THE PRACTITIONER

www.arizonanp.com June – August, 2012 [Edition 3, Volume 1]

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello from the Presidents Corner! We are fast approaching our 24th Annual Southwest Regional Nurse Practitioner Symposium in Flagstaff, **July 27-29, 2012**. This year we have a preconference on Friday with two tracks – pain and alternative therapy. The keynote speaker is Margaret Bobonich who is an NP and a contestant on the hit CBS show *Survivor: Guatemala.* Her dynamic presentation blends her extensive knowledge and experience with inspiration. For more information, go to https://m360.aznurse.org/event.aspx?eventID=39325&instance=0 .

Our Public Relations Committee has been busy working on the website and scheduling educational activities for every month. Dinner meetings include continuing education credits provided by Northern Arizona Health Education Center. To be notified of these and other upcoming events be sure to update your email address with Chapter 9. To update your email information, contact the Arizona Nurses Association at 480-831-0404 or email: info@aznurse.org. Check out our improved website at http://arizonanp.com .

Chapter 9 member Erich Widemark, PhD, RN, FNP-BC has been elected to the Arizona Health e Connection Board of Directors. Arizona Health-e Connection (AzHeC) is a public-private partnership that improves health and wellness by advancing the secure and private sharing of electronic health information. A statewide non-profit, AzHeC drives the adoption and

ARIZONA nurse practitioner COUNCIL

The Arizona Nurse Practitioner Council is a local chapter of the Arizona Nurses Association, and an affiliate of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and the American College of Nurse Practitioners.
Established in 1992, we advocate for our membership through legislative and educational activities. We provide members the opportunity to network with one another and promote their services to the public.

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Arizona Nurse Practitioner Council Executive Committee

President: Janeen Dahn
Vice President: Angela Golden
Treasurer: Karen Holder
Secretary: Ted Rigney
Legislative Chair: Denise Link
Membership Chair: Dale Ann Dorsey
Public Relations Chair: Lisa Dugan
***The Practitioner* Editor**: Ted Rigney

Arizona Nurses Association

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optimization of health information technology (HIT or health IT) and health information exchange (HIE). As such, it is a strategically important group for nursing. Dr. Widemark will be the first nursing representative to this group. We thank Dr. Widemark for volunteering his time to represent us and thank AzNA and the Chapter 9 leadership for their advocacy over the last several years to get us at this important and influential table.

The next Board of Nursing Advanced Practice Committee meeting is scheduled for **June 14, 2012 at 10am.** Last meeting, the Committee made suggestions for the advisory opinion for the care and management of the chronic pain patient. Look for the new Advisory Opinion to be posted on the Board website shortly. Suggestions for agenda items may be submitted to Janeen Dahn at jdahn@azbn.gov . The meetings convene in the Boardroom at the Board of Nursing offices in Phoenix (4747 N. 7th St. Suite 200, Phoenix, Arizona 85014) and are open to the public.

If you would like you and your practice to be highlighted in ***The Practitioner***, you have news for our community **or are interested in writing an opinion article or column**, please contact the Editor, Ted Rigney at ted_rigney@hotmail.com .

NORTHERN ARIZONA NURSE PRACTITIONER GROUP

We have had a busy year up north and almost 100 Flagstaff area providers are members of our group. We focus on providing educational dinner events once a month and offer continuing education for programs. Our end of year event is a half-day conference June 2.

Unfortunately, the deadline for registering for this event has passed, but we hope many more of you will join us next year. NANPG will also host a Pizza party at the 24th Annual Southwest Regional Nurse Practitioner Symposium in Flagstaff, **July 27-29, 2012**. Watch for updated information on this event at: https://m360.aznurse.org/event.aspx?eventID=39325&instance=0 .

Karen Holder, FNP
President, NANPG

SOUTHERN ARIZONA SOCIETY OF ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE/ NURSE PRACTITIONERS

The Southern Arizona Society of Advanced Practice Nurse/ Nurse Practitioners continue to bring together Advance Practice Nurses. We have about 135 active members and about 455 total members.

Are you looking for ways to meet your colleagues in the community? Are you looking for updated information on some of the medications or treatments you use in your practice? Maybe you just want to enjoy an evening out with dinner and chat amongst your colleagues. If you answered yes to any of these questions, then check us out at the next SAZAPN meeting. Advance Practice Nursing students are welcome! For more information on SAZAPN go to our website at: http://www.tucsonnp.com/index.html or contact sharonmorgan@hotmail.com .

