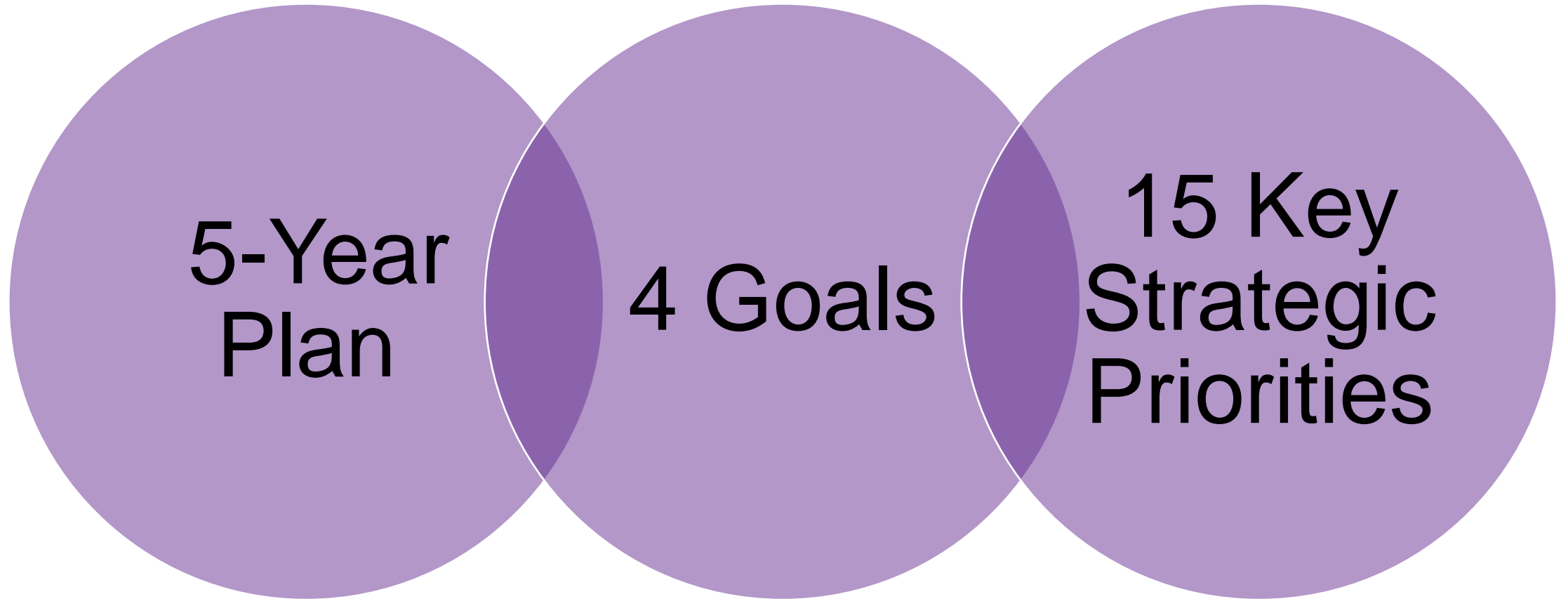
**Speaker: Mitzi M. Saunders, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC
President, NACNS**



Today's Objectives

- Communicate our strategic plan
- Identify wins and achievements
- Celebrate us!
- Describe next strategic moves
- Answer your questions and get feedback

