On May 21, thousands of nurses are going to Albany to fight for safe staffing. Join us!

Register on the next page.
Safe Staffing Day of Action

Hospital administrators are forcing nurses to take on 9, 10, or even more patients at once. That's too many!

Join hundreds of nurses, patients, other unions, and community leaders in Albany on May 21 and:

✓ Tell lawmakers about the staffing emergency.
✓ Push the Assembly and Senate to put safe nurse-to-patient ratios into the law.
✓ Be a part of the biggest rally for safe staffing in New York history!

Agenda
Program begins in Albany at 10 am. Our rally will end at 4 pm and then you will return home. A full agenda is available online at www.nysna.org/may21

Bus transportation will be provided for groups of ten or more. NYC buses will leave at 7:30 am. Pick up locations will be at various NYSNA facilities and other locations based on member registrations. You will be notified of the specific location time and place by a confirmation letter. Please be sure to include your email and cell phone to allow for efficient communication about bus information.

A box lunch will be provided.

Lodging information and directions are available at www.nysna.org/may21

For any special needs or accommodations, including dietary restrictions, please contact NYSNA Meeting and Convention Planning at (800) 724-6976, ext. 277.

Questions? Call NYSNA Meeting and Convention Planning at (800) 724-6976, ext. 277, or email mcp@nysna.org.

Contact hours: 4.5 hours
In order to receive contact hours for this program participants must attend the entire session and complete an evaluation. This workshop is awarded 4.5 contact hours through the New York State Nurses Association Accredited Provider Unit. The New York State Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

The New York State Nurses Association reserves the right to cancel the workshop due to low registration or other circumstances beyond its control.

NYSNA wishes to disclose that no commercial support was received.

Declaration of Vested Interests: None.

For a full agenda, purpose statement and objectives go to www.nysna.org/may21

Tuesday, May 21
Albany
Buses from all over New York!

Get on the bus!

Bus transportation will be provided for groups of 10 or more NYSNA members. NYC buses will leave at 7:30 am. Reserve a bus space at one of the following locations:

- BROOKLYN
- QUEENS
- MANHATTAN
- BRONX
- STATEN ISLAND
- WESTCHESTER
- LONG ISLAND
- BUFFALO
- CAPITAL DISTRICT
- MY FACILITY (Facility buses are based upon registration and not guaranteed)

For Office Use Only

Rep Name
Registered By

⇒ Return this form to your NYSNA delegate or rep. ←

or fax to 518-782-9530 or e-mail to MCP@nysna.org
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Victory! NYSNA stops the closure of LICH

From the Executive Director
By Jill Furillo, RN

For this edition of NY Nurse, I’m excited to share some incredible news. After voting, not once, but twice, to close Long Island College Hospital, SUNY reversed course and withdrew their closure plan. That means LICH is staying open for care!

Through rain, sleet, and snow, nurses have fought every day for the past six months to save Long Island College Hospital. And we won!

This victory shows the power that we have as nurses when we unite our voices to protect care for our patients!

We built a powerful coalition of patients, caregivers, doctors and elected leaders and put the full force of our union into this fight.

Nurses braved many sleepless days and nights to get on buses to Albany, to Purchase, and to City Hall to make our voices heard.

We lobbied state and local officials and made sure everyone knew that we were a force to be reckoned with, and that we would do whatever it took to keep LICH open for care.

A powerful coalition

Many elected leaders joined our fight. The New York City Council voted unanimously to adopt a resolution in support of LICH. The resolution was sponsored by Brad Lander and Stephen Levin, with the support of Speaker Christine Quinn.

Prior to nixing the plan to kill LICH – and in response to pressure from nurses and elected leaders – SUNY submitted a letter to the New York City Council saying that they would expand their search for a new operator to run the hospital.

Many people told us that it would be impossible to save our hospital. They were wrong.

We are so grateful to everyone who has worked to keep LICH open: The caregivers of 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, Concerned Physicians for LICH, Governor Cuomo, City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Borough President Marty Markowitz, State Senator Daniel Squadron, Assembly members Joan Millman and Dick Gottfried, NYC Public Advocate Bill de Blasio, District Leader Jo Anne Simon, and City Council members Brad Lander, Stephen Levin, Letitia James, and Maria Carmen del Arroyo – among many more.