Sharon Morgan, MSN, FNP
President, SAZANP

AzNPC PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE by Lisa Dugan

We truly appreciate the volunteers that serve in a variety of capacities on the public relations committee. Whether assisting with website, video projects, educational events or Nurse Practitioner Week, volunteers enrich the quality of Arizona Nurse Practitioner Council. Although working on committees can be a great responsibility, it is also highly rewarding. We are grateful to Nancy Johnson, Roni Fox, David Trinidad, Erich Widemark, and Jaclyn Bacon for contributing their time and expertise to PR activities. Please consider volunteering as "many hands make light work." The educational dinner events are a huge success thanks to Nancy Johnson, FNP-C. We are making every attempt to offer dinner, CEs, webinar access and video recordings of the events as a service to our membership and other NPs throughout Arizona. CEs are provided by NAHEC –Northern Arizona Health Education. Webinar attendees will also receive CE. Video links will either be provided on AZNPC website www.arizonanp.com or links can be mailed to you from Lisa Dugan, lisafnp@chaparraltile.com

Laura Westfall MS, FNP-BC gave a dynamic presentation on "Women and Heart Disease" in February. The presentation focused on best evidence in identifying risk of CVD in women, determining lifestyle modifications, and how to effectively manage CVD and co-morbidities. The event was sponsored by the AZ NP Council and was held at Medtronic which is a world leader in medical technology. Attendees toured the manufacturing facility where pacemakers, defibrillators, and deep brain stimulators are made. Dinner and CEs were provided. Thank you, Laura, for taking the time out of your schedule to share your knowledge and expertise.

In March, Dr. Denise Link presented a timely update on current state and national legislation that may impact Nurse Practitioners. Her PowerPoint presentation included important links on how to access the Arizona Legislative Information System. A video recording of the event and PowerPoint is on the AZNPC website as a service to members and the community. The event was sponsored by the University of Phoenix, Department of Nursing, and held at the new Sperling Center in Phoenix. Webinar access was provided and CEs given to all attendees. Two quotes provided by Dr. Link summarize the importance of NPs being involved in awareness and voting on legislative issues: 1) "***Qui tacet consentire videtur.*** He (She) who is silent is taken to agree" and 2) "***The most common way that people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any***" -Alice Walker.

OptumHealth, known as Inspiris, graciously sponsored an event held at Cardiovascular Care Associates in April. Dr. Nisha Bhatia MD who is board certified in cardiology and internal medicine gave an "Update on Cardiovascular Medications." Dinner, CEs, webinar, and video recording of the event made possible by AZNPC for our members and other NPs in the state. AZNPC appreciates the help of volunteers who make these dinner events possible.

Remember that National Nurse Practitioner Week occurs the second week in November each year. The Arizona Nurse Practitioner Council offers grants each year for Nurse Practitioner Week as an added benefit of membership. Selection criteria focus on promoting NP awareness and NP service in the community. Consider planning an event in your community. We will need volunteers to work on this committee to help create events to celebrate our profession.

Please contact Lisa Dugan, PR Chair, if interested in volunteering in general or speaking at one of our educational dinner events. lisafnp@chaparraltile.com

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE by Denise Link

The 50th Regular Session of the Arizona Legislature was completed in early May. It was a very busy session, as usual, and many of the bills that were supported or opposed by AzNA went our way. The full list of bills that were either defeated, chaptered or died in process is on the AzNA website under "The Nurses List". Mary Griffith, Ray Kronenbitter and Rory Hays did an outstanding job representing nursing, including advanced practice nursing, in this session. Our input was solicited and heard on a number of the issues through the Public Policy Committee. Chapter 9 has two representatives, Denise Link and Angie Golden, on the committee. I think that the presence of two NPs on the committee and one NP on the AzNA board (Karen Holder) helps to keep our interests in the forefront of the AzNA policy agenda and activities.