NACNS Strategic Plan



5-Year
Plan

4 Goals

15 Key
Strategic
Priorities

NACNS: 4 Goals

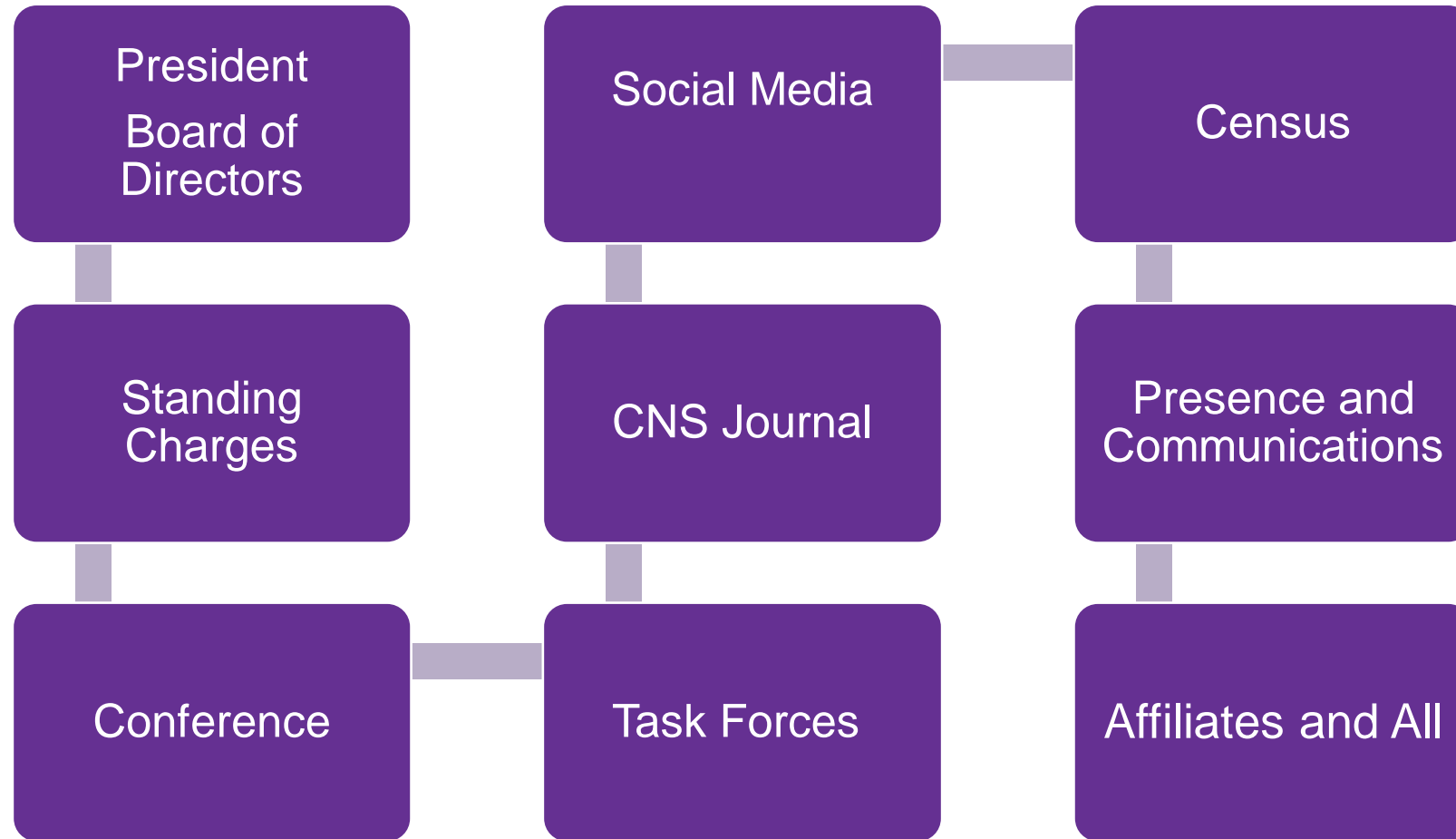
Goal 1: Show Value as an APRN

Goal 2: Embrace FPA for ALL CNSs

Goal 3: Support CNSs, entities, & CNS Programs

Goal 4: Operational Effectiveness – Increase members and recruitment

Goal 1: Show Value as an APRN



Goal 2: Embrace FPA