The campaign to save LICH has been powered by a diverse coalition of community groups, including New York Communities for Change, the Commission on the Public’s Health System, Save Our Safety Net Coalition, Red Hook Initiative, National Action Network and Rev. Al Sharpton, Brooklyn Heights Association, Cobble Hill Association, Carroll Gardens Association, Friends of Sunset Park, Willowtown Association, and many more.

Powered by you

And I especially want to thank each and every one of you for never giving up hope that we could win this fight.

A couple months ago we won another important fight to stop the for-profit takeover of our hospitals. We united our voices and lobbied state legislators, letting them know the negative impact for-profit hospitals have had on patients across the country. The state Senate, Assembly, and Governor Cuomo listened to us! They rejected a proposal in the budget for a for-profit “pilot” project.

These victories have paved the way for nurses to win more for our patients throughout the state of New York. Our voice is stronger and more united than ever.

Let’s use that momentum to win safe RN staffing in New York State!

Get on the bus on May 21 to Albany to tell our lawmakers we need safe staffing ratios. And spread the word to every nurse you know!

In solidarity,
Jill Furillo, RN
NYSNA Executive Director
We are keeping Brooklyn

STICKING TOGETHER. LICH RNs make our voices heard while SUNY Trustees meet and conduct illegal vote to close LICH.

SPEAKING OUT. NYSNA files for and wins Temporary Restraining Order against SUNY’s plan to close LICH. Judge eventually rules SUNY vote illegal.

BUILDING A COALITION gather in Cobble Hill for care.

TAKING OUR MESSAGE TO ALBANY: LICH and Interfaith RNs march and rally in front of Dept.of Health office in Albany. DOH has authority to stop plans for cuts and closures for all New York State Hospitals.

NYSNA Board Members Tracey Kavanaugh and Sean Petty rally in the rain with Interfaith and LICH RNs in front of Brooklyn Borough Hall right before a public hearing on Brooklyn Healthcare by the NYS Committee on Health last February 8.
There’s a healthcare crisis in Brooklyn.

NYSNA RNs in Long Island College Hospital (left) and Interfaith Medical Center (right) are building a powerful movement of patients, neighbors, caregivers, small business owners, and elected leaders to keep our hospitals open for care.

Here’s how we’re responding to Brooklyn’s healthcare crisis — and how we stopped the closure of LICH.

in hospitals #Open4Care!

UNLEASHING THE POWER OF OUR MEMBERS! NYSNA members took the lead again and again to keep our hospitals open for care. NYSNA travels to Purchase as SUNY Trustees conduct another vote to close LICH. NYSNA files for and wins another TRO barring closure—this time including DOH and NYS Health Commissioner Nirav Shah.

BUILDING UNSTOPPABLE POLITICAL PRESSURE. The City Council voted unanimously to support LICH. Assembly and Senate members spoke out passionately. And the next day SUNY withdrew their plan to close LICH.
NYSNA nurses have won staffing victories at two of the most crowded EDs in NYC.

Kings County ED nurses often had patient loads of as much as 1 to 15 — or more! In January, average wait times exceeded 29 hours, with many patients waiting for two or even three days. We responded with a sustained effort to force management to provide proper staffing. We met repeatedly with management, tracked census numbers, and filed many POAs. Our work paid off, big time — management has agreed to post 50 positions in the ED. Ten per diem nurses are already starting orientation as a stopgap measure while the newly posted positions are filled. We’ll keep the pressure on for the staffing our patients deserve.

On the Montefiore Moses ED, we’ve won another staffing victory. Over the course of four weeks, we collected 50 POAs with over 300 signatures. And we reached out to our local Community Board. Management responded to our campaign almost overnight: hiring new nurses, lifting restrictions on OT, and opening up an overflow unit. Conditions are still far from ideal. We’re ready to launch the next campaign when we need to!

At Bellevue, Coney Island, and Coler, we evacuated more than 1,000 critical and acute-care patients, through darkened corridors and stairwells. We evacuated dozens of newborns attached to ventilators. Not one patient was left behind. Not one patient died.

