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MN-DONA FOCUS



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AUGUST 2023

Letter from the President

Hello colleagues and fellow nurse leaders,

My name is Heather Nelson. I'm the current MN-DONA President taking over in May for Kristine Rogers. I'm the Director of Nursing at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Fergus Falls, MN. We have been serving Veterans and their spouses for 25 years.

I'm beyond humbled to be the acting President of MN-DONA and look forward to growing this rewarding organization with your help and support.

The Board and I have been working hard for the past several months to reestablish ourselves and MN-DONA now that the pandemic is seemingly over, and we are navigating our "new normal." We needed to take a hard look at our membership numbers and expenses. We believe our hard work is paying off and we are expanding our membership numbers, sponsorships and growing the Spring Connection. However, we need your help to disseminate all the good things to your peers and colleagues that MNDONA has to offer such as comradery, regulatory updates, CEUs of various topics, two great conferences a year, webinars, and most of all FUN!

MN-DONA members have opportunities that include a seat at the Board table and liaison positions with LeadingAge MN, Care Providers, APIC, and the MN Centers for Nursing. We are currently seeking an Assisted Living Advisor to the Board. If you are interested, please contact me or any current Board Members.

Lastly, I would like to thank each and everyone of you for all you do every day serving those that are under your care. I look forward to seeing you all at our 40th annual fall conference in October at Breezy Point Resort. We will be having merchandise for sale online prior to the conference and it will be delivered to Breezy for you to pick up and show it off during the conference. Please check back on the website and watch for emails from your district representatives so you don't miss out on purchasing a T-shirt (short or long sleeve), hoodie or crew neck sweatshirt.

Respectfully,
Heather Nelson

Follow us on
Facebook!



[Minnesota
Directors of Nursing
Administration/LTC](#)

MN-DONA DISTRICT MAP



President - Heather Nelson
 MN Veterans Home Fergus Falls
heather.nelson@state.mn.us



Advisor Kristine Rogers
 Lyngblomsten - St Paul
kr Rogers@Lyngblomsten.org



District 1 - Mechelle Zima
 Mahnomon Health Center -
mechelle.zima@sanfordhealth.org
 Meeting: Second Thurs. of every odd month
 at noon at Deuce in Erskine



District 2 - Holly Moore
 Grand Village - Grand Rapids
hollymoore@ecumen.org
 Meeting: Grandma's Hermantown
 Third Friday of the month quarterly



District 3 - Leah Lee
 Halstad Living Center
hlcdon@halstadlivingcenter.com
 Meeting: 1st Thursday of the month on Zoom
 or at Toast in Fergus Falls



District 4 - Jackie Barber
 The Good Shepherd Community
jackiebarber@gsc-mn.org
 Meeting: 1st Wed of the Month at
 House of Pizza in Sartell



District 5 - Amanda Thorson
 Willmar CentraCare Care Center
amanda.thorson@centracare.org
 Meeting: First Thurs, 11am in Marshall



District 6 - Angela Stevens
 Ecumen Pathstone Living - Mankato
angelastevens@ecumen.org
 Meeting: 2nd Wed every odd month
 at the Pizza Ranch in Mankato at 12pm.



District 7 - Greg Wainman
gregwainman@lyngblomsten.org
 Meeting: 1st Thurs of the month at 7:30am at
 Lyngblomsten/over Zoom

[Click here for our online MN-DONA brochure](#)

2023 AL Nurse Leader of the Year Kendra Koep

Kendra is the RN Clinical Manager of St. William's McCornell Court Assisted Living and was the recipient of our third annual AL Nurse Leader of the Year award at Spring Connection!

Her coworkers said, "I regularly hear compliments about her problem-solving skills" and "I feel confident in her knowledge and decision making." Her conversations with residents demonstrate compassion and understanding. She brings a glowing energy about her that makes you want to join in.

Kendra puts residents' needs first, while promoting staff growth and development. She is also a leader outside of work and is active in her community.



*Left - Kristine Rogers
Right - Kendra Koep*

Congrats!

2023 Don of the Year

Accepting nominations through August 18
[Information on nominating someone](#)

40TH ANNUAL MN-DONA

Lakes Area Directors of Nursing

FALL CONFERENCE

Breezy Point Resort

Oct 11-13, 2023



Sessions include:

Alcohol/Substance Use/Edibles

Mental Health of Staff/Residents

ICAR- Enhanced Barrier Precautions

AL Terminations/Discharges

MDH AL and SNF Survey Updates

Difference between Guardians,
Medical Power of Attorney, etc.

MDS Update

Exhibitors signed up

(as of 8/9/2023)

Advanced Health Institute	Lotus Pharmacy
Apollo Corporation	McKesson Medical-Surgical
Behavioral Care Solutions	Medtrition & Simply Thick
Bluestone Therapy	Med-Mizer
Corner Home Medical	Myriad - Genesight
Custom Medical Solutions	Moments Hospice
Dispatch Health Imaging	Neurocrine Biosciences
DTN Staffing	NW Respiratory Services
Elim Preferred Services	Pathway Health
Essity/TENA	Pfizer
Euvoia	RxCare Assurance
Geritom Medical	Rural Psychiatry
Guardian Pharmacy	St. Croix Hospice
Hanger Medical	Sterling LTC Pharmacy
Handi Medical	Stratis Health
Impact Medical	Tapestry Health
LeadingAge Minnesota	Thrifty White Pharmacy

Take a Chance Drawing

We will be accepting donations of gifts for our Take a Chance on Education raffle on Thursday at the conference, but now also have the option to give money toward items for the raffle on the registration page.

