



NYS ID/DD NURSES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Vol. 28, Number 2

Summer 2021

President's Message



The NYSIDDDNA continues to be committed to providing educational opportunities to its members. The Executive Board and Conference Planning Committee remain steadfast in providing educational opportunities. While Covid

has presented challenges, we have proved our resilience in the field.

Linda Cultrara, Conference Committee Chair, is working on several webinars for the fall 2021 and winter 2022 season. We are also planning our Annual Meeting with officer elections for fall 2021. The annual diabetes update which was emailed to all members will remain available through 2021. As we move forward, we are planning an in-person conference with online format capabilities for Fall 2022.

On a sad note, we recently lost our past-president, Dr. Laura Sardinia-Prager. Laura is remembered for her passion for the nursing profession and her infectious smile. Laura touched so many lives in her nursing practice. She was a strong advocate for the ID/DD patient population and a beloved nursing professor at LIU-Post. She will be greatly missed.

After this unprecedented year, I hope everyone takes some time this summer for self-care. We look forward to seeing everyone in the fall.

Edie Smith, NYSIDDDNA President
edie.smith@cayuga-cc.edu

Save the Date

NYSIDDDNA Annual Meeting
Tuesday, October 19, 12:00-1:00

This meeting is for all members. The zoom link will be shared a few days before the meeting.

Conference Planning Update

We are making progress on our plans to offer a webinar series this fall in place of our in-person Annual Conference. The Conference Planning Committee met on June 24. Our primary goal is to meet the needs of our members by filling gaps in education and networking.

We are aligning with our conference speakers to provide a mini-series of lunch and learn webinar opportunities beginning in September. The series will be held the second Tuesday of the month at noon. The agenda is on page 10 of this newsletter.

We are also starting to make plans for an in-person Annual Conference in fall 2022.

Linda Cultrara, Conference Committee Chair
Linda.m.cultrara@opwdd.ny.gov

Meet Antonia L. Cato, our 2021 NYSIDDDNA Scholarship Recipient

We are pleased to introduce **Antonia L. Cato**, the recipient of our 2021 NYSIDDDNA Scholarship.

The Scholarship Committee was impressed with her passion for her work in the ID/DD field. Antonia's commitment to the field and to her work was clear and compelling.

Antonia has been working at Center for Disability Services (CFDS) in Albany since October 2006 and is currently the Administrator of Residential Services. She is enrolled in the ADN Nursing program at Maria College with graduation anticipated in 2022.

As our scholarship recipient, Antonia received a one year of complimentary membership in the NYS ID/DD Nurses Association. Let's welcome, Antonia, to NYSIDDDNA and to Zone 4.



The New York State Intellectual Disabilities/ Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association (NYSID/DDNA) was founded to promote Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Nursing as a specialty area of practice. The Association continues to support its members' activities in nursing law, education, research and practice.

Membership Committee Update

Currently, the Association has 150 members for 2021. This number includes 119 members from 2020 who have renewed their membership for 2021 and 31 members who joined NYSIDDDNA for the first time this year. Welcome to all our new and renewing members! See the list of new members on page 9 of this newsletter.

If you have not already done so, please renew your membership for 2021. The membership application is included in this newsletter. You will also find the application and payment options under “Join NYSIDDDNA” at www.nysiddna.org. You can pay by check or by PayPal. If you make your payment through PayPal, please be sure to complete the membership application form, too. Thank you!

We continue to offer an associate membership at a reduced rate for full or part-time RN/LPN student nurses and nurses who are inactive (retired or unemployed). If you have questions about membership, write to information@nysiddna.org.

Changes continue to come at us in a fast and sometimes furious pace, and we want you to know that the Association is here to support you! We hope that you take advantage of the information updates that you receive as a member — as we explore new platforms for networking and training opportunities, we welcome your ideas and input.

Please encourage other nurses that you know are in the field to join us!

*Cathy Engel, BSN, RN, CDDN
Membership Committee Chairperson
cengel@intandem.org*

From Your Planning Manager

I have enjoyed serving as your Planning Manager during the past year and a half. I have seen many of you on our zoom calls. Like you, I look forward to the day when we can all meet in person.

The Conference Planning Committee has started the conversation about the 2022 Annual Conference. Once we have a confirmed date with the hotel, we will send a *Save the Date* announcement.

Please let me know if there are ways I can be of help to you. If you send questions to our email (information@nysiddna.org), I will do my best to get answers for you.

*Linda Dudman, Planning Manager
information@nysiddna.org*

DDNA Update — June 2021

DDNA’s 2021 annual conference was held virtually last month. Live and on-demand presentations were featured, and CE’s were available. Plans are underway for their annual conference in 2022 to be held in San Antonio, Texas. Check the website for more information as it becomes available!