A critical safety net

For-profit hospital chains fail our patients. That’s why HHC nurses were in the lead in our successful fight against the for-profit takeover of New York patient care. Letting for-profit hospital chains invade New York would be a direct attack on our public hospital system.

HHC is our city’s healthcare safety-net. We never turn a patient away.

If you don’t have a name, we give you one. No birth date, no problem. No insurance, we will take care of you, no matter what.

Our public hospital system is already under stress. The Mayor is not giving us the staffing our patients need — and he is trying to block us from recruiting and retaining the next generation of talented nurses.

The for-profit takeover would make that even worse. For-profits would try to cut services for “unprofitable” patients — like pediatric care. And they would try to poach away our insured patients. They would make it even easier for anti-union politicians to attack and slash our public hospital system.

We can’t let that happen.

Our fight is not over

We won round one of this fight. Even Stephen Berger, the investment banker who has done so much to let for-profits take over New York patient care, told the New York Times “This will make it much harder.” But he warned: “It doesn’t mean we’re not going to find a way to work around it.”

Our opponents are gearing up for round two of this fight. We need to keep gearing up, too. The future of our public hospital system — and New York patient care — is on the line.

A tale of two hurricanes

By Anne Bové, MSN, RN, BC, CCRN, ANP

Tenet’s executives.

They had no choice but to abandon patients in their beds with big doses of morphine.

Many died.

Compare that to how our HHC system responded to Sandy — a storm of comparable damage and intensity.

Tenet, a for-profit hospital chain, operated ten hospitals in the New Orleans area. When flood waters entered Memorial Medical Center, staffers were forced to stage their own evacuation, with no support from Tenet’s executives.

If you want a glimpse of how for-profit hospitals respond to crisis, look at Hurricane Katrina.

Staffing victories at Kings County and Montefiore!
The Fight is On Upstate

Canton-Potsdam Hospital, Olean General and Moses Ludington RNs Fight for Patient Care

Our fight for our patients is heating up at several upstate facilities. Upstate RNs are uniting for quality patient care and to win the good contracts we deserve.

Olean nurses fight for patient care

RNAs at Olean General Hospital have filed more than 1,500 Protests of Assignments in the past 14 months — and we recently surprised management during contract negotiations by papering the walls of their negotiations room with copies of the POAs.

In addition to their refusal to adequately address the severe staffing issue at the hospital, management has also proposed a plan to cut carryover of earned benefit time to just 82 hours. This unacceptable change will hurt seasoned nurses the most — those of us with twenty years or more on the job — and affects all RNs who will lose hard-earned time off.

The RNs recently canvassed the downtown area and asked Olean business owners to show their support by displaying signs that read “We support the OGH nurses in their pursuit of safe staffing – Our Community. Our Hospital. Our Nurses.”

As we go to press, a candlelight vigil was held to stand up for safe staffing on April 23 in Lincoln Park.

Canton-Potsdam connects with the community

Canton-Potsdam RNAs are already making waves in our contract fight at this North Country facility. We leafleted their community on Feb. 16 at an area winter festival — and got results! Our message to the public, asking them to call the hospital’s CEO, has already generated numerous calls and faxes. And management is taking notice.

Like Olean General, the nurses at Canton-Potsdam are facing unilateral changes to their contract including a reduction in benefit time, the threat of a pay-for-performance system and danger to licensure when asked to float without proper orientation.

Moses Ludington nurses picket for patients

The nurses at Moses Ludington are not going to sit back and watch management threaten patient care by driving away good nurses.

They picketed on March 5 in front of the hospital to oppose unilateral changes to health benefits and a plan to tie wage increases to hospital revenue. The union rat and supporters from the Greater Glens Falls Central Labor Council helped draw attention from passersby who honked their horns in support of the nurses.

ANA creates marginal NY splinter group

At our last convention, NYSNA members voted by 91 percent to leave the American Nurses Association (ANA).

Now, the ANA has created a tiny splinter group to try to compete with us. Managers and supervisors make up most of their new membership. That’s why their plan won’t work.

We voted overwhelmingly to leave because the ANA has given up on New York’s frontline bedside nurses. They have no vision and no plan to defend frontline RNs from the corporate attack on patient care.

We’re fighting the corporate healthcare agenda. The ANA is promoting it.