Position Statements, Letters, NPI Campaign, & Resources

Legislative Presence – National, State, and Local

Key Partners: ANA, APRNs/APPs, & Others

Goal 3: Support CNSs

Volunteerism

Annual
Conference

Website / YM
/ Listserv

CNS Program
Directory

CNS Week

Consultation

Awards /
Recognition

Communique

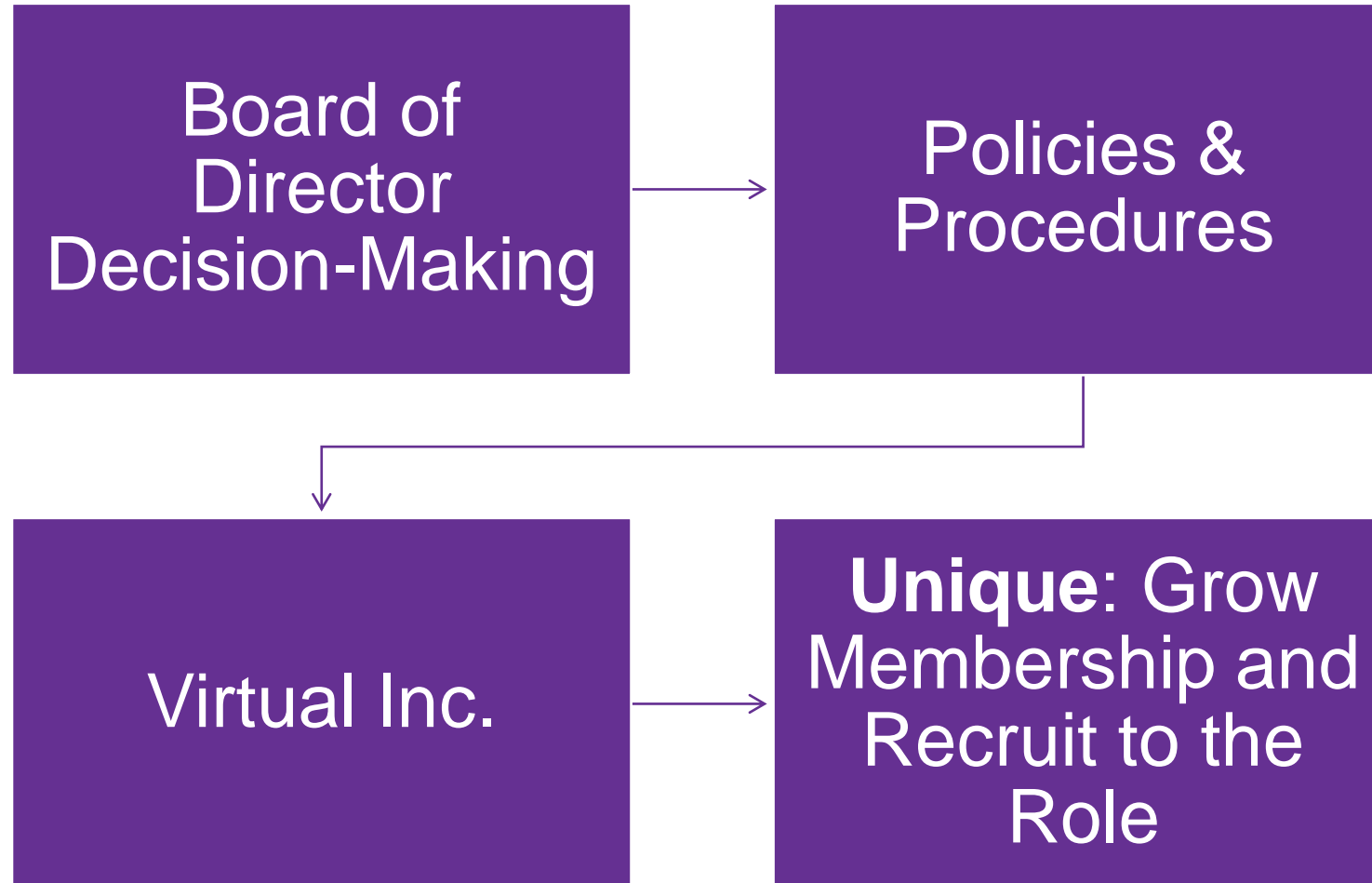
E.D.G.E.