In keeping with DDNA’s mission to “educate, empower and advocate for nurses practicing in the specialty of developmental disability nursing,” the Association provides ongoing online learning specific to the specialty in addition to the annual conference. Certified nurses seeking continuing education can meet their certification requirements through free courseware that is available to members on the DDNA website, as well as on-going webinars that are offered with certificates of attendance provided. DDNA has provided both sponsored commercial educational presentations as well as individual presentations and will accept proposals for presentations.

RNs and LPNs who wish to sit for the certification exam may continue to do so through Prometric Testing Centers. For information about the certification process, check the DDNA website.

DDNA continues to have three DDNA Nursing Councils, with two of the three Councils – the DDNA Education Council and the DDNA Research Council — open to all DDNA members. The Councils are great ways to become more involved with DD nursing on a national level. The DDNA Nursing Practice Council works at the direction of the DDNA Board of Directors to review DD nursing practice concerns, trends, and standards and to draft responses/positions statements on behalf of DDNA. Members of this Council must be certified as a DDC or CDDN and via nomination or self-nomination, are appointed by the DDNA Board of Directors.

The 3rd edition of the “Practice Standards of Developmental Disability Nursing” is available for purchase at \$19.95 for DDNA members and \$39.95 for non-members. This is a great resource for all IDD nurses, especially those new to the field. See www.ddna.org to purchase.

The NYS ID/DD Nurses Association is an affiliate of DDNA; however, memberships are separate.

For additional information on any of the above topics or to order the Practice Standards, please visit www.ddna.org

*Prepared by Cathy Engel, BSN, RN, CDDN
cengel@intandem.org*

Scholarship Opportunity for Individuals Enrolled in a BSN or MSN Program

We have good news to share with our members! The Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is offering **two** \$1000 scholarships to registered nurses (RN) who are working in New York State in the field of intellectual/ developmental disabilities nursing and are enrolled in a program toward a bachelor's or master's degree in nursing.

Applications are due Sunday, August 15. NYSIDDDNA will appoint a scholarship committee to select the two scholarship recipients. The announcement of the scholarship recipients will be made in September. Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy will give the scholarships directly to the recipients.

TO BE ELIGIBLE: Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- RN currently working in the intellectual/ developmental disabilities field.
- Enrolled full-time or part-time in a BSN or MSN nursing program (i.e., taking courses towards a BSN/MSN or enrolled/accepted into a BSN or MSN program to begin in the fall 2021 semester).
- Works in an ID/DD agency in NYS.
- Intends to continue working as an ID/DD nurse in New York State upon graduation.

Note: Membership in NYSIDDDNA is not required.

TO APPLY: Submit one PDF or Word document with the following information:

- **Cover letter** introducing yourself and your interest in the intellectual/developmental disabilities field.
- **Resume** describing your educational and work experiences.
- **Essay** (500 words or less) explaining your future educational and professional goals.
- **Proof of current enrollment in a BSN or MSN program.** The enrollment documentation can be a letter or verification on school letterhead from the Nursing Program or from the College Registrar's Office, or a current 2021 college transcript identifying enrollment in a 400 or above level course towards the degree (e.g., Nur 410, Nur 630).

Submit your application by **Sunday, August 15.** Please send the requested information in one document to information@nysiddna.org.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Email information@nysiddna.org

NYSIDDDNA Website

www.nysiddna.org

We continue to post connections that can be valuable to our membership. Check out what's on the website particularly the Resources page. The ability to access the membership application and utilize PayPal is being upgraded to streamline and improve the process.

Look for the latest information on scholarships and the Joyce Binder Memorial Award. You can download information for these from the website.

Let us know if there is new material you would like to see posted. New material can be added by Trish Potocar tpotocar@slnysarc.org or Linda Dudman information@nysiddna.org.

*Submitted by Trish Potocar, RN,
Website Chairperson, tpotocar@slnysarc.org*

NYSIDDDNA Social Media

NY State ID.DD Nurses Association – Look for our Facebook page if you are not already connected. You can do a search or go to our website and click on the “f” on the homepage. It will take you directly to our Facebook page.

When you visit the Facebook page, do a “like” and the feed will be connected to your personal Facebook page. We are investigating the use of messenger connected to our page.

You can send news and/or photos to Trish Potocar at tpotocar@slnysarc.org or Karen Jarvis at kjarvis@slnysarc.org.

For our LinkedIn account, contact Tara Sandford-Briggs at tsandford@cwinc.org

*Submitted by Trish Potocar, RN,
Website Chairperson, tpotocar@slnysarc.org*

For more information about NYSIDDDNA, check:

- **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/nysiddna>
- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/new-york-state-idd-nurses-association-4618b691/>
- **Facebook:** NYSiddna
- **Website:** www.nysiddna.org
- **Email:** information@nysiddna.org

Zone Reports

ZONE 1: St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton and Essex Counties

Letting Zone 1 members know we are still here and hoping to get back to some version of normal. As we all need to wait as changes filter down from state organizations and OPWDD, things can change slowly. At our organization there has been some lessening of restrictions but masks and distancing are still in force. Dealing with filling job openings seems to be a widespread concern.