We are still in need of nurses to be part of the Arizona 90, a plan by AzNA to have a nurse assigned to each legislator in the Arizona Senate and House of Representatives. The nurse would be available for consultation on bills before the legislature that concern healthcare or practice. If interested, please contact Ray at rayrn@roadrunner.com

Medicare denial of payment for Portable X-Rays ordered by NP – AANP and ACNP are following up on this issue with CMS

BON Advanced Practice Committee met March 7th. Topics for discussion were Consensus Model and two Advisory Opinion drafts. The moratorium on rule making has been lifted so there may be some changes in Rules that can be put forward that will move us forward on adoption of the Consensus Model recommendations. Pam Randolph will prepare a draft of items that could be addressed by rules and bring it back to the committee. The Sub Committee that reviewed the Advisory Opinion on Chronic Pain management submitted their recommended revisions and the document was sent to the Scope of Practice Committee for their review and comment. Revisions to the Advisory Opinion for Moderate Sedation/Anesthesia were also reviewed and approved for presentation to the Board of Nursing. The next meeting is scheduled for June 14th and is open to the public.

We now have a nurse on the Arizona Health-e Connection Board of Directors. Congratulations to Dr. Erich Widemark and thanks to him for volunteering to fill that position.

EXCITING NEWS

PHOENIX– The American Organization of Nursing Executives (AONE) and the Arizona State University (ASU) College of Nursing and Health Innovation announce the formation of the Transdisciplinary Consortium for Innovation Leadership in Health Care. As their first official action, the consortium partners announce the launch of the first Fellowship in Innovation Leadership in Health Care, a 15-month program for senior health care leaders.

Applications for the first cohort of Fellows are being accepted through July 16, 2012. For more information about the program go to **www.leadhealthcareinnovation.com** or contact Jack Gilbert, consortium director, at **Jack.Gilbert@asu.edu/.**

The Fellowship program, which will begin September 9, 2012, is designed to prepare the most innovative leaders to positively impact the future of health care. Participants will be mentored by a group of nationally recognized leaders including Barbara Balik, EdD, RN, Jack Gilbert, EdD, FACHE, Kathy Malloch, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN, Tim Porter-O'Grady, DM, EdD, FAAN,

Barry Silbaugh, MD, MS, FACPE, Donna Sollenberger, EVP and CEO UTMB, and David Webster, Partner, IDEO.

The purpose of the Fellowship is to strengthen fellows' personal capability to lead and sustain innovation through bold projects that will accelerate their organization's capability to innovate and measurably improve health outcomes, patient and community satisfaction, caregiver satisfaction and productivity, transdisciplinary collaboration and financial health.

About Transdisciplinary Consortium for Innovative Leadership in Health Care
The Transdisciplinary Consortium for Innovative Leadership in Health Care provides venues,

programs and forums that offer exceptional opportunities to instill the mindset and skills for leading transformation and innovation in service of positive organizational and health outcomes; promotes the timely implementation of evidence-based decision making, a critical leadership capability; and creates synergy between theory, research and application that extends new knowledge about health care leadership into practice.

About the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE)
The American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) is the national professional organization for nurses who design, facilitate and manage care. With more than 8,500 members, AONE is the leading voice of nursing leadership in health care. Since 1967, the organization has provided leadership, professional development, advocacy and research to advance nursing practice and patient care, promote nursing leadership excellence and shape public policy for health care. AONE is a subsidiary of the American Hospital Association (AHA). For additional information, visit the AONE website at www.aone.org.

About the ASU College of Nursing and Health Innovation
Founded in 1957, the College of Nursing and Health Innovation (**http://nursingandhealth.asu.edu**) at Arizona State University has nearly 1,400 students and more than 9,200 alumni. It is ranked 21st out of 467 (top four percent) of graduate nursing programs in the nation, according to the *2012 U.S. News & World Report Rankings of Best Graduate Schools Programs*. The College offers the only dedicated interdisciplinary Master of Healthcare Innovation degree program in the United States.

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

The American College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) has been on the leading edge of representing all nurse practitioners on federal and national policy, professional and practice issues for more than a decade. ACNP's mission is to ensure a solid policy and regulatory foundation for NP practice, which promotes accessible, high quality healthcare. With a unique membership comprised of individual nurse practitioners as well as affiliate memberships for state and national nurse practitioner and nursing groups, ACNP represents the interests of over 30,000 nurse practitioners nationwide. By connecting nurse practitioners nationally, the profession has achieved unprecedented unity and a strong voice.