We’re fighting for safe staffing ratios. The ANA continues to oppose putting ratios into the law.

We are moving in a new direction. The ANA is stuck in the past.

A tiny splinter group

With more than 37,000 members, NYSNA is the largest union and association for registered nurses in New York.

ANA-NY will not even release their membership numbers. Almost all of the public members of the new group are managers and supervisors — not frontline RNs.

They are silent about the dangerous corporate attack on New York’s healthcare.

Compare that to NYSNA: we are leading the fight to save hospitals, win ratios, defend our public healthcare system, and stop the for-profit attack on our patients.

The ANA continues to oppose ratio legislation — the number one priority of NYSNA members. “The American Nurses Association, a professional trade group that advocates on behalf of both unionized and non-unionized nurses, opposes staffing ratio bills,” Kaiser Health News reported in April. ANA spokesperson Janet Haebler trashed the successful California experiment with ratios: “We’re respectful of all approaches as long as nurses have input,” she said. “In California, there’s no input. It’s just … This is what it will be at all times.”

NYSNA nurses have had plenty of “input.” We’re clear about what we need: safe staffing ratios in the law.

ANA wouldn’t wait for member vote

At our October meeting, members said they wanted to take the issue of whether or not to re-join the ANA to a full vote of the membership.

Now that the ANA has decided to form a separate splinter group in New York, that vote cannot happen — because of the ANA’s own bylaws. The ANA’s rules prohibit more than one affiliate in any state.

The ANA prevented any chance of NYSNA re-joining when they created their new splinter group, made up overwhelmingly of managers and supervisors.

NYSNA members have made our voices heard loud and clear. We are moving in a different direction from the ANA.

We are stronger now that we are out of the ANA.
Stepping up the fight for healthcare for all!

By Sean Petty, RN

Our union is stepping up our fight for healthcare for all! A delegation of NYSNA nurses joined over 200 union leaders and healthcare activists in an annual strategy conference for the Labor Campaign for Single Payer Healthcare.

The conference takes place during a volatile political and economic climate. On the one hand, the labor movement is still grappling with the impact of the global financial crisis and the massive budget cuts that have since been implemented — most recently the unprecedented and historic attacks on Social Security and Medicare threatened in the so-called “fiscal cliff” debate.

But also beginning to emerge are signs of union resistance to these attacks, symbolized most clearly by the Chicago teachers strike this past fall.

All of this is happening in the context of the ongoing implementation of President Obama’s Affordable Care Act, which, while it contains some positive components, will ultimately leave millions uninsured, and creating millions more who are underinsured, all while increasing the power and wealth of the private insurance industry.

Karen Lewis, leader of the now famous Chicago Teachers strike earlier this fall, delivered the opening keynote address to the conference, and empowered the audience with her main message of the critical role of bottom-up organizing. “The power is in the rank-and-file,” said Lewis. “They have their coalitions, we need ours.”

This year’s conference focused on four themes:
1) The fight for single-payer as part of a broader fight to defend Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid in the face of attacks,
2) The need for a social movement model encompassing a labor-community alliance,
3) Increased participation in the labor movement to actively join this fight, and
4) Effective strategies including federal and state efforts, as well as human rights organizing models and contract fights.

NYSNA Board members were reenergized by the experience and were also able to contribute substantially to the discussion.

“The Labor Campaign for Single Payer conference was a great networking tool for groups who have a shared vision that everyone has a fundamental, humane right to healthcare,” said NYSNA Director-At-Large Anthony Ciampa, RN. “Different perspectives, strategies and experiences were shared in an effort to coordinate an effective campaign.”

“It is important that NYSNA takes an active role in this fight because as nurses, we must advocate for healthcare for all. Healthcare is a human right, not a privilege.”

— NYSNA Central Regional Director Carol Ann Lemon, RN

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“It is important that NYSNA takes an active role in this fight because as nurses, we must advocate for healthcare for all. Healthcare is a human right, not a privilege,” said Central Regional Director Carol Ann Lemon, RN. “The government uses our tax dollars for things like the military and public works like roads, and sewers, but resists a single payer healthcare system that would ensure access to medical care for all.”

Attendees heard from numerous panelists who touched on different dynamics of the healthcare debate.