For those of you new to working in the ID/DD field, Zone 1 encompasses St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, and Essex counties. We usually have meetings in St. Lawrence or Franklin County but are definitely open to travelling.

Current Zone 1 officers include:

- *Chairperson:* Trish Potocar is the QS RN/ Medical Coordinator for The Arc Jefferson St. Lawrence Inc. Trish has been involved in NYS ID/DD Nurses Association for many years and has held zone positions as well as state officer positions. She is currently chair of the Website/ Facebook Committee.
- *Co-Chairperson:* Marty Gleeson spent many years as an RN for residential facilities in St. Lawrence County. He has held various zone state officer positions and is currently NYSIDDDNA Corresponding Secretary.
- *Secretary/Treasurer:* Karen Jarvis is the Supervisor of Nursing for The Arc Jefferson St. Lawrence, Inc. Karen has been involved on the zone level and is currently NYSIDDDNA Treasurer.

You can contact Trish, Karen, or Marty at:

Trish at tpotocar@slnysarc.org | 315-353-6618

Karen at kjarvis@slnysarc.org 315-353-6618

Marty at mart4950@gmail.com

Trish Potocar, Zone 1 Co-Chairperson

ZONE 2: Jefferson, Lewis, Oswego, Oneida, Onondaga, Madison, and Herkimer

Melissa Britton and Iellan Rice share the leadership of Zone 2. If you are interested in learning more about Zone 2 activities, please write to Melissa and/or Iellan.

*Melissa Britton
Zone 2 Acting Chairperson and Secretary
mbritton@liberty-resources.org
and Iellan Rice, Treasurer, irice@elmcrest.org*

ZONE 3: Hamilton, Fulton, Washington, Warren, and Saratoga Counties

The members of Zone 3 are excited to begin planning a member meeting and educational opportunity now that New York is starting to open up. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer. Zone 3 is always seeking new members. If you know anyone interested in participating in Zone 3 activities or if you wish to be added to the zone email list, please contact Tara or Sean.

*Sean Casey and Tara Sanford-Briggs
Zone 3 Co-Chairpersons
scasey@caparcny.org or tsanford@cwinc.org*

ZONE 4: Albany, Montgomery, Schoharie, Schenectady, Otsego, Delaware, Greene, Rensselaer, and Columbia

Summertime has finally arrived and Zone 4 continues to be fairly active “virtually” despite this lingering pandemic. On June 16th, “Challenging Case Studies by SDMC/JC” was well attended virtually, and we were able to finally have a zone meeting. In August/September 2021 we hope to have another training/meeting to be determined at a later date. Stay safe & Be Well!

*Carol Krueger, Zone 4 Secretary
kruegerc@springbrookny.org | 607-287-7621*

ZONE 5: Sullivan, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester

Hello, everyone. I will be reaching out to Zone 5 members to ask if anyone would like to become an officer for our zone. My plan is to step down from my current position in the zone. If you are interested in becoming a Zone 5 officer, please email or call me. Being a zone officer is a great way to get involved in NYSIDDDNA. In addition to getting to know your zone members, you will also get to know members from other parts of the state through your participation at NYSIDDDNA Board meetings. I have enjoyed my time as a Zone 5 officer. Now that I am retired, I feel it is time for someone new to step into this role.

*Madlyn Vaillancourt, Zone 5 Secretary
rtgombd@optonline.net | 845-825-1305*

ZONE 6: Nassau and Suffolk Counties

On May 28, 2021 our great friend and past president of the NYS ID/DD Nurses Association Laura Prager passed away after a brief struggle with Ovarian Cancer which caused blood clots which led to numerous strokes. The board members

Zone Reports (Continued)

of Zone 6 were able to see Laura before her passing and were present at her wake and funeral. For all of those who knew Laura, she was an incredible friend, nurse, leader, educator, and so much more to everyone she encountered. Please remember her family: husband Big Teddy (just married 35 years), son Teddy, daughters Marissa and Racquel, and her horse Poseidon whom she adored. We will miss you forever, Laura.

On May 20, 2021 Justin Lehner, Territory Manager with Neurelis, a drug company, and Dr. Manganas, a Neurologist from Stony Brook Hospital, hosted a seminar dinner at Insignia Restaurant in Smithtown to introduce their product Valtoco. Valtoco is a diazepam nasal spray that is utilized for short-term treatment of seizure clusters. Members of Zone 6 as well as other nursing colleagues were invited to the presentation. It was a great presentation, and the food was awesome.

Upcoming meetings are to be determined. Zone 6 officers include: Co-chair - Patty Brunetti (2nd co-chair position is vacant), Treasurer—Pat Ruckel; Secretary – vacant, and Board Representative – vacant (RIP Laura Prager).

Pat Ruckel, Zone 6 Treasurer
pruckel@phpcares.org

ZONE 7: New York, Richmond, King & Queens

Due to the pandemic, Zone 7 has not had in-person or virtual meetings. I look forward to meeting Zone 7 members. Please reach out to me to say hello and whenever you have questions.