Learn more about ACNP by visiting www.acnpweb.org.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

VJ (Roni) Fox, RN, MSN, FNP-C

I am honored that I was asked to write about myself for The Practitioner. I became an RN in 1996, and my primary areas of practice were in the ICU and cath lab. I also worked during that time as a unix system administrator for American Express and IBM. After years of wanting to become a NP (and finally finishing my BSN), I entered the MSN Family Nurse Practitioner program at The University of Arizona in the fall of 2007 and graduated in 2010. During my MSN program (in addition to my NP education) I birthed my daughter, learned my son has autism and learned about the effects of environmental toxins on our health. Two weeks after starting my first job as an NP, I was diagnosed with breast cancer and spent my next year having surgery, chemotherapy and radiation instead of practicing. As a result of my experiences in the last 5 years, I have become passionate about women's health, integrated medicine, allergies, autism, nutrition, and organic and "whole food" eating.

I currently work in a walk-in family practice in North Phoenix. I will be moving further north at the end of the summer when I will join Choice Medical Family Practice at their Anthem and Tramonto locations. I look forward to working within the community in which I live and getting more involved there. I hope eventually to open my own practice and be able to spend more time with my patients, focusing on their total health and well-being.

I have years of experience volunteering on multiple committees and for several organizations, including as a member of the SANS Institute's Global Information Assurance Certification (GIAC) Program Advisory Board for Incident Handling (an information technology security group, 2004-2008), secretary/ advisory board member for the Western US Area Conference for Young People in AA (1997-2000), as well as secretary for the Arizona Conference for Young People in AA (1993-1994). I have actively participated in the Arizona Nurse Practitioner Council (AZNPC) for over 2 years now and serve as their liaison to the American College of Nurse Practitioners, as a Public Relations Committee member, and as a 2012 Conference Committee member for the Southwest Regional NP Conference in Flagstaff, July 27th – 29th, 2012.

In my (almost) 2 years of practice as an NP, I have tried regularly to participate in the AZNPC, to support the Council's work in increasing our scope of practice and the many other ways the Council helps Arizona NPs and our profession. It has been a wonderful opportunity to network and get to know those NPs who have years of experience in our profession. I learned many years ago that getting involved in organizations gives me the opportunity to support the organization and its mission, as well as meet others who share my interests and beliefs. I believe that we have to work together in order to further our legal scope, solve our reimbursement issues and educate the public about our role. Being involved in AZNPC allows me to have a purpose within the context of our NP community and a way to support our profession. Even more, it has given me long-lasting relationships with others in our profession who have been supportive of me in my professional practice, as well as lending strength and support personally at times of need. I highly recommend membership and participation in AZNPC to anyone wishing to reach out or give back to the NP community.
Roni

OPINION COLUMN

Crossing the Provider Chasm with CMS-3244-F

By David Trinidad BSN, RN
DNP Student, The University of Arizona College of Nursing

May 2012 will mark a milestone in advanced practice nursing. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, in a final ruling CMS-3244-F, broadened the definition of medical staff to include other practitioners as eligible candidates for hospital privileges in accordance with State law. The ruling also changes regulations governing special training for administrating blood transfusions and intravenous medications by , as well as allowing "drugs and biologicals to be prepared and administered on the orders of practitioners (other than a doctor), in accordance with hospital policy and State law." This historical ruling begins a new era enabling nurse practitioners to practice at the fullest extent of their scope of practice, and advances the concept of interprofessional practice, as a medical staff collaborates to provide the best quality and most efficient health care. Although this news is very exciting this also means the journey is just beginning. We have taken a leap across a chasm, but there is still much work to do.

The health care system created by the Flexner Report has been dominant since 1910. This report defined the healthcare professions and a culture developed that created a chasm between the physician and everyone else, defined as non-physicians. Crossing this chasm has been a long journey for many. Geoffrey Moore in the book Crossing the Chasm refines Everett Roger's The Diffusion of Innovation model and defines those who change as *visionaries, innovators, early adopters, main stream, late adopters and 'laggards.'* Discontinuous change, such as nurse practitioners practicing to the fullest extent of their training, requires crossing a chasm between innovators and early adopters, a chasm characterized in health care by an established system of laws, policy and precedence.