Annual
Elections

Mentorship

Internationally
(Canada)

Goal 4: Operational Effectiveness



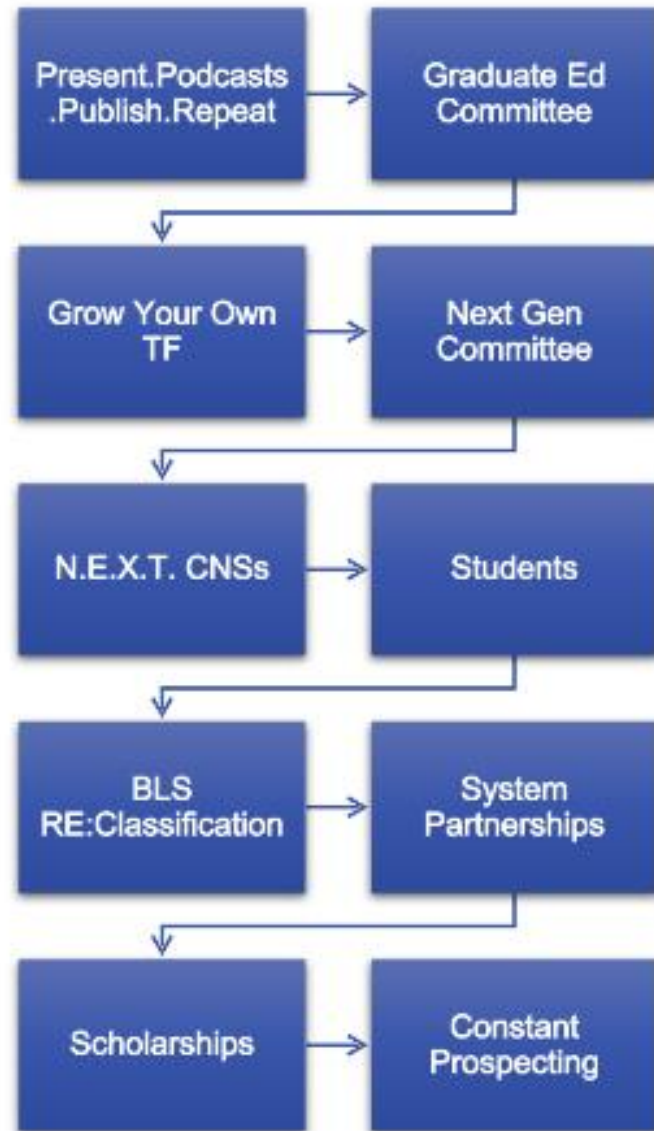
NACNS Task Forces

Goal 1 (Show Value): Statement & Branding

Goal 2 (FPA): Pain Management

Goals 3 & 4 (Support CNSs & Recruitment):
Grow Your Own

How is NACNS Addressing the CNS Shortage?



NACNS Wins and Achievements

- **Strategic Plan and Standing Charges**
- **1924 Members**
- **EDGE Learning Platform**
- **250+ Volunteers**
- **Supporting our Members**
- **New! Councils**
- **New! Center for Implementation Science – Coming March 2024**
- **New! Social Media Committee (NEXT Gen)**
- **New! Student / TTP group (N.E.X.T CNSs)**
- **New! Pain Management and Grow Your Own TFs**
- **New! Scholarships**
- **New! Booths/Representatives: NTI, NSNA, EBP Summit, AONL, ANA Assembly, Hill day**
- **New! Reports, Positions Statements, Resources**

Launched July 2022

FREE & Low cost

Newest: Hartford – Leadership
and Older Adult Care

Leadership & Entrepreneurship

More to come: Leg/Reg toolkit,
FPA, Pharm, Pain Management

Thank you! Erica and Megan,
CEC, and presenters!!!



Supporting our CNSs!