Asuncion Muyalde, Zone 7 Treasurer
amuyalde@sinergiany.org

ZONE 8: Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, and Erie Counties

Zone 8 is hoping to resume in person meetings in September pending a few details to be discussed with the members. A Zoom, Microsoft, or Web call will be held to discuss future plans. In the interim, we are actively working with NYSIDDDNA to plan webinars for the fall in lieu of an in-person conference. (See conference updates on pages 1 and 10.)

Our Zone 8 President, Janet Boland, will be relocating out of the area and resigning her position. Janet has worked in the field of OPWDD at Aspire for over 27 years and has been a part of NYSIDDDNA most of that time. Janet was the NYSIDDDNA President, serving one term. A lunch was held for Janet on June 29, 2021 at Connors

Restaurant in Buffalo to celebrate her amazing contribution to our field. Janet has been an advocate, a colleague, friend, and overall hero in Western New York. We will miss her. Thank you, Janet, for your years of dedicated service.

Linda M. Cultrara, Zone 8 Secretary
Linda.m.cultrara.@opwdd.ny.gov

ZONE 9: Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Steuben, and Allegany Counties

ZONE 11: Monroe, Wayne, Ontario, Yates, Cayuga, Seneca, and Livingston Counties

As with most of the zones, we have held online meetings due to the Covid pandemic and restricted guidelines. We met June 8, 2021, via ZOOM to discuss upcoming webinars, how agencies are transitioning to in-person programs, vaccine hesitancy among staff, and corrective plans. Topics also included brainstorming solutions to challenges faced in various scenarios. Our next meeting will be held in August via zoom, but we are looking forward to planning in-person meetings in the future.

We are currently looking for zone members who are interested in being an officer. Our President, MaryEllen Stammersky, has retired and has stepped down from her position as President. Anyone interested can contact Edie Smith, Zone Secretary.

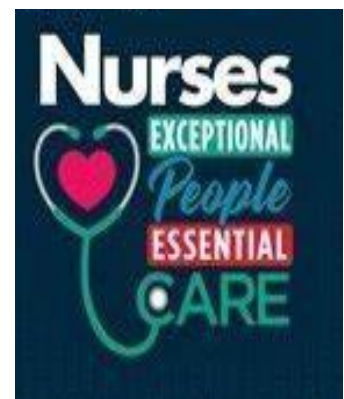
Edie Smith, Zone 9 & 11 Secretary,
Edie.smith@cayuga-cc.edu

ZONE 10: Schuyler, Tompkins, Cortland, Tioga, Chenango, Broome, and Chemung Counties

Zone 10 is not currently active at this time. If you would like to become a zone officer for Zone 10, contact Edie Smith, NYSIDDDNA President at edie.smith@cayuga-cc.edu. If you are in Zone 10, feel free to reach out to another zone to join them for educational presentations and networking opportunities.

Thank you!!

Thank you to every one of you for your support, commitment, caring, and dedication to the individuals and their families in your care — every day of the week, every week of the year.



From Your President-Elect

In preparing for this Newsletter, I reflected back over the past year and a half. I decided to share some thoughts around “COVID changes.”

I attended the DDNA virtual conference in May. Several of you also did. It was an interesting experience. Because it was presented across 5 time zones (Hawaii), days started at 10AM and went to 8:30PM. There were no bathroom breaks or opportunities to move from room to room. I barely had time to complete a post evaluation before I had to sign into the next session. The schedule was packed and exhausting! However, there were many great speakers! I chuckled at the chat feature, because during any “in person” conference, we would never continuously side bar. It would be perceived as rude. Everyone needed that “chat” because we have been so isolated. Hats off to DDNA staff, who did a great job of handling some technical glitches to make everything work! Virtual can be a vehicle for learning as our agencies face funding cuts. However, we as humans need to spend time socializing, because much learning also occurs within those casual interactions.

Telemedicine is another big change. Personally, I don’t think it is the solution for all. However, I had several Psychiatry providers tell me that it was so nice to see an individual in their personal space because it gave them a more complete sense of who that person is. That is a positive. An individual that I support is both visually and hearing impaired. For her any virtual was completely frustrating! For some outlying areas with dial up, connectivity is still a big issue. I believe we nurses will have some advocacy work ahead. Insurance, medical providers and agencies may see this as a “cost effective” way to deliver most medical care. The individuals we support need flexible options to access care.

Another challenge I saw was practitioners deciding to retire early because of the financial impact of the forced closures. Hospital clinics also closed. This makes for a hunt for new providers, who accept Medicaid and Medicare. Not that there were many available before COVID, but now there are fewer.

However, there are many signs that the world is coming back! I had an Amazon return yesterday, which I took to an area department store on my way home from work. The parking lot was a culture shock, because it was jammed. Even two months ago, there would have been only a few cars. The ride home was also quite different! What was a 10 minute drive took over 45 minutes with traffic.