Judy Sheridan-Gonzalez, First Vice President of NYSNA, gave a presentation on “Building a Movement from Below” which drew lessons from NYSNA’s journey towards a more democratic, member-run organization.

Another very inspiring presentation was given by the Vermont Workers Center, who showed a video documenting their successful struggle for single-payer healthcare in Vermont. The yet-to-implemented Green Mountain Care plan was won through a series of large mobilizations and door-to-door organizing throughout the state.

With regards to single-payer, there was some debate about whether to focus on a national strategy or whether it’s more useful to fight for legislation at the state level, while keeping a national perspective.

Attendees were divided on their assessments of the Affordable Care Act. Some participants felt that the recent legislation was simply insufficient and that we should focus our efforts on shaping its implementation, while others proclaimed it a step backwards and felt that we should instead advocate for replacing it with single-payer.

The ideas shared in these debates are sure to influence the strategies of unions and other organizations, including NYSNA, in the coming year. The stakes of this fight have never been higher.

“Until we as a country address the financial crisis that has emerged from the for-profit healthcare system and adapt to a single-payer healthcare system, this problem will continue to grow and affect many more Americans,” said Lemon.

Fighting for safe staffing in Plattsburgh

NYSNA Executive Director Jill Furillo (center) joined the picket line at CVPH, where nurses and other healthcare professionals are fighting for safe staffing.
NYSNA wants to spotlight… you!

Have you or one of your colleagues been recognized for an accomplishment, elected to office, won an award, received a grant or scholarship, launched a new venture? Tell us about it! Send name, address, phone number, and accomplishment — E-mail to: communications@nysna.org or mail to: NYSNA Communications Dept., 11 Cornell Road, Latham, NY 12110-1499.

Member spotlight

Hard work, an impressive GPA, and an award-winning essay question had Metropolitan Hospital Center RN Lauretta Odume packing her bags to accept an inside invitation to the 57th Presidential Inauguration in January, and the experience of a lifetime. Lauretta is a Nigerian-born, Bronx-based pediatrics nurse, and a member of the scholastic Golden Key International Honor Society. She earned her nursing diploma in Nigeria and is currently studying for a bachelor’s degree at Lehman College — CUNY. A school-based essay contest in which she posed a question on the importance of faith in politics earned her an enviable spot at the Collegiate Presidential Inaugural Conference. The five-day gathering for student leaders was planned around the swearing-in, and filled with opportunities to explore the presidency, interact with political experts, meet and debate with leaders on either side of the political aisle and to network and share in the historic celebration with fellow American and international scholars. In between touring the capital’s major landmarks, and witnessing the inauguration first hand, Lauretta and her group engaged in lively discussion with guest panelists James Carville—an outspoken Liberal and Democratic strategist, and his wife, Republican consultant and conservative pundit, Mary Matalin. The “crowning moment” for Lauretta came when Reverend Jesse L. Jackson Sr. delivered a keynote address on the unleashed potential of people from all walks of life joining forces and working together, in spite of a spectrum of differences. In describing how society can only move forward meaningfully by listening to each other’s points of view, she recalls Rev. Jackson’s words, “We cannot be disconnected by languages, but we must be connected by message.” Lauretta plans to remain politically active and vocal between now and the next election by encouraging others to vote for individuals that share her passion for protecting the most vulnerable members of our society, and in demanding policy-making that reflects their promises. James Carville’s words in particular, left a lasting impression, “He said, ‘allow passion and interest to be my guide in anything I do and to be around people that have interest in the world and are willing to be challenged’.” It’s becoming clear to those around her, that as she strives for academic and career excellence, Lauretta Odume, RN, is one of those people.

