Dear Membership,

Greetings APGNN members!

With members all over North America, some of us have been personally affected by the current pandemic, and I truly hope everyone is staying well and safe. I thank all of you who are doing what nurses do best—being community role models and advocates for community health.

Your Board has remained very active in 2020! Prior to the quarantine, we had our retreat meeting where the hard work of the Program Committee shined putting together excellent education opportunities for our Annual Meeting. We also moved forward with our plans for the Assessment-based Certificate Accreditation Program (ACAP), which is lead by our President Elect and Clinical Practice Chair.

As a reminder to our NP members, our partnership with NAPNAP is still active and strong. If you have not taken advantage of this yet, the partnership provides a 20% discount on dual membership. NAPNAP has also been a great partner by hosting the education modules developed by our members!

To benefit our RN members, I am excited to share that we now have a similar partnership with SPN, The Society of Pediatric Nurses! This will also provide 20% discount on dual membership. Please check out this organization at www.pedsnurses.org.

I will now close with a quote from Winston Churchill: “Fear is a reaction, courage is a decision.”

Warm regards,

Teresa Carroll, APRN

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**President’s message**

**Summer 2020**

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**APGNN EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President:
Teresa Carroll
TeresaCarroll1@hotmail.com

Past-President:
Amy Donegan
Amy.donegan@nationwidechildrens.org

President-Elect
Elizabeth Burch
elizabeth.burch@childrens.harvard.edu

Secretary/Treasurer:
Kerry Reed
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Membership:
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Media:
Sharon Perry
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Patient & Family Education:
Katie Rowell
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Program Chair:
Nannette Martin
pedzfeedz@gmail.com

Research & Publications:
Sara Fidanza
sara.fidanza@childrenscolorado.org

Clinical Practice Committee:
Donna Garner
dkgarner@texaschildrens.org

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**APGNN The Association of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition Nurses**
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ELECT

Hello APGNN Members!

Echoing the other board members, I hope this newsletter finds you and your families safe and healthy. The COVID-19 pandemic has been life-altering for most people, and like many of you I am navigating the new normal of virtual visits and the “work-life balance” now that it is all occurring in the same location! Please be sure to visit www.gkids.org for COVID-19 information that is useful for families, and utilize the APGNN listserv for clinical questions and support. I have loved seeing the increase in networking and sharing of ideas over the past few months among our members.

As President Elect, I am working closely with our Clinical Practice Chair in the development of our APGNN learning modules. APGNN’s goal is to develop an Assessment-based Certificate Accreditation Program (ACAP), in which a Certificate of Pediatric Gastroenterology will be awarded to members who complete the program. There will be several learning modules covering a variety of Pediatric GI topics designed to educate both nurses and advanced practice providers.

We are currently in the phase of module development and are very excited about the ability to offer this to our membership in the upcoming years. The Clinical Practice Committee, as well as the Patient & Family Education Committee are integral in the certificate development so please contact the respective Chairs if you would like to get involved!

Stay Well,

Elizabeth Burch, MSN, RN, CPNP
APGNN President Elect

PROGRAM

Hello from North Carolina! Who would have known that 2020 would have been as crazy as it’s been! I hope you are all staying healthy and you and your families have not been too affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Planning is well underway for the transition of our 2020 Annual Meeting to a virtual platform. The meeting Task Force, lead by NASPGHAN President-elect Dr. Benjamin Gold, is working out details and exciting new opportunities in this new frontier.

Look for information to be distributed at the end of July including registration rates and scheduling details. Check the event web page here to see updates as they are available.

Please note, the dates for the conference have changed. It will now be held November 1-7. Don’t worry if you aren’t able to make every session. The meeting Task Force is making every effort to ensure the needs of all attendees are met.

Nannette Martin, CPNP
APGNN Program Chair
Pedzfeedz@gmail.com
As the new APGNN Secretary/Treasurer I am thrilled to be back on the board and a part of the exciting work the organization is doing. Despite the annual conference going virtual, APGNN has started the grant process for additional funding for future projects. We will keep you updated on funding as it progresses.