I got to thinking as I was stuck in that traffic back up about the early days of COVID, where there were no cars on the roads. I carried a letter from my employer stating I was an “essential worker” and therefore permitted to travel should the police stop me. Then cars sped through red lights at normally busy intersections because drivers thought they were the only ones on the road! I also thought about how virtual meetings save “travel time.”

One thing that I have learned from this Association is each of us becomes stronger when we put our heads together to share our challenges, our creativity, and our perseverance. Often great solutions come from collective problem solving.

I continue to think of the amazing nurses, who have served as a beacon of hope and a bright light for me. There are so many! Laura Sardinia Prager is one of those nurses. Laura took up the professional challenge to obtain her doctorate and become a nurse educator. Laura strongly believed that education around Developmental Disabilities should be part of the nursing curriculum. We recently lost Laura to complications from cancer treatment. I have no doubt that she fought hard with dignity and grace. We will miss her energy and her thoughtfulness. Laura’s spirit remains through her connection with our members.

I do hope that we are all energized by being able to return to an actual physical presence with family and co-workers; to be able to attend important life social events like weddings, graduations, and funerals; and to “go out” to a restaurant, a sports event, or a movie. I hope each of you take some time to really enjoy this summer!

While we will not see each other “in person” this fall, we do have the conference to look forward to in the fall of 2022. Stay well!

Mary Jean Keegan, President-Elect
mkeegan@wildwoodprograms.org

NYSIDDDNA 2021 Officers

Thank you to our elected officers, committee chairpersons, and zone officers for their outstanding leadership throughout the pandemic.

Your 2021 Board of Directors includes:

- Edie Smith, President
- Mary Jean Keegan, President Elect
- Carol Krueger, Recording Secretary
- Martin Gleeson, Corresponding Secretary
- Karen Jarvis, Treasurer

Renewing Your Membership

The 2021 membership year began on April 1, 2021. If you have not renewed your membership, now is a good time to do so. It is also a good time to encourage your colleagues who are not currently members to join NYSIDDDNA for 2021.

The annual membership fee is \$50.00. An associate membership (\$30) is available for full time nursing students and inactive nurses (unemployed or retired).

To Renew Your Membership or to Become a New Member:

- Complete the membership application that is included in this newsletter. The application is also available on the NYSIDDDNA website at <http://www.nysiddna.org> under the “Join NYSIDDDNA” tab.
- Pay by check or by PayPal. Checks should be made out to NYSIDDDNA. You will find links to pay by PayPal on the website. If you pay by PayPal, please send your membership application by email or mail in addition to making your payment through PayPal.
- Send the membership application and payment to Linda Dudman, NYSIDDDNA Planning Manager, by mail or email. If you are paying by PayPal, notification of your payment will be sent to the NYSIDDDNA email address.

The mailing address is on the application form. If your check is being sent by your agency, please be sure they have the correct address. The current address is NYSIDDDNA, Box 25832, Rochester, NY 14625. Your membership card will be mailed to you within a week or two after receipt.

Not sure if you renewed your membership for 2021? Email information@nysiddna.org to check. All 2020 members are receiving this newsletter. You will need to renew your membership by July 15 to continue to receive NYSIDDDNA mailings.

Benefits of Membership

- Engage in networking with colleagues at zone meetings, the Annual Conference, and online.
- Participate in continuing education opportunities at zone meetings, the Annual Conference, and through virtual webinars to ensure continued competency.
- Receive support from other nurses who have a wide range of expertise and experience.
- Assume leadership roles at the zone and the state level.
- Learn about the latest advances and updates in the field.

Do You Have A Colleague You Would Like to Recognize?

If your answer is YES, consider nominating your colleague for the Joyce Binder 2021 Memorial Award.

Every year, a member of our Association is chosen to receive the Joyce Binder Memorial Award. This award is named in honor of Joyce Binder, one of our own who made outstanding contributions to the field of ID/DD and to the individuals she served throughout her career.

The NYS ID/DD Nurses Association has chosen to honor Joyce’s memory with this award that is given to an Association member who has made significant contributions to advancing the practice of supporting individuals with ID/DD through the demonstrated attributes of caring/compassion, advocacy, mentoring, leadership, dedication, education/ research.

You all have the opportunity to recognize an outstanding colleague by submitting a nomination for the Joyce Binder 2021 Memorial Award.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: August 31.

TO NOMINATE A CANDIDATE:

Use the nomination form that is available in the Awards section of the NYSIDDDNA website (www.nysiddna.org/) or send the requested information in an email to information@nysiddna.org.

You are asked to describe how the nurse you are nominating :

- has/will change the quality of life and has made a positive impact for the people he/she supports.
- demonstrates attributes of caring/compassion, advocacy, mentoring, leadership, dedication, and education/research (in at least 150 words)

You will also be asked to provide a brief statement describing your candidate’s experience in the ID/DD field.