Register Here!

MN-DONA Merch

We will have MN-DONA merch this year!

More information to follow

Contact sarah@bestmeetings.com



*Getting Together
Since '83!*

SAVE THE DATE! May 8 & 9, 2024

MN-DONA Spring Connection

Holiday Inn Downtown Duluth

Pictures



District 3/ Fall Conference Committee
June Meeting at Liz Sether's farm

District 5 Meeting



President Heather Nelson
Speaking at Annual Meeting



District Updates

District 1 Northwestern MN **Rep** Mechelle Zima

Our meetings are the second Thursday of every odd month, 12pm at Deuce in Erskine

Contact mechelle.zima@sanfordhealth.org or (218)935-9440 to get involved!

District 2 Northeastern MN **Rep** Holly Moore

Our meetings are the third Friday of the month quarterly at Grandma's Hermantown

Contact Holly at hollymoore@ecumen.org to get involved!

District 3 West Central MN **Rep** Leah Lee

We've been discussing recent MDH survey results, staffing challenges, recruitment ideas, upcoming MDS changes, EBP changes, and various other topics. Members of District 3 also meet to discuss Fall Conference.

Our meetings are the first Thursday of the month Zoom or in person; we are open to ideas of different meeting locations so more members can attend!

Contact Leah at hlcdon@halstadlivingcenter.com

District 4 East Central MN **Rep:** Jackie Barber

Rep changed to Jackie from Good Shepherd since Patty is now the Treasurer. We will be working to regroup and develop a routine as a district and have had lower participation due to transitions in representation.

Our meetings are the first Wed. of the month via Zoom or quarterly in-person at House of Pizza in Sartell.

Contact Jackie at jackiebarber@gsc-mn.org to get involved!

District 5 Southwestern MN **Rep:** Amanda Thorson

We've discussed survey topics/reviews, quality review with QAPIs and infection prevention. We've also had Publicity and Marketing Committee meetings to help increase MN-DONA membership!

Our meetings are the first Thursday of the month at 11am in Marshall.

Contact Amanda at amanda.thorson@centracare.com

District 6 Southeastern MN **Rep** Angela Stevens

The July meeting was held via Teams and there were several new attendees. Past survey results were discussed as well as any trends noticed in both AL and SNF.

Meetings are the 2nd Wed. of odd months at the Mankato Pizza Ranch. An online survey will be sent out regarding in-person district meetings.

Contact: angelastevens@ecumen.org or (507) 380-4936

^c **District 7** Metro Area **Rep** Greg Wainman

Our meetings are the first Tuesday, 7:30am at Lyngblomsten/over Zoom.

Contact: Greg at gregwainman@lyngblomsten.org or (651) 632-5418

The **National Nursing Workforce Conference** was June 12-14 in Washington D.C. And Angela Stevens, our District 6 Rep, Legislative Committee Chair and MN Centers of Nursing Liaison was able to attend:

“My attendance was made possible by the MN Centers for Nursing and I was able to represent the long-term care nursing arena. There is a lot of work being done nationwide regarding the nursing workforce, education pipeline, and retaining nurses in the field. Look for information in an upcoming newsletter regarding changes within the MN Centers for Nursing.”

Laura DeLage - Personal Balance Scholarship Winner

Laura is the Clinical Nurse Supervisor at Fair Meadow Assisted Living, and the winner of our personal balance scholarship at the 2023 Spring Connection. She was grateful for the opportunity to take a break and go to Treasure Island Resort with her scholarship!



New 2023 Scholarship Program!

For the first time 2023 *sponsor* scholarships will go toward \$500 off registration and room/board for the Fall Conference (most of the cost). This will help DONs and other nurse leaders attend the conference that would not otherwise be able to attend! Open to members or prospective members only and recipients must stay at Breezy. **Deadline** August 18

[Apply for Fall Conference Scholarship](#)

There are also four \$500 educational scholarships available from MN-DONA's Take a Chance on Education program (below), open to members or non-members. **Deadline** August 18

[Apply for Educational Scholarship](#)

AL Webinar August 31, 2023 1-2pm

VA Reporting Requirements
and Processes in Assisted Living

Speaker: Kari Everson from LeadingAge MN

Free for members and \$20 for non-members

[Register Here](#)

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

We can always use help on committees, please fill out this form if interested:
[Committee Application Form](#)

Nominating Committee: Serves the membership body by soliciting and securing candidates for offices and District Directors as needed and outlined in the Constitution/Bylaws, preparing and presenting the ballot to the members prior to the annual meeting.

Constitution/Bylaws Committee: Is responsible for drawing up, wording and preparing any and all amendments to the existing Constitution and Bylaws.

