



Florida State Association of Rehabilitation Nurses COMMUNIQUE

MARCH 2026

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HAPPY SPRING

President's Message

Our conference committee has been working hard and is putting the finishing touches on our annual educational conference. This year's conference theme, "Rehab Under the Sea... Diving Deep Into Recovery," captures the heart of the work we do every day. Rehabilitation nursing requires the courage to look beneath the surface, the curiosity to understand each patient's unique needs, and the commitment to foster their independence and improve their quality of life.

This month we also celebrated Certified Nurses Day. To all our certified nurses: thank you. Your specialty certification is an achievement to be proud of and reflects a deep dedication to excellence and a passion for elevating the care we provide. We celebrate you and the expertise you bring to every patient's journey toward recovery.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting opportunity on the national stage. The ARN Annual Conference is coming to West Palm Beach this August, right here in our home state. This is a wonderful opportunity for our members to engage with colleagues from across the country, learn from national leaders, and showcase the incredible work happening in rehabilitation nursing throughout our state. Having ARN's conference in our own backyard is a privilege, and I encourage you to take full advantage of this unique chance to engage, learn and be inspired.

FSARN continues to grow and we welcome your ideas, your energy, and your involvement. If you're already an ARN member, it's easy to join the Florida Chapter! Just email info@rehabnurse.org and request to add the Florida Chapter to your membership for just \$15. Together, we're advancing Rehabilitation Nursing in Florida!

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Sue Brown

Thank you for everything you do for our patients, our profession, and for each other. I'm truly grateful to be part of this amazing community of rehab nurses. We have an exciting year ahead! Here's to staying curious, supporting each other, and diving a little deeper together.

With gratitude,
Ann
Ann Wilson, MSN, RN, CRRN
FSARN President

Leadership Committee Update

The FSARN Leadership Committee did not have much activity in the past few months, but we are ramping up the rest of the year. The last virtual CE program was held February 17, 2026 "Surviving and Thriving after severe stroke," presented by Karyn S Pingle, MS, CCC-SLP (Service Chief Audiology & Speech Pathology at JAHVA) and David Hume (stroke survivor with aphasia). There was a great online turnout for this presentation! With over 50 in attendance. Upcoming programs will be on 3rd Tuesdays every other month at 6:00 pm: May 19th, July 21st, September 15th and November 17th. Information will be posted on the website as it becomes available. If you have an idea for a topic and/or a speaker, please reach out to Sue at suebrowncrrn@gmail.com

We plan on holding a virtual CRRN Core Review program again this year, likely over 2 days in October. If you would like to be a speaker for this event please let us know. It is a group effort to coordinate this, with speakers on a variety of topics from various organizations.

ARN has a variety of individual and group awards that are available. Please visit their website www.rehabnurse.org for a full listing. If you know of a FSARN member who would be a good candidate for one of these awards, please reach out to Sue at the above email. The Florida Chapter has a long history of winning awards!

Last but not least, the ARN in-person conference is August 2-4, 2026, in West Palm Beach, Florida, the pre-con Leadership session is August 1st (8a-12p), CRRN review is Friday & Saturday (7/31 & 8/1); and professional tours: Saturday 8/1 (1-5:30) & Sunday 8/2 (7:30a-11:30a). Please see the ARN website for specifics. The annual Meet n' Greet will be held during the ARN conference, co-sponsored by the Broward District (which will be their Summer Social). Date TBD once the ARN program schedule becomes available. Information will be available on the ARN website.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Brown, MSN, RN, CMGT-BC, CRRN, CCM, CMAC
FSARN Leadership Chair

COME JOIN US AT OUR FSARN ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Wyndham Resort Hotel in Disney Springs
April 26-27, 2026



The 2026 FSARN Annual Educational Conference is now open for Registration of Attendees and Vendors.

"Rehab Under the Sea...Diving Deep into Recovery"

When: April 26-27, 2026

Where: Wyndham Resort Hotel in Disney Springs.

Let us take you on an adventure where you "dive deep" into the depths of rehabilitation practices and discoveries! We are offering a hybrid option again this year. FSARN is the G.O.A.T. for rehab nursing education and on this "dive" trip, you will learn about new tech innovations, cutting edge medical treatments and current trends in rehab while earning 10 Nursing CEs attending in person or 8 Nursing CEs if you opt for virtual attendance on Zoom. 8 CCM credits have been applied for through CMCC for both in person and virtual attendance.

Registration link is on the website at www.FSARN.org under the Annual Conference tab.



Our next BARN event will be during the ARN Annual Conference in West Palm Beach in August. ARN conference is scheduled for August 2nd - August 4th 2026. We will hold an event in conjunction with FSARN for food, drinks and networking. Details are not available at this time.

Ina Fletcher, MSN, RN-BC, CRRN
inafletcher@comcast.net
www.FSARN.org or www.BrowardARN.org

Policy Highlights:

House Nursing Caucus Co-Chair Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR-01) and Vice Chair and nurse Rep. Jen Kiggans (R-VA-02) are currently circulating a Dear Colleague Letter urging the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS-ED) to provide the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs with \$610 million for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027.

Yvette M. Salas MSN, CRRN
FSARN President-Elect

Do you have any positions that you want FSARN to help you fill?

- Use our e-newsletter to reach more people
- Will also post on the FSARN website
- Position will stay on FSARN website for 30 days

Contact: Ina Fletcher - inafletcher@comcast.net

Mission Statement for the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses:



The Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) promotes and advances professional rehabilitation, nursing practice through education, advocacy, collaboration, and research to enhance the quality of life for those affected by disability and chronic illness. FSARN, as a chapter, supports the same mission and values upheld by **ARN**.

For more information regarding FSARN, [contact inafletcher@comcast.net](mailto:inafletcher@comcast.net)

FSARN | <https://www.fsarn.org>

For more information please contact: Communique Chair / Board Members Listed

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