As of May 1st, 2020 TOTAL ASSETS = $ 89,354.17
  Checking Account Balance $ 34,221.88
  Savings Account Balance $ 55,132.29

The third edition of the clinical handbook was made available at the 2019 meeting. The handbook is a pocket handbook written to meet the needs of both newcomers as well as veteran providers of children with gastroenterology and nutritional problems. The initial chapters address the more common conditions seen in patients and are organized in a framework designed to provide key assessment features, diagnostic tools, and treatment options. Clinical pearls and key resources draw on the practical experience of our contributing authors, who are nursing experts in their specialty areas. The final chapters present key background information on diagnostic studies, medications, and nutritional aspects that provide a basis for the therapies used in the practice of pediatric gastroenterology.

Please use the link to order your own copy of the Clinical Practice Handbook.

Kerry Reed, APRN
Wow, who would have thought 2020 would be as crazy as it’s been! I hope everyone is surviving coronacation (as I’ve coined it) and getting back to some sort of normalcy.

As many of you have heard, this year’s conference has gone virtual. Even though we won’t be meeting in person, NASPGHAN is working hard to ensure the content delivered across the virtual platform will still maintain an excellence in education, have presentations of cutting edge research and mentorship for members and that these aspects are not only preserved, but that we also seize the opportunity to extend our outreach for the 2020 Annual Meeting with exciting new options.

Make sure to check back on the conference website as well as the APGNN social media sites for updates!

- Sharon Perry, Media Chair

PATIENT AND FAMILY EDUCATION

Patient and Family Education Committee Updates and Highlights

I want to highlight a few members from our Patient and Family education committee who are currently working on new content for the website GIkids.org!

- Jordan Trotter from Vanderbilt University Hospital has completed new content on gastrostomy tubes
- Kacie Kaufman from Children’s Mercy Hospital is working on new materials for cecostomy tubes
- Laura Brennecke from Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia is working on new content for Rumination Syndrome
- Mary Enenbach from Children’s Hospital of Omaha is working on nasogastric tubes
- Leora Hauptman from NYU is working on Sitz Marker Studies

If you have any interest in helping with the Patient in Family Education Committee now or in the future, please let me know. Please also email me with any new ideas for content for GIkids that you feel may be missing at kathryn.r.rowell@gunet.georgetown.edu.

Katie Rowell, APRN
**MEMBERSHIP**

Welcome to our newest members:

- Brittany Rogers, MSN, NP – Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY
- Kelly Van Wandelen, RN, BSN – Stanford Pediatric Gastroenterology, Palo Alto, CA
- Susan Buck, APRN-NP, PNP – Lurie Children’s Hospital, Winfield, IL
- Megan Enenbach, APRN-NP – Children’s Hospital & Medical Center, Omaha, NE
- Jennifer Cusack, RN, BSN – Ochsner Hospital for Children, New Orleans, LA
- Rachel Hoch, MSN, RN, CPNP – Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA
- Carole Rudman, RN, MSN, PNP – Lifespan Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, RI
- Julie Stueve, RN, BSN – University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE
- Christine Tomes, RN, BSN – Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI
- Kaitlyn Winkles, MSN, FNP – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
- Theresa Wiedemann, MSN – Umn Hospital, Albuquerque, NM
- Nancy Thompson, MSN, RN, CPNP – Children’s Hospital of Richmond at VCU, Richmond, VA
- Jilayne Smith, PNP-AC, MSN – Children’s Hospital Colorado, Aurora, CO
- Julianna Freeman, RN, BSN – St. Vincent Healthcare, Billings, MT
- Sarah Cunningham, MSN, FNP – Norton Children’s Medical Group, Louisville, KY
- Kathy Chojnacki, MSN, CPNP-PC/AC – Tucson Medical Center One, Tucson, AZ

Although the Annual Conference is virtual, there are still conference scholarships available. Applications are now open for the following:

- **Excellence in Mentoring**: This award is an opportunity for an APGNN member in good standing to nominate a colleague who has been a mentor to the nominate’s professional development in the field of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
- **Sue Peck Excellence in Nursing Practice (new)**: This award is to acknowledge and honor APGNN members in good standing that excel in the care of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition patients

Join our MENTORING PROGRAM!