Scholarship/Education Committee: Administers and awards all available scholarships. The committee studies the feasibility/appropriateness of all scholarships, participates in certification of the Director of Nursing as well as promote long term care curriculum development. This committee will recommend to the Executive Committee expenditures for the education development of all members.

Legislative Committee: Reports to the membership at the annual meeting regarding legislative efforts promoted by this organization as outlined in the objectives (Article II) of the MN-DONA Constitution and Bylaws, and they endeavor to keep the membership body informed of matters of legislation pertaining to long term care.

Publicity/Membership Committee: Promotes the organization by way of all public and industry media. Copies of all such endeavors shall be placed in the organization scrapbook. This committee shall promote membership of the organization.

Finance Committee: Responsible for the preparation of a budget for the fiscal year and for submitting it to the organization at its general membership meeting for approval.

Fall Conference Committee: This committee is comprised of District 3 MN-DONA members only and helps plan and coordinate the Fall Conference for the educational development of nursing management in long term care.

Spring Connection Committee: Helps plan and coordinate the Spring Connection for the educational development of nursing management in long term care.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

GOLD

Thrifty White Pharmacy

Deb Hjelmeland
6701 Evenstad Dr Ste 100
Maple Grove, MN 55369
763.513.4394

dhjelmeland@thriftywhite.com



SILVER

Elim Preferred Services

Mike Pietrowski
3500 Holly Lane #30
Plymouth, MN 55447
763.550.9486

mike.pietrowski@icloud.com

BRONZE

ACADIA Pharmaceuticals

Dan Lane
5331 Ivanhoe St
Duluth, MN 55804
218.591.9446
dlane@acadia-pharm.com

Guardian Pharmacy

Emily Quicksell
940 Industrial Drive S Ste 102
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
320.257.8758
Emily.quicksell@guardianpharmacy.net

LeadingAge Minnesota

Kari Everson
2550 University Ave W, Ste 350S
St. Paul, MN 55114
651.603.3502
keverson@leadingagemn.org

Pathway Health

Teckla Johnson
Lake Elmo, MN
651.407.8699
teckla.johnson@pathwayhealth.com

McKesson Medical-Surgical

Brenda Goldenstein
19106 Carson St. NW
Elk River, MN 55330
800.328.8111 x 57057
brenda.goldenstein@mckesson.com

Lotus Pharmacy

Amy Hesselgrave
10980 1st Ave N
Plymouth MN 55441
612.425.9145
ahesselgrave@lotuspharmacy.com

Companies interested in sponsoring should go to

<https://www.mndona.org/sponsorship-program> or email sarah@bestmeetings.com

COPPER

AlixarX

Max Jahraus
Savage, MN
612.709.5880
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ARKRAY, USA

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800.818.8877 ext 2940
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Custom Medical Solutions

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DTN Staffing

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Moments Hospice

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Neurocrine Biosciences

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Northwest Respiratory Services

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mbadenhoff@nwrespiratory.com

Peerlytics

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Radius Living RX

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St. Croix Hospice

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Senior Care Solutions

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Sterling LTC Pharmacy

Karmen Barnes
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877.224.0084
askltc@sterlingltx.com

Superior Health Quality Assurance/Stratis Health

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kfabel@stratishealth.org

PATRONS

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Eric Rios
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612.859.6034
errios@hanger.com

MN-DONA 2023

Board of Directors, Committee Chairs & Office Contact information

Board of Directors

President: Heather Nelson
heather.nelson@state.mn.us
W: 218.770.9577

Advisor: Kristine Rogers
krogers@lyngblomsten.org
W: 651.632.5304

Secretary:
Jennifer Stromlund
jennifers@eldercaremn.com
C: 218.688.0101

Treasurer: Patty Anderson
panderson@greenwoodconnections.com
W: 218.564.4101

District I Director: Mechelle Zima
Mechelle.zima@sanfordhealth.org
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District II: Holly Moore
hollymoore@ecumen.org
C: 218.259.9798

District III: Leah Lee
hlcdon@halstadlivingcenter.com
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District IV : Jackie Barber
jackiebarber@gsc-mn.org
W: 218.564.4101 ext 110

District V: Amanda Thorson
amanda.thorson@centracare.com
W: 507.537.9122

District VI: Angela Stevens
angelastevens@ecumen.org
W: 507.380.4936

District VII: Greg Wainman
gregwainman@lyngblomsten.org
W: 651.632.5418

Committee Chairs

Constitution/Bylaws:
Patty Anderson
panderson@greenwoodconnections.com
W: 218.564.4101 ext 110

Fall Conference: Leah Lee & Nola Smith
hlcdon@halstadlivingcenter.com
nola@529smith@gmail.com

Finance: Patty Anderson
panderson@greenwoodconnections.com
W: 218.564.4101

Legislative: Angela Stevens
angelastevens@ecumen.org
W: 507.385.4343

Spring Connection: Mechelle Zima
Mechelle.zima@sanfordhealth.org
C: 218.473.3061

Nominating: Open

Scholarship/Education: Open

Publicity/Membership:
Currently District 5 members
Contact amanda.thorson@centracare.com

MN-DONA Office

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