Background: Jennifer Pieffer - Peds CNS in Florida

- Group of doctor advocates for PEDS ENDO CNS full time position
- Rapidly growing diabetic population
- Came to NACNS for guidance and feedback

Today: Job approved and now credentialing and privileging hurdles





Advisors: New Councils

Past Presidents
Jan Powers

Program Directors
Lynn Mohr





Supporting CNSs in Scholarship

- **Mentorship Program**
- **EDGE**
- **Website**
- **CNS Journal**
- **Fellows**
- **Conference**

N.EX.T. CNSs (Novice to EXpert Transformational CNSs)

- Highlight student and TTP needs
- Leadership development
- Mentorship

Members: ALL Students and Transition to Practice Members





The Next Generation: Students on Committees

Heidi Ratzlaff, Danielle Smith,
Julia Chou, James Uregen,
Jennifer Gilmore, Mackenzie
Edge-Reetz, Marshall Gunnels,
Jaclyn Wiggins, Joshua
Winowiecki, Priscilla Boateng,
Donna Martinez, Madeline Quinn,
Alexis Beal, Kimberly Young,
Chris Kolokythas, and Kate
Heacock



Katie Brush Scholarship Recipients

- Stephanie Chamberlain, BSN, RN, CCRN-CMC
- Jonathan Milton, BSN, CCRN-CMC
- Amber Petty, MSN, CCRN, ACNPC-AG

Congratulations!



Mentors: New Fellows - CNS Institute

U.S. & Canada CNS Partnership

- Articulate the role
- Advance into Mexico
- Align competencies across borders



Taking a Stance: Oppose Policy by the AMA & Compact State Restrictions to Practice

- **June 2023: AMA**

- **August 2023: APRN
Compact**



Angela Mund, DNP, CRNA
President, American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology



Stephen A. Ferrara, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN
President, American Association of Nurse Practitioners



Heather Clarke, DNP, CNM, APRN, LM, FACNM
President, American College of Nurse-Midwives



Mitzi Saunders, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC
President, National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists



NACNS on the HILL!!!

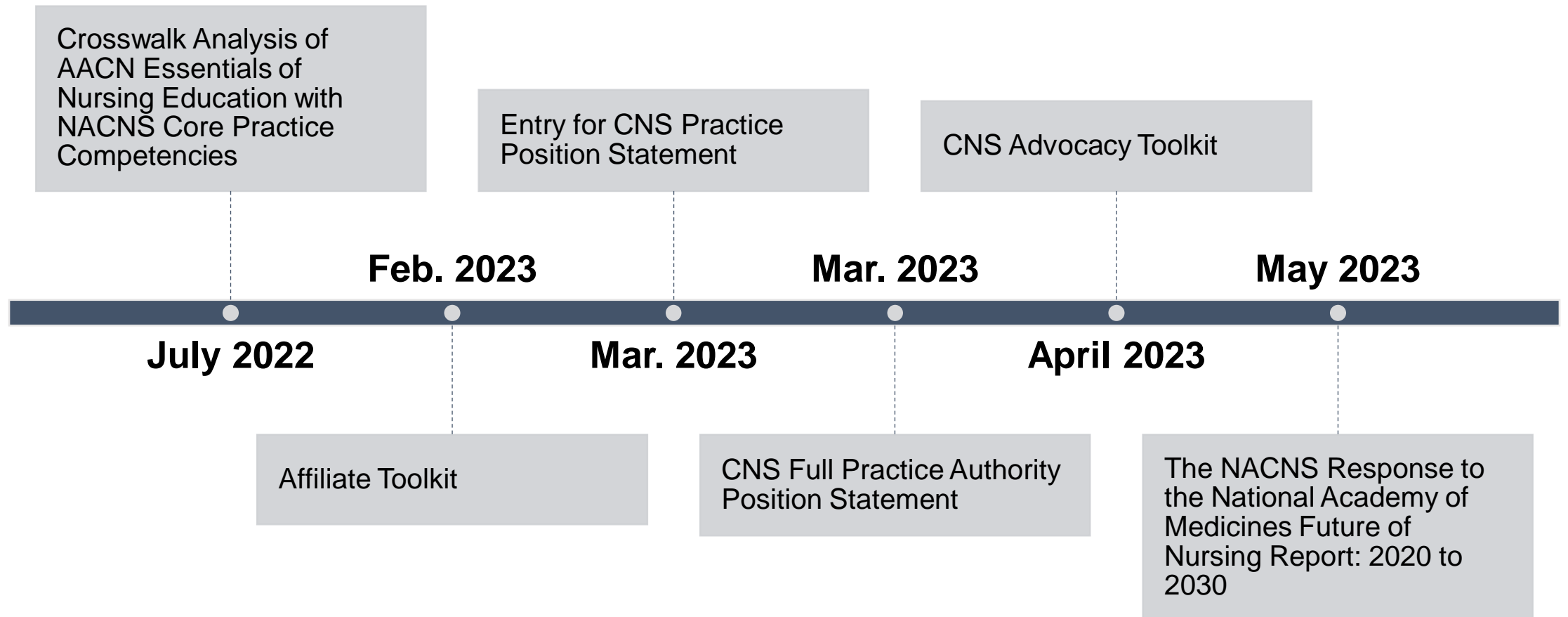
- June 15th
- CNSs taking the issues to Washington D.C.