Be a mentor or be a mentee. Our first mentor-mentee pair are Ryan Shonce-Waduge, RN, MSN, FNP-C (mentor) and Randa Samaha RN, PNP (mentee). Randa was new at her job as an IBD nurse practitioner at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. Ryan has had years of experience working with IBD patients at Levine Children’s Hospital in North Carolina.

About the mentoring program, Ryan says: “Being an APGNN mentor has been great! Although it’s hard to keep up long distance and sometimes our experiences may not be EXACTLY the same as our mentees, it is still nice to be able to connect by email and phone to check in periodically. As a mentor it has been rewarding to hear how my mentee has grown professionally and personally through the years. I hope she knows she can always reach out to me with any question or concern and I will always try my best to offer insight and guidance to the best of my ability!”

“You cannot transmit wisdom and insight to another person. The seed is already there. A good teacher touches the seed, allowing it to wake up, to sprout, and to grow.” — Thich Nhat Hanh

Randa says: “Having an APGNN mentor as a resource has been a great experience. As a less experienced NP, I really enjoy being able to reach out to her and hear how she’s handled certain situations throughout her career and presently. This is great, particularly while I’m still learning to navigate my position”.

“Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction.” — John Crosby

- Bernadette Diez, Membership Chair
APGNN Membership Application 2020

**Type of Membership**

- **Full** – Nursing professions (RN, APRN, LPN) working in GI full or part time; not Industry/Pharma
- **Associate** – Non-nursing professions (PA, RD, Social Worker, Psychologist, etc.) working full or part time in GI, resident outside US/Canada, or anyone (including nursing professions) working in Industry/Pharma
- **Joint NAPNAP Membership** – Applicants who are members of NAPNAP will receive a 20% discount
- **Joint Society of Pediatric Nurses Membership** – Applicants who are members of SPN will receive a 20% discount
- **Institution Group Payment** – Buy 3 memberships and get the 4th one free. This offer is available to both new and renewing members from the same institution. New Member Applications and Renewals for current members must be submitted together.

**Information:**

Name: ____________________________________________ Degree/s: ______________ Gender: ______ DOB: ________________

Position (LPN, RN, NP, PA, MA, SW, Psych, Research, etc.): ______________________________________________________

Employer: ____________________________________________ Setting: ______________________________

Work Address: ____________________________________________ City: _________________ State: _____ Zip Code: ______

Phone #: ______________________ Fax#: ______________________ Work Email: ________________________________________

Home Address: ____________________________________________ City: _________________ State: _____ Zip Code: ______

Phone #: ______________________ Email: ________________________________________ (Gmail, Yahoo, AOL, Hotmail, etc.)

Years in GI Practice: ______ Areas of Interest: [ ] General GI [ ] Short bowel [ ] Liver/Transplant [ ] Celiac Dz [ ] IBD
[ ] Motility [ ] Procedures [ ] Feeding/FTT [ ] Functional [ ] Allergic GI [ ] Other (please list) ______________________________________________________

Please select the APGNN committee(s) you are interested in:

- **Program** – Planning of the annual APGNN conference content (topics, speaker recruitment, etc.)
- **Research** – Review grant applications and input on research projects and initiatives
- **Patient & Family Education** – Development of patient and family educational materials
- **Membership** – Involved in recruitment and retention, revise benefits, review award applications
- **Clinical Practice** – Development of nursing education modules in a multi-media format
- **Media** – Contributes articles/ideas to quarterly newsletter and social media platforms, updating members to pertinent information (hot topics, deadlines) through these avenues

**Mentoring Program:**

Would you be interested in being a mentor or would you like to have a mentor to help you work on your professional or career goals?