Over 100 years ago, fundamental change was needed to ensure the public's safety. "Snake oil "salesman preyed upon those afflicted with syphilis and tuberculosis, guaranteeing resolution of symptoms. The sore healed spontaneously and the cough went away momentary. Relief was only long enough for the 'quack' to abscond to find their next victim. Today, fundamental change is needed again to protect the millions of chronically ill afflicted with complex multiple-disease processes that are being sub-optimally managed at a tremendous cost. An entire segment of society is underserved with limited access to healthcare

The visionaries at the first Institute of Medicine conference in 1972 foresaw the challenges we face today, as well as tomorrow. They proposed, in two key reports, "Interrelationships of Educational Programs for Health Professionals" and "Educating for the Health Team," the need to optimize the healthcare team by allowing all health care professionals to practice to their full scope of knowledge and proficiency.

The Institutes of Medicine Future of Nursing report is a roadmap for innovation in nursing education and practice. However, previous to CMS-3244-F, the language was easily interpreted to block reimbursement of care provided by "non-physician providers." This barrier has been removed by this ruling.

Although this ruling represents a very positive leap forward at the Federal level, this document also retains language specifying "non-physician personnel" and "practitioners (other than a doctor)." This categorization might continue to provide a veiled barrier between physician and non- physician personnel, hampering true

interprofessional practice. There are States, such as Arizona, with very early adoptive laws and policies promoting nurse practitioner independence. Then there are states, such as Florida and Alabama, that severely limit the independence and the ability of nurse practitioners to practice to the full extent of their education.

There is much more work to do, but we have leaped across a chasm that divided the value provided by a nurse practitioner and the value provided by a physician. Now on to mainstreaming the concepts framed so well in CMS-3244-F into state scope of practice acts and insurance reimbursement policies. Over time, laggards, such as Florida and Alabama, will change their laws and policies.

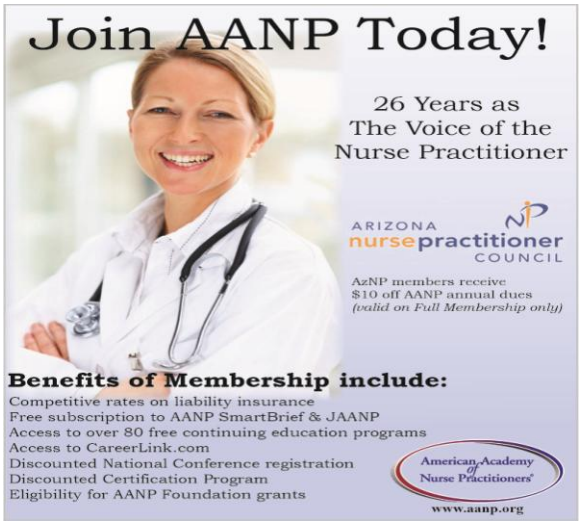
AANP REGION 9 UPDATE

I had the honor of attending the American Academy Region 9 Invitational Leadership Meeting in San Diego on April 21, 2012. The meeting was attended by leaders from California, Nevada, Arizona, Hawaii and Guam. Arizona was represented by our President, Janeen Dahn (University of Phoenix), myself for AZNPC, Bessie Burk (AANP state representative) and Kathy Kenny (Arizona State University).

Each region provided a report on what has occurred legislatively in their state and Bessie Burk reported for Arizona as our AANP state representative. The day included an update by Tay Kopanos, Director of Health Policy/State Government Affairs of AANP and a Federal Update by Jan Towes, Director of Health Policy/Federal Government Affairs of AANP. Dr. Kopanos provided information that 1/3 of the states have plenary authority in the US (thank goodness we are in that 1/3). But she also reported on the Virginia legislation this year that now requires NP's to work in a team that is physician led. Arizona representatives were able to report on how we obtained our plenary authority and prescriptive authority so many years ago. We also discussed the need to stay vigilant and used the change in our practice act of adding the restrictions on abortions that the legislature put in place.

Dr. Towers reported that there seems to be movement to remove the restriction by Medicare of paying for portable x-rays that are ordered by NP's. The current regulations DO not restrict us from ordering portable x-rays, but they do restrict the organizations doing the x-rays from being paid if the order came from an NP. Obviously, this 1969 rule is outdated and CMS is working with the NP organizations to get this corrected. Jan reported she expects this to be fixed in the next few months. The meeting was well attended and everyone took away ideas for their states to encourage membership and grassroots legislative work. The American Academy of Nurse Practitioner annual conference is this June in Orlando Florida and President Penny Kaye Jensen encouraged everyone to attend for the great education as well as the wonderful networking, and of course all the family fun that the Orlando area offers.

