

COLORADO AWHONN

SECTION NEWSLETTER

Volume 9, Issue 1

March 2021

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AWHONN

Mission:

Promote the health of
women and newborns

AWHONN National Goals:

Public visibility
Knowledge transfer
Build membership

CO AWHONN Goals:

Promote member
engagement through
partnerships



Section Chair Report

Hello AWHONN Members and Happy Spring!

I attended a legal talk at the November AWHONN conference. It focused on what the Mom/Baby nurse needed to know. I was surprised that there are a rising number of legal suits that are coming from the immediate postpartum time. Many cases are from sudden unexpected postnatal collapse and newborn falls/drops.

Personally, I have seen practice change from many years ago when I was first a nurse. At that time we took the baby to the nursery for “transition” and the baby was monitored for the first two hours. Now, we protect the “golden hour” and encourage skin to skin which supports transition and supports exclusive breastfeeding. There might only be one nurse monitoring both mom and baby if all is well.

These days many parents are using their smartphones to communicate the information about the birth. With today’s environment there might not be as close surveillance on the newborn as we had previously, and this is thought to contribute to the increase in unexpected events for the newborn. I encourage all Mom/Baby and Labor and Delivery nurses to review the AWHONN practice brief on Newborn Falls/Drops [https://www.jognn.org/article/S0884-2175\(20\)30105-2/fulltext](https://www.jognn.org/article/S0884-2175(20)30105-2/fulltext). Smartphone usage by the parent while holding baby is seen as a contributor to these events. Since attending this lecture I have now started talking to patients about not using the smartphone when holding baby. I mention how we are partnering together to monitor the baby in the very sensitive transition time.

I’m excited that we will be having a legal talk at our state conference. Our agenda is still in process, but we are working on a panel discussion with a lawyer and a few nurses that have worked on cases as legal nurse consultants. It’s a topic we hear from the membership they’d like to learn more about. We will also have a talk on bringing Evidence Based Practice to the bedside. One keynote I know you will enjoy is Stephanie Arnold discussing her experience with surviving an Amniotic Fluid Embolism. I heard her speak at the National Conference in New Orleans. Her message about listening to the patient has stayed with me since that talk and her story is very compelling.



I hope you enjoy this spring newsletter and I look forward to us returning to in person events very soon!

Isabelle Campanella MSN, RNC-OB, RNC- MNN

CO AWHONN Section Chair

Legislative Happenings



It has been a busy legislative quarter! I was fortunate to attend the AWHONN on the Hill virtual conference. It was very informative and educational. I met the Chair of the National AWHONN Public Policy Committee, Megan Raleigh RN. She recently moved to Colorado from Texas, where she was the legislative coordinator. I look forward to having her expertise in our state!

At the meeting we were given three Acts to ask our Legislators to support. The three are listed below. I had the opportunity to speak with Representative Boebert's personal Aide, it went well. I am hoping to meet with Senator Bennet's Aide later this week and do the same ask.

1. S.411 the Mothers and Offspring Mortality and Morbidity Awareness or MOMMA's Act; this act supports initiatives to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality and improve the health status of women. It addresses racial health disparities and social determinates of health. It would standardize reporting across the states. It would increase postpartum care under Medicaid to expand to a year pp.
2. H.R.1195 Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act; This act is asking OSHA to issue a standard requiring health care employers to have a plan in place to prevent violence from happening and respond when it does. This includes de-escalation techniques, personal alarm devices, surveillance and monitoring systems and other strategies to keep employees safe.
3. H.R.958/S.796 The Protecting Moms Who Served Act; this act would require VA facilities to support maternity care coordination with other facilities. It would facilitate access to community resources to address social determinates of health like housing, nutrition, and employment status. Mandating mental and behavioral health risk factors in prenatal and postnatal periods. This would also require VA to offer Childbirth prep classes, parenting classes, nutritional counseling, breastfeeding support, lactation classes, and offer breast pumps.

If you want more information please let me know. You can also reach out to your representative and ask them to support these Acts.

I am sure you are all aware Congress has passed the H. R. American Rescue Plan. This appropriates \$1.9trillion for COVID-19. I was not sure you were all aware of the breakdown that impacts us.

The programs funded by this bill that impact the nursing workforce or the health of mothers and newborns are:

- \$7.66 billion for the public health workforce, including public health nurses.
- \$200 million for the Nurse Corps to support scholarships and loan repayment for students, nurses, and advanced practice registered nurses who work in areas that need them the most.
- \$150 million in emergency supplemental funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program.
- \$80 million for mental health and substance use disorder training for health professionals, including nurses.
- \$20 million for efforts to encourage healthy work conditions and the use of mental health and substance use disorder services for healthcare professionals.
- \$40 million to promote mental health services among the health professional workforce.
- The bill also allows states to extend Medicaid coverage to 12 months postpartum. The bill makes the option available for five years.

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Membership Matters



Membership matters. But why? As we spring forward into the spring and hopefully into a vaccinated post-covid era; it is a question that has been on my mind.

