

# The Pulse



## Sacramento Officers

**President:** Mary Gannon

**President-elect:**

Jen Denno

**Treasurer:** Andrea Perry

**Secretary:** Shante Brown

**Immediate Past-President:** Jen Ruzicka

**Committees:**

EMS, Chair: Paula Green

Government Affairs, Chair:

Mariann Cosby

### Upcoming Dates:

Delegate applications due:
June 5, 2018
Cal ENA State Meeting
August 9-10, 2018
National ENA Conference:
Pittsburg, PA
Sept 26-29, 2018
Education by the Bay: San Diego
November 8, 2018

**President's Message:**

I hope all of you had a wonderful Nurse's week! Although none of us do this challenging work for thanks or gifts, it is always nice to be appreciated by our employers, families, and the community. Thank you for all you do!

May is Mental Health month and everyone of us is aware of the impact mental health and substance abuse has on the emergency department, patients, and their families. According to the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality ED visits for Mental health and substance abuse issues has risen 55% since 2006. This sharp increase has led to overcrowding and increased stress for workers and patients. To keep ourselves informed and protected, we can use the ENA workplace violence toolkit and additional tools to reduce workplace violence, we can stay vigilant and follow our instincts, and be active in our local and national government to advocate for mental health care and protections for hospital workers.

Summer is just around the corner and although our weather here in California has been reasonably mild so far this year, we all know the heat will be here soon. High waters at this time of year are dangerously fast and surprisingly cold, please remind our community to wear life preservers and use cautions in swift water. When summer comes our elderly and homeless populations are at high risk for heat related illness, check on those neighbors and watch for serious heat related issues in the ED and community.

It is time to start planning to attend ENA's national conference in Pittsburgh! If you are interested in attending please register soon! Early bird registration ends July 31st. Apply to be a California Delegate in the General Assembly during the conference and have say in the issues you care about. Have a wonderful summer!

Mary Gannon, MSN, RN

AHRQ ED Trends: <https://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/statbriefs/sb216-Mental-Substance-Use-Disorder-ED-Visit-Trends.pdf>

### ENA Members Advocate on Capitol Hill

Earlier this month, more than 160 ENA members from 43 states traveled to Washington, D.C. to take part in what has become a yearly ritual for many - ENA's Day on the Hill. This annual event provides an opportunity for attendees to visit with their federal lawmakers and lend their voices to advocate for issues of importance to emergency nurses.

In the House of Representatives, members requested support for the Health Care Workplace Violence Prevention Act (H.R. 5223). H.R. 5223 would require covered health care employers (primarily hospitals and outpatient clinics) to implement workplace violence prevention plans to prevent or mitigate the epidemic levels of violence seen at hospitals and emergency departments across the country daily.

In both the House and Senate, support for the Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act (H.R. 1876/ S. 781) was also requested. This bill would provide basic liability protections for ordinary negligence so licensed health professionals, including emergency nurses, may volunteer their services during a federal disaster or public health emergency. Current law provides

such protection only when the volunteer is affiliated with a nonprofit or governmental agency.

Building off the successes in 2017, which saw the Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act become law, attendees once again sought support for the MISSION ZERO Act (S. 1022) in the Senate. The House version of the bill had already been passed by that chamber in February. The bill would provide grant funding to allow military trauma teams to practice alongside their civilian counterparts in trauma centers across the country.

Also in the Senate, Day on the Hill advocates showed support for the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond (SOAR) to Health and Wellness Act (S. 256), which would establish a pilot program to train health care professionals, including emergency nurses, in identifying and providing assistance to victims of human trafficking. This was a topic that was a focus of 2017 ENA President Karen Wiley's tenure. Like MISSION ZERO, the House version of the SOAR Act was approved in February.

# Sac County News:

The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission has awarded Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services more than \$2 million dollars in grant funding as part of Senate Bill (SB) 82 Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act third round crisis triage grant funds.

Sacramento is one of 11 counties to receive this third round grant funding aimed at increasing mental health services in schools for youth ages 11-14 years.

"As we continue to build out our services continuum, we are including more services targeted at youth," says Uma Zykofsky, Sacramento County Behavioral Health Director.

This funding will allow Sacramento County to position three, two-person mental health service teams in three targeted middle school campuses within Sacramento County. Sacramento County's Children and Youth Crisis Service Needs Assessment revealed gaps in the existing service continuum on school campuses for students, including a lack of awareness of mental health issues for children and crisis services. This program aims to close these identified gaps.

The new program, Safe Zone Squad, will consist of a Youth Advocate Mental Health Worker and a Mental Health Counselor. Each team will have designated and consistent office hours to support walk-in crisis needs and to create a dependable presence. Each middle school campus will have a dedicated team so that students see the same team members throughout their days. The teams will work with students, faculty and parents to help demystify and destigmatize mental illness, provide education on managing escalating stress and learning how to identify and help someone who is distressed.

"This grant is very important to Sacramento County. We are making great strides in creating a more complete responsive continuum of care for our community," adds Zykofsky. "This grant helps bring education and behavioral health services together."

## National ENA News:



► **The new Emergency Nursing 2018 website is now live!** Get the information you need regarding sessions, the exhibit hall and the city of Pittsburgh all in one place. New content is added regularly so check back often. Register now to secure the early-bird rate!

Don't forget! The ENA Foundation provides **conference scholarships** for people to attend **ENA's annual conference**. Applications will be accepted through **June 15**.

ENA Conference Registration:  
[www.Ena.org](http://www.Ena.org)

► **Save the Date!** The 2019 State and Chapter Leaders Orientation (SCLO) will be held in Chicago Jan. 24-26. More details will be shared in the coming months, including an opportunity for leaders to visit the new ENA National office.

## Chapter News:

Do you have an idea for a chapter activity? Reach out to any of the chapter officers. Be sure to check our website for future meetings:

<http://www.californiaena.org/sacramento-chapter/>

Or on facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/39078452583/>



### ENA State Meetings

All members are welcome! Lunch is provided along with CE.

State committee meetings include: Government affairs, quality, pediatrics, trauma, education, EMS, and leadership and practice.

Discounted hotel rooms are available, contact [Susansmithena@gmail.com](mailto:Susansmithena@gmail.com)