All candidates must be members of NYSIDDDNA by August 1, 2021. If you are not sure if your candidate is a current member of NYSIDDDNA, you can ask your nominee or you can check with Linda Dudman, NYSIDDDNA Planning Manager, by emailing information@nysiddna.org.

SEND YOUR NOMINATION TO:

NYS ID/DD Nurses Association
c/o Joyce Binder Memorial Award
Box 25832, Rochester, New York 14625

OR

Email information@nysiddna.org

Creating a SLMS Account To Enroll in Training Classes

We recently shared information about setting up an SLMS account. We are providing this information again for members who may have missed seeing the email message.

The Statewide Learning Management System (SLMS) allows you to enroll in classes, print certificates and handouts, launch online learning, and view your learning history.

To enroll in classes, you will first need to create an account by:

- Filling in the form that can be found at: <https://opwdd.ny.gov/providers/statewide-learning-management-system-slms>
- Clicking the link for OPWDD External User Registration.

After creating an account, you will be logged into the Statewide Learning Management System (SLMS). There is a list of Quick Links on the homepage. Two of these links are used for most SLMS tasks.

Useful Quick Links:

- Find Learning
 - * Click on this quick link to go to the list of the available classes.
 - * Click “View All” to display all of the available courses in alphabetical order.
 - * Click the Enroll button next to the class date/location to enroll in a class. Then click Submit Enrollment on the next page.
- My Learning
 - * Click on this link to go to your training history. You will see all of the classes you have enrolled in.
 - * You can print certificates for classes that you have completed.

If you are not automatically logged in after creating your account, you can go to <https://nyslearn.ny.gov/> and click SLMS login. Then you should login using the email address you used to create the account as your username and type in the initial password (welcome1).

Having trouble with SLMS? Contact Talent Development & Training by phone (518-473-1190) or by email (TalentDevelopment@opwdd.ny.gov).

Are you receiving NYSIDDDNA email messages?
If not, please write to information@nysiddna.org to let our Planning Manager know. You may need to ask your agency for help if messages are being blocked as they come into your agency’s server.

Seeking Nominations for Candidates For NYSIDDDNA Officer Positions

We are seeking nominations for the positions of President-Elect and Recording Secretary. The term for these positions is two years, with the term beginning January 1, 2022. These elected officers will serve as members of the Board of Directors for the Association.

If you would like to recommend someone for one or both of these positions, please send your recommendation and a brief statement of support by email to information@nysiddna.org by **Friday, July 23**.

Self-nominations are welcome—and encouraged.

Your statement of support should include your name and relationship to the person you are recommending. Providing information about the person’s work experience and their NYSIDDDNA experience will be helpful to the Nominating Committee.

Recommendations of nominees will be reviewed by the Nominating Committee, which includes the chairperson and three members at large who are appointed by the Nominating Committee Chairperson.

Descriptions of the Open Positions:

President Elect: The President Elect will work closely with the President to learn the duties of the President. The President Elect shall assume the office of President at the completion of his/her term or in the event the President is unable to complete his/her term of office.

Recording Secretary: The Recording Secretary shall record the minutes of all proceedings of the Executive Board, Annual Meeting, and special meetings as called by the Executive Board. With the President, the Recording Secretary will sign all contracts for the Corporation approved by the Executive Board.

About the Elections:

The election of our new officers will take place in the early fall. To be eligible to vote in the election, you must be a 2021 member **as of July 1, 2021**.

Not Sure if You are a 2021 Member?

You can write to information@nysiddna.org to ask if you renewed your membership for 2021. If you were a member in 2020 and have not renewed your membership, you will receive reminder emails about renewing your membership for 2021. If you receive a reminder email and think you already renewed your membership, please let us know.

New Members in 2021

Welcome to our new members who joined NY-SIDDDNA in 2021. Zones are noted in the parentheses when known.

1. Kimberly Altaro
2. Maria Aylward (5)
3. Emily Bush (1)
4. Jennifer Campbell (7)
5. Antonia Cato (4)
6. Marie Charles
7. Nancy Compton (9&11)
8. Angela DeGraw (9&11)
9. Kathleen DeMartino (6)
10. Linda Fournier (2)
11. Cynthia Fox (4)
12. Theresa Godfrey (4)
13. Jessica Haines (9&11)
14. Jennifer Henion (5)
15. Loralie Holcomb (9&11)
16. Diana Hughes (2)
17. Jessica Jackson (2)
18. Karen Lopresti (5)
19. Lauren McDonald (6)
20. Kerri Meadows (4)
21. Stacey Mellilo
22. Erin O'leary (4)
23. Stephanie Payne (1)
24. Martha Rei (4)
25. Kathy Schlosser (9&11)
26. Aimee Schwarz
27. Kristina Southfield
28. Phoebe Sun (7)
29. Laura Talone (9&11)
30. Lisa Weis (9&11)
31. Judy Wyllys (9&11)

Do You Know Your Zone?