[ ] Yes, I would like to be a Mentor [ ] Yes, I would like to have a Mentor [ ] No

**Payment:**

Annual Dues: $90 Full Membership / $55 Associate Membership / $72 Joint Membership

Optional (please check if you would like to include in your initial payment):

[ ] $65 Subscription to Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology & Nutrition
[ ] $10 Clinical Handbook for new members while supplies last. Use Promotional Code **APGNN2020** at check out. If you purchase this book separately, the cost is $30.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO APGNN

Credit Card (Circle): Visa Mastercard Am Express Card #: ________________________________

Exp. Date: ____________ Verification Code: ______ Name on Card: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________ Today’s Date: ____________________________

Once application is completed, send with payment to:

Gina Brown, APGNN Membership Liaison (gbrown@naspghan.org)

Mail: NASPGHAN 714 N. Bethlehem Pike, Suite 300, Ambler, PA 19002 Fax # 215-641-1995

Questions about membership please contact Bernadette Diez at bdiez@psvcare.org
RESEARCH & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

New times are upon us with the advent of the pandemic COVID-19, with science providing truth. One unexpected outcome of this pandemic is the worldwide lessons learned regarding the impact of scientific evidence in medical decision making and clinical practice. With that, the research committee continues to support EBP, QI and research to our membership. To showcase this, our first research mentorship recipient, Melba Williams, APN, University of Illinois Health and Health Science System Children’s Hospital, has received IRB approval for an EBP/QI project developed to investigate how Short Bowel Syndrome nurse education can improve knowledge and patient outcomes in the NICU. Melba’s goal is abstract submission and poster presentation at a NASPGHAN Annual Meeting.

Although the Annual Conference will be virtual this year, we are excited to announce there will still be poster presentations! We are excited to highlight the hard work of our members and showcase your research, EBP and QI projects. More information will be announced as it is released by NASPGHAN so stay tuned. Be sure to check the conference website for details.

Continuing to advance our mission, the Research Committee is soliciting EBP, QI or research questions from our members in the form of “Ask the Expert” to include in our quarterly newsletter. Please feel free to reach out to Sara Fidanza Sara.Fidanza@childrenscolorado.org with questions.

Sara Fidanza, MS, RN, CNS-BC, CPNP-PC
Chair, APGNN Research Committee

INTRODUCTION TO NURSING RESEARCH
Clinical Practice

Hello APGNN Members,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families safe and well. We are all trying to find our new norm in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of us transitioned to telemedicine visits virtually overnight and are finding a new way to continue to provide exceptional care for our patients and their families. We will all get through this together.

The Clinical Practice Committee has still been hard at work juggling life and creating our APGNN ACAP (Assessment-based Certificate Accreditation Program) Modules. Our goal as an organization is to award a Certificate of Pediatric Gastroenterology to members who complete the ACAP program. These modules will be designed to educate both nurses and advanced practice providers. They will cover a variety of pediatric GI topics such as Nutrition, Constipation and Diarrhea, Allergic GI disorders, Liver Disease, GERD and Abdominal Pain and Functional GI disorders, just to name a few.

The Clinical Practice Committee is very grateful for the teamwork of the APGNN Board and the Patient and Family Education Committee in helping to create this much needed ACAP Program. We are excited to see how it will propel GI nurses’ and advanced practice providers’ education going forward.

If you are interested in helping develop the ACAP Modules, please contact me at dkgarner3@gmail.com or dkgarner@texaschildrens.org.

I hope you and your families stay safe and healthy!

Donna Garner MSN APRN CPNP
APGNN Clinical Practice Chair.
MEET THE CANDIDATES

HELLO FELLOW APGNN MEMBERS!

I am so excited to introduce you to our current board chair candidates. Although we only have one candidate for each position this year, I am confident that these are the right candidates for the roles based on their past contributions to the organization. I hope you agree; and will all join me by voting to approve the appointment for each of them. You can either complete the ballot via this newsletter or through the email you will be receiving within the next 2 weeks that will also include the same links to the ballot. Please take the time to formally do this on the survey money link attached – you can use the QR code or the hyperlink, they will both take you to the ballot. The sooner the better but please respond within the next 2 weeks if possible. It only takes a few seconds and it is a bylaw requirement! If the link below does not work, please copy and paste in another browser.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NZYD26R

Thanks to you all, I hope you are having a great summer!