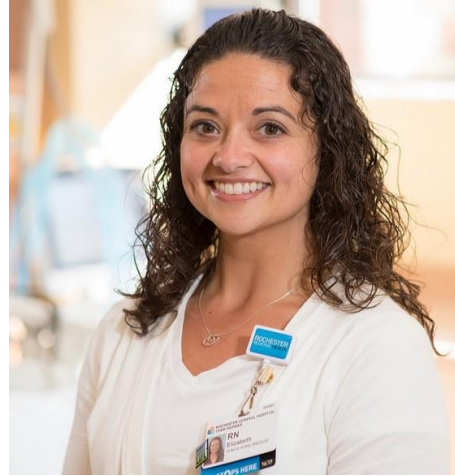


**Booth and National
Representatives**



NACNS Toolkits, Reports, & Position Statements





Celebrate Us!

2023-2024 NACNS Board of Directors

Mitzi Saunders (President)

Phyllis Whitehead (Past Pres)

Jennifer Manning (Pres Elect)

Linda Thurby-Hay (Sec/Treas)

Rick Basset (2nd year)

Cherrie Pullium (2nd year)

Susan Dresser (2nd year)

Pamela Moss (1st year)

Jackie Isler (1st year)

Amy Shay (1st year)

Janet Fulton (ex officio)





CHAMPIONS: Chairs & Co-Chairs (2023-2024)

- Affiliate Advisory: Marci Mechtal & Marcia Cornell
- Awards: Cynthia Bautista & Sagie De Guzman
- Center for Implementation Science: Janet Fulton
- Conference Planning: Mary Nichols-Lawanson & Kim Arthur
 - Sub-committee: Eric Piasecki
- DEI: Jeri Tidwell & Jeanna Ford
- Finance Committee: Linda Thurby-Hay
- Graduate Education: Patricia Tuite & Wendy Hamilton
- Leg/Reg: Elizabeth Duxbury & Elizabeth Hoxie



CHAMPIONS: Chairs & Co-Chairs (2023-2024)



- Membership: Kayla Little
- Next Gen: Magdalena Stewart
- Nominating: Faye Ari Inumerables & Kenneth Romito
- Professional Development: Julie Linder & Holly Santos
- Sub-Committee: Continuing Education:
Alisa Jaganjac
- Research, EBP, and Scholarship: Marybeth Makic & Andie Silvinski
- Website & Listserv: Jessica Camp & Yanli Jiang
- Listserv Moderator: Lisa Hopp





TASK FORCE CHAMPIONS (2023-2024)

4 Taskforces:

- NACNS/CNSI Branding TF: Justin Dilibero & Jackie Isler
- Pain Management TF: Susan Dempsey & Marilyn Bazinski
- Statement TF: Cherrie Pullium & Mary Beth Modic
- Grow Your Own: Jan Powers