Farewell, but not goodbye— Gloria Qualles

With no uncertain sadness, the colleagues of Gloria Qualles, a head nurse supervisor and a 37-year veteran of Queens Hospital Center bid farewell to their friend recently, as she embarked upon her retirement. Gloria’s long career with QHC spans an entire spectrum of specialties. At the outset, Gloria worked in the ER, moving into ICU, Dialysis, Med-Surg, Rehabilitation and Case Management. For just as long, she constantly made time to be instrumental in NYSNA’s mission, serving the Association and her colleagues loyally and in many capacities — on NYSNA’s Nomination Committee, the HHC/Mayoral Benefits Fund Board of Trustees, as Chair of QHC’s Executive Committee from 1987-1997, Vice-Chair from 1998-2013, and on NYSNA’s Delegate Assembly for more than ten years. Long-time QHC friend and colleague, nursing supervisor Lindella Artman said “Gloria was a very good and sweet head nurse. She was very well-liked by her peers, and represented QHC for a long time. She was incredibly well-skilled. And yes, she’s missed.” An outdoor, summertime celebration honoring Gloria’s long and distinguished career, service and friendship will take place on June 21, at Verdi’s of Westbury as friends and colleagues will gather to welcome her into a well-deserved retirement. Lindella would be happy to share information with those interested in making a reservation to attend.

Continuing Ed accreditation

The American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation (ANCC) has granted NYSNA’s Provider Unit accreditation for another four years. This accreditation allows NYSNA to continue offering ANCC continuing nursing education for all nurses in New York.

With this accreditation, NYSNA members will receive credit for the educational programs they attend and apply them towards their employment or certification requirements. NYSNA’s nursing education programs cover a variety of pertinent topics and are provided in various venues: in person workshops, by webinar or online through eLeaRN™, and many are offered free of charge for members. Visit nysna.org for the most current schedule of programs available.
2013 NYSNA Candidate Statements

The following candidates’ statements are being published on these pages of New York Nurse in connection with the 2013 NYSNA association-wide election. Candidates’ statements are also available in the Member Services Online area of the NYSNA website (members.nysna.org). Ballots will be mailed on May 20. If you have any questions about election materials or about the voting process (or if you do not receive your ballot by May 28), please contact Election Services Solutions (ESS) at 1-800-864-1263. The information below has been provided by the individual candidates. NYSNA is not responsible for the accuracy of the content.

New York State Nurses for Staffing, Security & Strength (S-3) Slate

**President**

**Judy Sheridan-Gonzalez**

Current employment position and facility: Staff Nurse – Adult Emergency Department Montefiore Medical Center

Former employment positions: Various: Med-Surg; Pediatrics; ICUs; ERs in HHC Facilities: Metropolitan, Lincoln, Jacobi, NCB, Joint Diseases, North General, Polyclinic

Education: MSN/FNP College of Mt. St. Vincent; BS SUNY Empire State; AAC Borough of Manhattan Cmty. College; Diploma: Helen Fuld School of Nursing

Professional activities and offices held: 1st VP NYSNA; Director at Large NYSNA; Delegate Assembly; LBU President Montefiore; LBU Delegate Metropolitan Hospital

Statement of Views:

We all face extraordinary challenges daily as we care for patients. Since S-3 won—by a huge margin—last year, our union became THE powerful voice of NY nurses, recognized by government and hospital CEOs.

But NYSNA is a work in progress; it needs the active input of members to improve our working situations. When a nurses shows up at a picket, lobbies legislators, signs a petition, confronts a bullying manager OR VOTES—he/she is building NYSNA. It’s only through collective action that we can win legislated staffing ratios and make NYSNA meet our needs and protect our communities.

**Treasurer**

**Patricia Kane, RN, CNOR**

Current employment position and facility: Staff Nurse, Cardiothoracic Operating Room, Staten Island University Hospital - North

Former employment positions: Staff Nurse, Postanesthesia Care Unit, Staten Island University Hospital - North

Education: AAS in Nursing, College of Staten Island

Professional activities and offices held: Current: Treasurer, NYSNA Board of Directors; LBU Membership Chairperson, Staten Island University Hospital; Co-Chairperson, Health Committee, Staten Island Community and Interfaith Long Term Disaster Recovery Organization
Past: Director at Large, NYSNA Board of Directors; LBU President, Staten Island University Hospital; Vice President, NYSNA Delegate Assembly; Chairperson, NYSNA Council on Legislation; Chairperson, NYCRNA District 13, PAC

**First Vice President**

**Patricia DiLillo, RN**

Statement of Views:

During the past 1 1/2 years, NYSNA has undergone a dramatic transformation and I have been honored to be a part of these exciting changes. NYSNA has become a strong, member-driven organization that impacts health care in a positive way to improve patient care and the working conditions of New York nurses. My hope is to remain a part of this dynamic process as NYSNA continues to grow stronger and takes its rightful place as an essential factor in the future of health care.
Grace J. Otto, RN
Current employment position and facility: Release-Time Representative for Bellevue Hospital Ctr. and Gouverneur Former employment positions: Head nurse, Bellevue Hospital Center; Supervisor of Nurses, Bellevue Hospital Center; Staff Nurse, Bellevue Hosp. C
Education: 1979 BA in Liberal Arts, Psych Major; 1984 BSN.