Angie Golden DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP
Vice- President, AzNPC Executive Committee



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

About 900 of you are current members of AANP and I want to thank you for your support and involvement in AANP. For those of you who are not members, I have enclosed information regarding the different types of membership available (find at the end of The Practitioner). If you currently belong to AzNA, you receive the $10 discount as described.

Also, both membership and attendance at the national conference has a huge student discount so please encourage or pass the information along to NP students out there. It is a great way to get involved and an excellent learning opportunity.

Just go to www.aanp.org and click on the membership link on the right to join.
The member benefits are too numerous to list here, but they include online CEU and networking options.

AANP's 27th National Conference is June 20 – 24th. This year it is in Orlando, Florida and is looking to be an exciting event. Last year in Las Vegas we had almost 5,000 NPs in attendance.

The educational offerings are amazing and cover just about any topic you might be interested in. The networking opportunities are abundant. There are still classes available and many options are not filled as yet, so there is still time. There are hotel and entertainment options for extending your stay or arriving early if you would like to explore Orlando, or just sit by the pool for a couple of days.

If you join AANP and then sign up for the conference, your total charges are less than if you come as a non-member. Even better reason to join!

Hope to see you there,
Bessie Burk
Arizona State Representative
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
bessieburk@msn.com

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

The American College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) has been on the leading edge of representing all nurse practitioners on federal and national policy, professional and practice issues for more than a decade. ACNP's mission is to ensure a solid policy and regulatory foundation for NP practice, which promotes accessible, high quality healthcare. With a unique membership comprised of individual nurse practitioners as well as affiliate memberships for state and national nurse practitioner and nursing groups, ACNP represents the interests of over 30,000 nurse practitioners nationwide. By connecting nurse practitioners nationally, the profession has achieved unprecedented unity and a strong voice.

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ARIZONA HEALTH-E CONNECTION (AzHeC)

Health care providers today, including nurse practitioners, are changing and improving how they deliver care with the adoption of electronic health records (EHRs) and the advancement of health information technology (health IT). One Arizona non-profit is leading this development through community

collaboration, cooperation and consensus-building. Arizona Health-e Connection (AzHeC) is a network of companies, organizations and individuals dedicated to better health and wellness through advancing the adoption of health IT and a health information infrastructure for all of Arizona.

Incorporated in 2007, AzHeC originally grew out of a 2005 gubernatorial executive order and the subsequent work of hundreds of individuals and organizations. The core principles that created AzHeC still drive the organization today:

- Advocating and advancing secure and private health IT;
- Creating a health information infrastructure for Arizona through a public private partnership of health care, business and government stakeholders; and
- Governing and funding this partnership through a broad representation of organizations, companies and individuals across the state.

AzHeC gained national attention for its early leadership, focus on action and involvement and cooperation with a broad base of stakeholders. AzHeC received the coveted Innovator's Award from the Council of State Governments for its collaborative approach and its ability to be duplicated in other states. In the last two years, AzHeC has led the drive for the adoption and implementation of EHRs in the state through the creation and operation of the Arizona Regional Extension Center (REC), a community collaboration funded by an $11.5 million federal grant. To date the REC has assisted more than 2,000 Arizona providers with the adoption and implementation of EHRs and is continuing to assist providers with achieving Meaningful Use of their EHRs. Over 439 of the REC members served to date are nurse practitioners. Most recently, AzHeC has been tasked to lead the implementation of the Arizona HIE Marketplace, which will work to provide viable options for health information exchange to all Arizona providers.

What has made AzHeC successful in its first five years has been its broad base of member support from companies, organizations and individuals across the state. AzHeC members not only provide necessary financial support, they also guide the organization through active service on one of the many AzHeC committees that develop community consensus and collaboration. “We welcome and need support from all Arizona companies and organizations,” said Melissa Rutala, CEO or Arizona Health-e Connection. “Our members not only support us through annual membership dues, but also through providing service and input in our committee structure. We appreciate the ongoing support of the Arizona Nurse Practitioner Council and look forward to continuing our collaboration in the months and years ahead.”

For more information on AzHeC’s programs, resources or how to get involved, visit our website: www.azhec.org. Specifics regarding the Arizona Regional Extension Center can be found at www.arizonarec.org.