CNS CHAMPIONS on National Groups

- HH/Hospice Coalition lead by GAPNA – Jeannie Meyer and Phyllis Whitehead
- Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose (CSOO) – Cindy Klaess
- LACE Steering Committee – Phyllis Whitehead
- LACE Network – Phyllis Whitehead, Jenning Manning and Mitzi Saunders
- NCC – Leg/Reg Elizabeth Duxbury, Rick Bassett, Mitzi Saunders
- AAAN Lead APRN Workgroup – Leg/Reg Phyllis Whitehead
- ENA Emergency APRN Population – Phyllis Whitehead and Jeannie Burnie
- ENA APRN – Phyllis Whitehead
- ENA Acute Care Across the Lifespan Exploratory Group – Phyllis Whitehead
- Respiratory Compromise Institute – Donna Bond
- Partnership for Chronic Disease – Polly Hansen and Cindy Kollauf
- Interagency Collaborative in Nursing Statistics (ICONS) – Ann Mayo
- ANA POLICY AND REIMBURSEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – COMING SOON

Virtual Inc. Team Members

Julie Utano, Operations Director

Juliana Gordon, Program Manager

Justin Weiss, Membership Services

Rhody Downey, Financial Analyst

Events: Kimberly Ryan, Alissa Bredbenner, Caroline Tychsen

Marketing: Kelly Mahoney, Claudia Houde

PR: Melissa Bednar & Jennifer Priest

Sales/Sponsorship: Regina Young & Mika Sonis



Next Strategic Moves for NACNS

Stay with our
Strategic Plan

Be Proactive!
(Implementation
Science)

Show outcomes
unique to APRN-
CNS practice

New Statement

Set our Brand

Monitor
Dashboards –
Respond &
Celebrate

The Next
Generation is
Key!

Never stop
communicating
– President
down is critical!

Do all the above
well

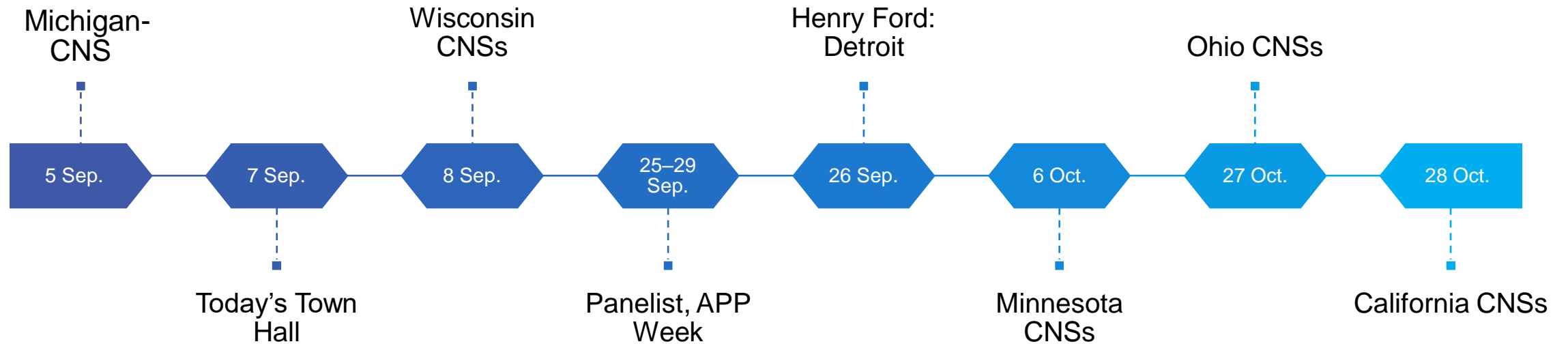
Stay
POSITIVE!!!



Single Most Important Strategy

Never stop talking about the CNS role, patient outcomes, and getting more nurses to be CNSs!

President's 2-Month Tour



Presentations, Podcasts, & Publications on CNS Role

- Nurse Alice Podcast
- BRG Nurse Executive Podcast
- APP Week Panelist
- Specialty Spotlight
- NAHN – more diversity
- JONA (November)

RN SPECIALTY SPOTLIGHT

By Mitzi M. Saunders, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, and Giulia Healden, MSN, APRN, AGCNS-BC

The Clinical Nurse Specialist

These APRNs improve the workflow of nurses in health care systems.