Statement of Views:
We continue to face many challenges but these challenges present great opportunities to work together. Each day we face staffing shortages, privatization of critical services, hospital closures with more patients coming through our hospitals and clinics seeking quality care. Last year on May 17th, together we kicked off a New NYSNA and initiated safe staffing as our #1 priority. More than 2,000 nurses came together at the Jacob Javits Center. We need to ramp up our “One Strong United Voice” to make Safe Staffing a law. I ask for your vote and help to make this happen together!

Ingred E. Denny-Boyce
Current employment position and facility: Senior Staff Nurse, Emergency Department, The Brooklyn Hospital Center
Former employment positions: None
Education: RN, BSN, MSN. Graduate Leadership Academy 2010.

Statement of Views:
NYSNA is now a powerful voice of NY nurses and is recognized by government and hospital CEOs. I believe the organization has to continue with the focus on safe staffing and getting contracts with good benefits during negotiations due in 2014. NYSNA is a work in progress, I will help to inspire and encourage nurses to continue to picket, lobby legislators, sign petitions and vote; this will go a long to building NYSNA. For it is only through collective action that we as nurses can succeed to give quality care to patients, their families and the community.

Anthony Ciampa
Current employment position and facility: Registered nurse – Cardiology, New York Presbyterian Hospital
Former employment positions: Psychiatric RN – Stony Lodge Hospital
Education: Westchester Community College, Mercy College

Professional activities and offices held:
Political Action Committee; NYSNA Real Estate Committee; Lead Delegate/Executive Committee at NYPH; Board Liaison to the Nursing Practice Council of NYSNA; Work Health and Safety Committee at NYPH; Wound Care Champion at NYPH.

Statement of Views:
My drive is to make certain that nursing continues to grow as a respected profession among our peers, our collective partnerships with other professions, and our community. Fighting for nurses rights and winning legislated staffing ratios is a priority. My key issues include provision and protection of healthcare and pension, legislative staffing ratios, limiting floating, education, and ensuring a safe work environment. With unity, determination, and perseverance, a membership driven organization can accomplish anything.
Statement of Views:
Our profession and healthcare remains under attack, facing difficult challenges as never before, workplace safety, reimbursement regulations, healthcare reform, hospital closures. Nurses must take lead in this fight visibility, advocacy, having a strong respected knowledgeable voice in changing the decision making power in the Workplace, Negotiations, Board Rooms, Community, Legislation, wherever needed, shaping healthcare future. Humbly, I’m asking for the opportunity to collaborate on behalf of nurses, and community, bringing integrity, strong respected leadership skills, committed to build a strong, united Informed Member Driven Professional Union, upholding and preserving NYSNA principles and values. Your unified vote is imperative, shaping NYSNA future. Thanks.

Veronica Richardson, RNC
Current employment position and facility: Maimonides Medical Center, RN Staff Nurse – NYSNA Resource Person

Former employment positions: Staff RN - mixed acute care unit with 8 telemetry beds.

Education: AAS Borough of Manhattan College

Professional activities and offices held: NYSNA Board of Director; NYSNA Delegate Assembly Member; NYSNA LBU Chairperson; Co-Chair Executive Committee, & Member at Large; LDC – Legislative District Coordinator. Work with community Elected leaders; District 14 – member; Labor Management Council member. Negotiating Committee – Negotiated VEBA Retirement Benefits. Assisted in implementing preceptor program and NYSNA orientation in all new employees. Maimonides LBU Chairperson: Co-Chair LBU and LBU Member at Large; NYSNA nurse Practice Committee; NYSNA Negotiation Committee successfully negotiated VEBA, Retirement Benefit. Staff Development Fund Committee; Collaborated with Management to establish a Preceptor Program; Part of the orientation Process NYSNA present/meet with all new RN employees; Labor Management Council Committee; Delegate Assembly Members; NYSNA, ANA House of Delegate; NYSNA Board of Director; Legislative District Coordinator (LDC); Community District Advocate with the Legislators; District 14 Member.