The NYS ID/DD Nurses Association has 12 zones, as you will see on this zone map.

To find your zone look for your county on this map of New York State. Zones 9 and 11 combined into one zone (9&11). Out-of-state members are in Zone 12.

You will see your zone on the membership card that you receive after you become a new member or you renew your membership.

NYSIDDDNA Resources

Annual Diabetes Update

The NYS ID/DD Nurses Association is offering an *Annual Diabetes Update for Managing Diabetes with a Focus for Direct Support Personnel* to all its members. This offering meets the NYS OPWDD annual diabetes update. Anyone completing the training during 2021 will receive an email confirmation of completion.

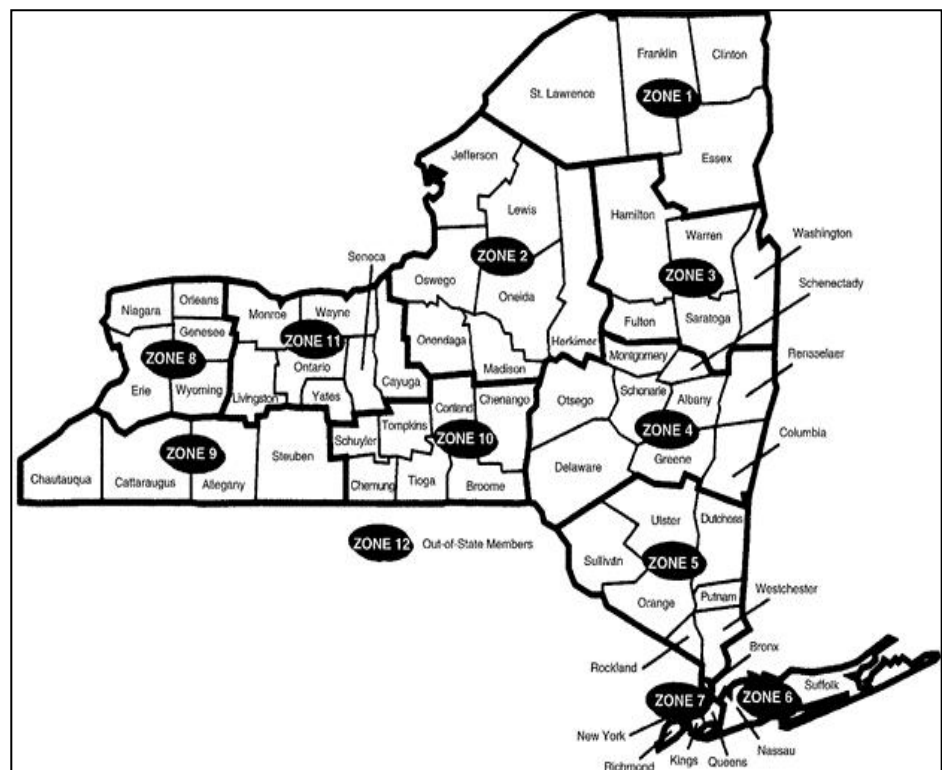
NYSIDDDNA members completing the training by July 31, 2021 are eligible to receive one CE credit from DDNA. Non-members who complete the training will receive confirmation of completion but are not eligible to receive the CE credit unless they become NYSIDDDNA members by July 31, 2021.

Email information@nysiddna.org to ask for the Annual Diabetes Update training documents.

Orientation Curriculum Outline

NYSIDDDNA created an Orientation Curriculum Outline for nurses working in the specialty field of ID/DD nursing and under the guidelines of Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

This document is available under "Resources" on the NYSIDDDNA website (www.nysiddna.org). Topics on this list should be provided to new nurses entering the ID/DD field by the OPWDD Nursing Orientation and through the nurse training at the specific agency of employment. Resources for nurses are included in this orientation outline.



A Flashback to the 2014 Annual Conference

Thank you to Marty Gleeson for sharing the following article. This photo was taken at the NYSIDDDNA 2014 Annual Conference. Many of you may remember meeting Jessica at the conference.

From Marty:

I had the pleasure of introducing a celebrity guest, Jessica Patterson and her husband, Jason Patterson, at our 2014 Annual Conference. She was completing her reign as Ms. Wheelchair NYS 2013. Jessica was in an almost fatal car accident in her teens that left her paraplegic.



Jessica has accomplished a great deal. She has worked full time at a variety of jobs and is currently a UPK Paraprofessional Educator at E. John Gavras Center and a Child Life Assistant and Pediatric Volunteer at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital.

Jessica and her husband have been on a journey for the last 12 years and decided to be more open about their struggles and losses—suffered five miscarriages, 9 angel babies, and spent thousands on IVF.

They are sharing their story on “9 Months with Courteney Cox,” so friends and family understand the journey a little more by watching the show (and seeing their fluffy fur kids) and giving others hope and faith. Jessica Patterson and her husband are introduced and featured in most of the episodes, along with nine other couples.

