

RN-AIM Annual Conference - Brochure

The registration brochure has been sent to all RN-AIM members and can be found on the website under the “Events and Meetings” link under “Conference” (<http://www.rn-aim.org/docs/2011%20RN-AIM%20Conference%20Brochure%20%207-25-2011.pdf>). I encourage each of you to register for this exciting conference and to share the brochure with colleagues who are not yet members of RN-AIM. In addition to many excellent presentations focused on innovations in nursing practice, the Assembly will be an opportunity for RN-AIM members to take part in an historic discussion regarding RN-AIM’s request to the ANA to become the Constituent Membership Association for Michigan.

The Bylaws Committee, under the expert direction of Donna Craig, RN, JD, and Phyllis Brenner PhD, RN, has prepared draft Bylaws which you should have already received. Please review them carefully and forward any questions/concerns to the [rn-aim.org](http://www.rn-aim.org) website (www.rn-aim.org). The Bylaws now reflect language in compliance with ANA Bylaws. They have been reviewed by ANA and an ANA staff person dealing with membership associations will be present at the Assembly to address questions raised by RN-Aim members.

Even if you are unable to attend the entire conference, I urge you to take part in the Assembly, so your voice can be heard and your vote cast. RN-AIM Assembly to be held: September 23rd at 8:30am. Current Bylaws offer the opportunity for you to vote online if the vote is received at least seven days before the Assembly. There are several discussions on the website and in the last News and Musings that detail what will occur with a positive vote, and you can review those at your leisure. The ANA Board meets in October, our request would be considered at that time, and RN-AIM would be seated at the National Assembly in June 2012.

10 Years and 100 Children Saved

Michigan’s Safe Delivery Law went into effect on January 1, 2001. To date, 100 newborns have been surrendered to appropriate authorities by mothers who felt unable to care for their infants. Information about the law can be found at www.michigan.gov/safedelivery or at michsafedelivery@gmail.com. The Michigan Primary Care Association has developed a number of resources available to individuals to make sure that your patients and clients are aware of the law. The Safe Delivery hotline number is 1/866.733.7733, and the informational resources are available at www.mpca.org.

Regional Health Needs Assessment Planned

The Michigan Department of Community Health is sponsoring a series of eight regional meetings to gather input from citizens and health care providers that will serve as the basis for a statewide health needs assessment. The meetings will include a brief review of health and demographic data by state and region, and a discussion of those items of health status where the region is doing better or less well than state averages. Group discussion will be focused on identifying the state’s health priorities and strategies to positively impact the priorities. For more information about these meetings visit the www.michigan.gov/mdch website.

APRN Legislation Has Been Introduced

RN-AIM is involved in the discussions of the APRN Coalition, and the activities of the group can be found at www.micnp.org if you are interested. Following the discussion regarding prescriptive authority for advanced practice nurses. There are several informational pieces at the website that are helpful if you have conversation with legislators about the bills. The House Bill is sponsored by Lesia Liss, who is a nurse, and the bill number is HB 4774. The Senate bill is sponsored by Mark Jansen and is SB 481. Both bills can be found at www.michigan.gov/legislature to you can follow the progress of the bills, be aware of any substitute bills or amendments and identify what committee members is will be important to contact to make them aware of the varied and comprehensive practice of APRNs.

Advanced practice nurses bring special knowledge and skills to the care of their patients, and a recent study in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* notes that senior hospitalized for heart failure who completed a transitional care program headed by advanced practice nurses had a 48% lower readmission rate compared with individuals who did not complete a similar program. The transitional care program included hospital and home visitations, and demonstrated a significant decrease in readmission.

Michigan APRN Advocacy Day is September 14, 2011. Registration for that event is now open and the link is: <http://m360.micnp.org/event.aspx?eventID+30973>

IOM RECOMMENDS HEALTH COVERAGE FOR WOMEN

On July 19, 2011, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) recommended that eight preventive health services should be available to women without charge, including birth control methods. Other services recommended include HIV screening and counseling, breastfeeding support and counseling, HPV testing as part of cervical cancer screening, counseling on sexually transmitted infections, gestational diabetes tests during pregnancy and screening and counseling to detect and prevent interpersonal and domestic violence as part of the package of preventive services for women under the Affordable Care Act. The IOM stated in the report that reproductive methods and these other services should all be recognized as preventive services and provided without charge.

INCREASED PUBLIC HEALTH SPENDING SAVES LIVES

A study released online by the journal *Health Affairs* strengthens the argument that more spending by public health agencies to keep people healthy can save more lives that would otherwise be lost to preventable illnesses. Between 1993 and 2005, the study authors found that public health spending increased among 65% of local public health agencies, and in communities that increased spending by 10% the infant mortality rate declined 6.85%, heart disease deaths decreased by 3.22% and deaths from diabetes and cancer also declined. Unfortunately, Michigan is not one of the states that increased public health spending, and in fact in many Michigan counties public health spending decreased during those same years. Public health infrastructure in Michigan is in peril, with revenue-sharing decreasing significantly.

In July 2011, Michigan received \$3,987,552 to strengthen the nursing workforce

Michigan		
Grantee	City	Award
Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship		
Regents of The University of Michigan	Ann Arbor	\$ 70,403
Regents of The Univ of Michigan	Ann Arbor	\$ 32,014
University of Detroit Mercy	Detroit	\$ 35,808
Wayne State University	Detroit	\$ 100,572
Michigan State University	East Lansing	\$ 60,144
Grand Valley State University	Grand Rapids	\$ 38,014
Western Michigan University	Kalamazoo	\$ 20,310
Madonna University	Livonia	\$ 33,511
Oakland University	Rochester Hills	\$ 49,951
Saginaw Valley State University	University Center	\$ 34,943
Advanced Nursing Education		
Regents of The University of Michigan	Ann Arbor	\$ 232,474
Regents of The University of Michigan	Ann Arbor	\$ 404,821
Nurse Anesthetist Training		
Regents of The University of Michigan	Ann Arbor	\$ 21,046
University of Detroit Mercy	Detroit	\$ 24,493
Wayne State University	Detroit	\$ 22,231
Michigan State University	East Lansing	\$ 19,431
Oakland University	Rochester Hills	\$ 16,231
Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention		
University of Detroit Mercy	Detroit	\$ 249,160
Nurse Faculty Loan Program		
Regents of The Univ of Michigan	Ann Arbor	\$ 529,438
Wayne State University	Detroit	\$ 1,266,918
University of Detroit Mercy	Detroit	\$ 264,894
Madonna University	Livonia	\$ 57,098
Eastern Michigan University	Ypsilanti	\$ 12,794
Nursing Workforce Diversity		
Regents of The University of Michigan	Ann Arbor	\$ 390,853

State by state totals: <http://www.hrsa.gov/about/news/2011tables/nursingbystate.html>

And the Musing...

The 2011 RN-AIM Assembly meeting is probably the most significant one since the organization was formed in late 2005. It holds the promise of RN-AIM becoming the Constituent Membership Association of ANA in Michigan. The "Founding Mothers" of RN-AIM, with apologies to our male members, certainly had this in mind when they met to establish the organization, and a positive vote by RN-AIM members and the ANA Board would identify RN-AIM as the organization for professional nurses and nursing student associates in Michigan. Our logo would remain RN-AIM but include the statement that we are the Constituent Membership Association for ANA in Michigan. How exciting!!

Mary Scoblic, Editor