Amy Donegan APRN
Past President

PROGRAM COMMITTEE NOMINEE
Sharon Perry, MSN, RN, CPNP
Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition
Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital
11100 Euclid Ave
Cleveland, OH 44106

I am a board-certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and have worked in Pediatric Gastroenterology at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital for 17 years, both as a RN and APN. I see a variety of patients, but my primary focus is on patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease. I am also our center’s Quality Improvement Coordinator for ImproveCareNow. I have been a member of APGNN since 2012, member of the Media Committee since 2015, and served as the Media Committee chair since 2016. With my role coming to an end, I feel that I still have more to offer this organization, which is why I am running for Program Chair. The past APGNN Annual Conferences have been well rounded, full of rich content that reaches many areas of GI. I want to continue this tradition. I am fortunate to be a part of an organization that fosters novice GI nurses and celebrates the careers of the experienced GI nurse.
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NOMINEE

Donna Garner RN MSN CPNP
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
Texas Children's Liver Center
6701 Fannin CCC 1010.00
Houston, Tx 77030

I joined the Liver Center at Texas Children's Hospital in July 2005. I predominantly care for children pre- and post-liver transplant as well as with Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)/NASH. Prior to working in the TCH Liver Center, I worked as a pediatric nurse in the Texas Children's Hospital Pediatric Intensive Care Unit for 5 years. I am a member of Association of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition Nurses (APGNN). I am also a member of NAPNAP and the NAPNAP obesity SIG.

I have served as the Clinical Practice Committee Chair of APGNN for the last 4 years. In this time, we have finalized the Biliary Atresia Module that is now available on the APGNN website for CE credit. Several members of our committee along with myself have been working on 2 additional liver teaching modules for our membership. In addition, one of our goals has been to create a GI/Liver curriculum (ACAP modules) for new to GI nurses/Advanced Practice Providers that would enable them to go from novice to expert once it is completed in that particular subject area. Over the next few years, I plan to stay active in helping to finish completing the ACAP educational modules.

I'm excited about running for APGNN membership chair and want to recruit more of our GI/Liver colleagues into APGNN. APGNN offers great education and collaboration for its members. I think more of our colleagues could help strengthen our organization further if they were active members. We all continue to learn throughout our careers particularly from others with experience.

When I'm not working, I love spending time with my children, being outdoors and cooking!
MEDIA CHAIRPERSON COMMITTEE NOMINEE

Whitney Gray, CRNP
IBD Nurse Practitioner, Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition
UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
4401 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

I have been involved in pediatric GI for 5.5 years; 2 years as an RN on the GI floor and 3.5 years as an IBD Nurse Practitioner at UPMC Children’s. I have been involved with APGNN for 3.5 years and have been a member of the Media Committee for the last 2 years. I was the 2017 NASPGHAN Foundation/APGNN Susan Moyer research grant awardee for my project entitled “Impact of a Nurse Practitioner Led Teaching Program on Patient and Caregiver Knowledge of Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease.” I am a member of the National Science Advisory Council- Nurse and Advanced Practice Committee of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation and the Chair of the Education Subcommittee of the APP Advisory Committee of UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. I think, given the recent events with COVID-19, it has highlighted the role of technology in our lives to stay connected, learn, and provide healthcare. If elected, I am eager to further the presence of APGNN among its various platforms to highlight the profession of pediatric GI nurses by working closely to provide media support to the projects of the other committees. From my initial APGNN Annual Meeting in 2017, I was welcomed into the organization and feel so grateful for many of you I have gotten to know and collaborate with over the years. I hope to “pay it forward” by continuing to be involved and share my passion with nurses new to pediatric GI.
I have been a pediatric nurse since 2006, and a nurse practitioner in pediatric gastroenterology since 2012. I see general gastroenterology patients and also conduct multidisciplinary sub-specialty clinics for medically fragile children and failure to thrive children.

I have been a member of APGNN for 2 years where I have helped develop an educational module for the Clinical Practice Committee. I am a member of the Ethics Committee at Rady Children’s Hospital where I serve on the Ethics Consult Team, helping patients and providers make ethically-based medical decisions.

I am interested in serving as Chair of the Clinical Practice Committee to become more involved in APGNN, to promote its educational and research goals, and to give back to the organization that has served me so well. I want to ensure we complete our new module based educational initiative and disseminate them nationally.

I plan to meet the goals of APGNN by promoting member’s research through poster presentation submissions, strengthening our network of nurses and nurse practitioners through local and national engagement, and continuing to refine our standards of practice. I look forward to working for you and with you; thank you for your consideration of me for this position.