Arizona Partnership Implementing Patient Safety (APIPS)

APIPS is a state-wide interdisciplinary coalition of organizations and agencies that have joined together to promote safe healthcare delivery and environments for all Arizonans. APIPS is an outcome of a Patient Safety Task Force convened in 2003 by the

Arizona Hospital & Healthcare Association and the Health Services Advisory Group to comply with a directive from the Arizona state legislature for healthcare organizations to develop protocols to review adverse events. From this initial group of 15 representatives from hospitals and healthcare systems, APIPS has grown to its current membership of 30 participating organizations that include professional organizations, state and private healthcare providers, consumer groups, health insurance vendors and academic institutions. APIPS participants meet on a quarterly basis at HSAG Headquarters in Phoenix to discuss ways to improve patient safety and the quality of health care and health outcomes. The meetings often include guest speakers who offer presentations on various patient safety initiatives taking place in Arizona. APIPS programs include development and dissemination of "The Med Form" to promote communication between consumers and caregivers, and "Practice Guidelines for Patient Safety: Correct Identification of Patients, Their Surgical Sites and Procedures". APIPS has also been involved in the distribution of a provider-to-patient disaster preparedness flyer, and promotion of disaster awareness planning for providers and patients. In 2009, APIPS worked with the Arizona affiliate of Partnership for a Drug-free America, raising awareness about teen access and abuse of prescription drugs through the program, "Rx360". APIPS has also participated in statewide e-prescribing initiative to decrease healthcare errors, and the integration of electronic health records throughout the state. APIPS is a supporting partner of the "No Place Like Home" campaign, an 18 month effort to reduce preventable hospital readmissions in Arizona for Medicare beneficiaries by 20% between January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. Both AzNA and Az Nurse Practitioner Council Chapter 9 are members of APIPS. Chapter 9 member Denise Link is on the APIPS Board of Directors.
Website: http://www.apips.org/

Facebook:
http://www.facebook.com/AzPatientSafety?sk=wall

BOARD OF NURSING

The latest edition of the Arizona Nurse can be found at: http://www.azbn.gov/

Upcoming BON meetings in 2012:
July 26 & 27
Sept 19 & 20
Nov 15 & 16
Meetings are 8:00AM – 5:00PM and are open to the public. Best times to attend are the first day and the morning of the second day.

Upcoming Advanced Practice Committee meeting in 2012: 10:00AM – 12:00PM
June 14

BON and Advanced Practice meetings are at the BON office 4747 N. 7th Ave Phoenix, AZ

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS MEMBERSHIP

Full Member ($125)- A registered nurse who has successfully completed an NP program and maintains certification as an NP with a nationally approved certifying body. Full members shall have the right to vote in national and state elections. Full members desiring to seek state or national office must have been an AANP member in good standing for the previous 12 months. ***Members of current AANP Group Organizations are eligible for a $10 discount (applies to Full Membership category only).***

Career Starter ($95) - A newly graduated NP who has completed one year as an AANP student member. Career Starter members shall

have the right to vote and hold elected office at the state level.

Associate Member ($125)- A person who is not an NP but who is interested in fostering the objectives of AANP and the NP profession qualifies as an Associate Member. Associate Members do not have the right to vote or hold office.

Retired Member ($55) - A nurse practitioner who has retired from NP practice. Retired members shall have the right to vote in state elections. Retired members may hold office at the state level after being an AANP member in good standing for the previous 12 months.

Student Member ($55)- A student currently enrolled in an entry-level program that prepares NPs. Student Members shall have the right to vote in state elections and seek office at the state level. Student members desiring to seek office at the state level must have been an AANP student member in good standing for the previous 12 months.***To qualify for student member rates, proof of enrollment in the current academic semester must contain the full name of the student and be received by the AANP membership department with the membership application or within five business days of online submission.***

Recognized NP – Student ($95) - A nurse practitioner who has returned to school for further education qualifies as a Recognized NP - Student Member. A Recognized NP - Student member wishing to seek either state or national office must have been an AANP member in good standing for the previous 12 months. If desiring to run for national office, Recognized NP – Student members must convert to Full member status. ***To qualify for student member rates, proof of enrollment in the current academic semester must contain the full name of the student and be received by the AANP membership department with the membership application or within five business days of online submission.***