Jess has been through many rounds of IUI s and IVF and experienced loss after loss. She has stayed so strong in her journey and inspired so many. Her rainbow baby will be earthside by publication time. “9 Months with Courteney Cox” is available on Facebook watch. You can also see Jessica’s link on Facebook.

*Submitted by Martin Gleeson, Jr.
NYSIDDDNA Corresponding Secretary
mart4950@gmail.com*

TO CONTACT NYSIDDDNA:

By Mail: Box 25832, Rochester, NY 14625

By Email: information@nysiddna.org

Save the Dates!! Our Webinar Series September 2021—February 2022

The Conference Planning Committee is pleased to announce the following set of virtual webinars for our members. These webinars will be held from September 2021 through February 2022. This webinar series, which will be offered through zoom, will take the place of the 2021 in-person Annual Conference that was cancelled due to the impact of the pandemic. These webinars are free to all attendees.

Our plan is to return to an in-person Annual Conference in the fall of 2022. If you have topics and/or speakers you would like to recommend for 2022, please write to the Conference Planning Committee at information@nysiddna.org. Thank you.

Mark your calendar now!

Fall/ 2021/Winter 2022 Webinar Series

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 – 12:00-1:00

An OPWDD Update

Susan Prendergast, RN, BS, Director of Nursing and Health Services, Statewide Services, NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12 – 12:00-1:30

Surrogate Decision-Making Committee (SDMC): A Toolkit for Providing Expert Nurse Testimony and Handling Challenging Cases

Cynthia Pross, RN, MS, BSN and Annette Kasenko, RN, NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 – 12:00-1:00

Tardive Dyskinesia Forgotten But Not Gone

Anne Marie Desmond, NP-BC, MS, CNS, RN, Clinical Practice Liaison, Neurocrine Biosciences

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14 – 12:00-1:15

The Science of Cannabinoids

Jessica J. Roland, PhD, Senior Medical Science Liaison, New York State, Greenwich Biosciences

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11 – 12:00-1:00

Putting Yes, And To Work: Building a More Adaptable, Empathetic, and Humanizing Healthcare Experience

Cory Jenks, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP, Pharmacist, Improv Comedian, Speaker

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 – 12:00-1:00

Role of the DD Nurse

Fred Wetzel, RN, PhD, Consultant

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Membership Year: April 1-March 31

NEW MEMBERS: Complete all information. **RENEWING MEMBERS:** Complete only name and changes.

New Member (Full Membership) Renewing Member Associate Member*

* Associate members are full time nursing students or inactive nurses (retired or unemployed) and are non-voting members.

Name: _____ Date: _____

RN LPN RN Student LPN Student Transfer (Requesting transfer from
Zone _____ to Zone _____)

Nurse License #: _____ Do you hold CDDN? Yes No

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ County: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Work Site/Agency Name: _____

Work Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ County: _____

Work Telephone: _____ Email: _____

School Attending (Associate Member only): _____

I would like to receive mailings and other information at my:

HOME ADDRESS WORK ADDRESS

Send email messages to my:

Personal Email Work Email

Annual Membership Fee: Full Membership \$50 | Associate Membership \$30

Make check/money order payable to: NYS ID/DD Nurses Association, Inc.

Payment can also be made through PayPal. Go to "Join NYSIDDDNA" on the website (www.nysiddna.org) for the link. If you are paying by PayPal, please complete and send this application by mail or email.

Mail application and payment to: NYS ID/DD Nurses Association, PO Box 25832, Rochester, NY 14625

If your agency mails the check, be sure they have the current mailing address. The address changed on January 1, 2020. Your membership application should be included with your check.

Questions? Email information@nysiddna.org for assistance.

For Office Use:

Membership #: _____ Zone #: _____ Payment Received: _____ Date Processed: _____



NYS ID/DD Nurses Association

Summer 2021

We are pleased to provide you with this Summer 2021 Newsletter. This newsletter is filled with articles, announcements, and updates just for you!

Here is a quick peek at the some of the topics included in this issue:

Save the Date Announcements

- NYSIDDDNA Annual Meeting—Oct. 19, 12-1:00
- Conference Planning Update—Page 1
- Fall/Winter Webinar Series—Sept.-February—Page 10.

NYSIDDDNA Membership News

- Membership Updates—Page 2 & 7
- Zone Updates—Pages 4 & 5
- List of New Members & Zone Map—Page 9
- NYSIDDDNA Membership Application—Page 11

New This Issue—Flashback to 2014—Page 10

Scholarship News

- NYSIDDDNA 2021 Scholarship Recipient—Page 1
- Scholarship Opportunity from Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy—Two \$1,000 scholarships—Page 3

Call for Nominations

- Joyce Binder Memorial Award—Page 7
- Candidates for Officer Positions—Page 8

Messages from Our Officers

- Edie Smith, President—Page 1
- Mary Jean Keegan, President Elect—Page 6