When I (GH) graduated with my BSN, I knew I wanted to advance my nursing education, but was unsure of which degree to pursue. After working as a nurse for a few years, I realized I wanted to obtain advanced clinical knowledge, however, the NP role did not meet my need to do more than direct patient care. Being heavily involved in shared governance groups at hospital cultivated a baseline passion in me for improving patient care and outcomes. Like many others, I wasn't aware of the clinical nurse specialist (CNS) role, and after learning it embodied my passion, I knew this was my destined career path.

What we do. The CNS is one of four advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) roles (the others are NP, nurse anesthetist, and nurse midwife). The CNS role builds on the practice of the RN in complex patient situations to design, prescribe, and implement holistic plans of care. Simultaneously, the CNS scans the environment for issues that hamper the optimal delivery of patient care. Therefore, the CNS role has three spheres of impact: direct patient care/consultation, health, measuring practice, and organizational system. This broader reach of the CNS from the bedside to the health care system can improve nursing care delivery to ultimately support the nurse. It is the CNS's impact on the nursing sphere that tends to draw nurses to this APRN role.

Another unique feature of the CNS role is versatility. For example, during the pandemic, CNSs moved into patient care roles to support nurses and designed new delivery care models to improve care. When CNSs are present, RNs have role models for professional nursing care as well as the support they need to cope with health care's many challenges.

Career opportunities. There are several paths to becoming a CNS. For nurses with a BSN, there are master's and doctoral programs. For nurses who already have a graduate nursing degree but want to add the clinical expertise of the CNS, there is a post-graduate certificate option. The three broad areas of study are neonatal, pediatric, and adult gerontology. The core components of the CNS's education are APRN-level courses in the three Ps (physical assessment, pathophysiology, and pharmacology), role-specific content courses, and a minimum of 500 clinically supervised hours. CNS students spend their clinical practicum hours between working directly with patients, families, and communities with complex needs and leading, implementing, and evaluating system-level leadership initiatives that impact the work of nurses.

Upon graduation, nurses can sit for national CNS certification through the American Nurses Credentialing Center or the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. Passing a national CNS examination is necessary in most states to obtain an APRN/CNS license to practice and bill for services.

Challenges. The industry's biggest challenge is a shortage of CNSs. More CNSs are needed to meet the increasingly complex needs of patients, our nursing workforce, and health care systems as they move toward more value-based health care.

Connecting with colleagues. The National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (NACNS; <https://nacns.org>) is the official organization and authority on CNS practice. It is led by CNS experts who readily volunteer their time and expertise to mentor and educate other CNSs, and who guide the profession forward so all CNSs have the resources they need to function optimally in the role. The NACNS hosts a conference every year in March that is well attended by CNSs all over the country, as well as globally. The NACNS website has an abundance of resources, including courses and webinars taught by CNSs, so CNSs have access to the latest innovations for implementing evidence-based practice.

Interested nurses can learn more about how to become a CNS by partnering with the program director of a local or online graduate CNS program. A CNS program directory is located on the NACNS website. It's exciting to imagine the potential positive impact on patient outcomes as more nurses choose this specialty. ▼

Mitzi M. Saunders is president of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists and professor and graduate coordinator at the University of Detroit Mercy. Giulia Healden is a graduate of the ACNS master's program. Content written by Mitzi M. Saunders, msaunders@uodm.edu. The authors have disclosed no potential conflicts of interest, financial or otherwise.

19



Nurse Executive Podcast



2020 – Year of COVID

CNS STRONG

Medscape Nurse Career
Satisfaction Report
(2021 & 2022)

- CNSs (86%) would choose being a nurse again more than other groups
(RN, LPN, NP, NM, NA)
- CNSs perceived increased career satisfaction for 2 years in a row (pandemic) more than other groups
(RN, LPN, NP, NM, NA)



HAPPY CNS WEEK!!!!

2023 NACNS Town Hall

QUESTIONS and FEEDBACK TIME

Thank you for your loyalty to NACNS!

Mitzi M. Saunders
President@nacns.org