Statement of Views:
I have been an active member of NYSNA for over 20 years and served in various positions. Presently, I serve as director-at-large on the NYSNA board of directors. During the past two years, we worked tirelessly to transform the organization into a strong professional union that can better meet member’s needs, advocate for patients, and advocate for access to care. We have come a long way, but still have a long way to go. I ask that you continue to believe in our goals and believe in me. Together, we can sustain the positive momentum. Thank you.

Regional Director from Southeastern Region

Michael J. Healy RN
Current employment position and facility: Staff RN- ICU St. Charles Hospital

Former employment positions:

Education: ASN, currently enrolled in BSN program with projected graduation 2014

Professional activities and offices held: President LBU St. Charles Hospital; Southeastern Regional Director NYSNA Board of Directors; Member S3 Caucus

Statement of Views:
NYSNA has seen tremendous positive change over the last two years. We have made great strides towards a member driven transparent organization willing to fight for our patients and ourselves. We are taking on the healthcare industry to ensure access to quality healthcare for everyone. As your Southeastern regional director and proud member of the S3 Caucus, my brother and sister directors and myself have made passing safe staffing legislation in NYS our number one goal. We are committed to negotiating strong contracts for all our members, both public and private sector. There is still much work to be done. I am asking you for the privilege to continue to represent you as the Southeastern regional director, so I can con-
continue the fight for safety, strength, and security for all our members. Please vote in the upcoming elections and please vote for the S3 slate.

Regional Director from Western Region

Pamela J. Kadish B.S.R.N
Current employment position and facility: Team Leader of two 24 bed long term care units at Terrace View/Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo, New York

Former employment positions: Head Nurse of a 54 bed long term care/sub-acute unit at Erie County Home/Erie County Medical Center. Associate Coordinator of a 40 bed medical-surgical unit at Buffalo General Hospital

Education: Buffalo General Hospital School of Nursing diploma education as a registered nurse in 1982. Roberts Wesleyan College highest honors earned for bachelor of science degree 2012

Professional activities and offices held: 19 years as elected chairperson for the Erie County Home bargaining unit. I have participated in contract negotiations throughout my service as chairperson of my LBU. My role as chairperson of my LBU has also included grievance hearing for my fellow members of my facility.

Statement of Views:
Staff nurses are at the core of health care, and are in position to observe and determine what works best in their respective facilities. NYSNA members are able to gain knowledge of the important issues that exist within the environment of their own respective facilities. My experience in handling labor disputes has made me realize how important and satisfying it is for unions and facility administrators to work together. The benefits produced from working cohesively are all encompassing. I will utilize my honesty, respect for others, and hard work to guide NYSNA policies and actions to benefit all.

Regional Director from Eastern Region

Martha M. Wilcox, RN/CHN
Current employment position and facility: Sullivan County Public Health Services,

Education: St. John’s University, Marist College and SUNY at Sullivan

Professional activities and offices held: Eastern Regional Director of BOD since Oct 2012; Chairperson of LBU since 2004; Delegate of LBU 2001-2004; Member of Delegate Assembly; Member of NYSNA Congress since conception.

Statement of Views:
Since 2012 the Board of Directors has worked to bring NYSNA nurses together. We made a Historical statement, but the work is not done. We together make our Association strong, advocating for our patients, each RN and our communities. Please allow me to continue the work we all have started, by the positive direction we are making positive change for all of us. NYSNA is now recognized as a leader in the fight for Safe Staffing Ratios, Non-violence/hazards in our work environments, and the need for health care for our most needy in New York State. We need to work together for the good of all nurses and most importantly our patients.
Get NYSNA updates on your cell phone –

We are building a powerful movement for safe staffing.

Stay in the loop and get updates — on your cell phone.

Text “Staffing” to 877-877* and we’ll send you updates.

Get out your phone and do it now.

*Standard message and data rates apply.
Text STOP to opt-out at any time.