- ⇒ Why bother being a member of AWHONN?
- ⇒ Why bother being part of the Colorado chapter? With hospital educational budgets reduced, and in person meetings a way of the past (a la Zoom); I'm sure it is a question many have asked themselves. Maybe even still asking themselves.

But I think membership matters most for a sense of community. In webinars, meetings, Facebook and the AWHONN message board - we can come together. We can commiserate on the past year, look forward to the future and discover new practices. We can share new protocols and projects we are working on. From a trial fetal telemetry unit, to QBL, ERAC protocols (chewing gum in the PACU?!) and VTE policies— we can learn so much from our peers! There is a wealth of knowledge in this group that can be shared and tapped into. So feel free to use it!

And hopefully soon we can come together as a community at our CO AWHONN State Conference on Sept 9th & Sept 10th. After all, what makes membership so rewarding are the connections we make. So please make sure to stop by our membership table and say hello to me and Kami. We would love to finally meet you all!

Sincerely,

Sarah Mangat, BSN, C-EFM
Co-Membership Coordinator – CO AWHONN
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Communications Coordinator



Hello Colorado AWHONN Chapter Members,

Happy Spring!

I have been busy taking advantage of all of the virtual learning that has come to light with COVID-19. I love how we have all embraced technology, and now we are all experts with virtual meetings and gatherings!

As a leadership team we have all been busy planning 2021 Colorado AWHONN events and taking each day in stride. I hope that you all are staying healthy and some sense of normalcy is returning to your lives.

If you have a need for education, questions about best practices, or just want to network with fellow AWHONN members, I'd love to hear from you. Your AWHONN leadership team is always looking to expand our outreach and we'd love to hear how we can best suit your needs.

I hope to connect with you at an upcoming AWHONN event!

Rainy Tieman DNP, MSN/Ed, RNC-MNN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, C-ONQS

Rainytieman@gmail.com

Do you want more AWHONN Announcements and be the first to know about upcoming events?

Join our Colorado AWHONN Facebook page today!

Search "AWHONN Colorado Section"

Evidence-Based Practice

Colorado AWHONN is in search of an Evidence-Based Practice coordinator!

Your role would include writing an article for the newsletter published four times per year, on whatever topic interests you or is important at the time of publication.

If you are interested, please contact Izzi Campanella at Izzi.Campanella@gmail.com



Denver Chapter

Innovation and Collaboration within the SCL System to Promote Safety

As the Denver chapter coordinator and also the Clinical Practice Specialist for Lutheran Medical Center, I wanted to share some exciting innovative changes happening in the front range. Two SCL Health hospitals have joined forces to trial a **remote fetal telemetry unit** to enhance vigilance, create a safety net and promote improved fetal outcomes.

Background about the fetal telemetry project:

In 2020, the SCL Health leadership team recognized an opportunity to improve safety by initiating prompt responses of changing patterns in the strips by centralizing the “monitoring” of fetal monitoring strips. This opportunity specifically focuses on the fetal monitor strips and the ability to identify, interpret and respond to adverse fetal monitoring strips in the Labor and Delivery departments at the respective care sites. This plan includes a 6-month trial of a remote OB Telemetry Room to monitor strips at SJH and LMC in order to improve safety in both units.

Project Details:

The 6 month pilot (March-October, 2021) uses central surveillance of tracings with Perigen Periwatch Vigilance Early Warning System. Periwatch Vigilance offers an FDA cleared software module that measures features in the electronic fetal monitor tracing such as accelerations, decelerations, FHR baseline and variability. During the trial, two experienced L&D nurses are scheduled to staff the remote telemetry room 24/7. The telemetry room is located off the unit in a dedicated area designed specifically to review fetal monitor strips real time.

Outcomes:

Our team plans to collect neonatal outcome metrics evaluating the success of the 6 month trial. If successful, there may be an opportunity to establish a system wide strategy to improve outcomes and reduce risk for the OB service lines in all SCL Health care sites in Colorado and Montana.

Summary:

While too early to determine the success of this pilot project, we are excited to share our passion for fetal safety, innovation using technology and commitment to creative solutions related to women’s health. **We hope this project inspires others to harness your creative energy, passion for safety and**

commitment to collaboration in an effort to improve the health of women and newborns!!

Amy Dempsey, DNPc, MSN, RNC

AWHONN Denver Chapter Coordinator

Amy Dempsey, MSN RNC

Denver Chapter Coordinator



Western Slope Chapter

Hello Western Slope Chapter Members,

Spring is in the air and luckily here on the Western Slope we are headed in the right direction to (hopefully) get back to a resemblance of normal living.

Your AWHONN leadership team have been busy planning events for 2021, including our state conference in September! We are excited to see you all in person (fingers crossed)!

I have been busy maintaining safe COVID-19 practices in my facility as well as participating with a new Maternal Mental Health Toolkit for my system. I hope with all that I learn in this new committee as well as the information given to us by the Colorado Perinatal Care Quality Collaborative (CPCQC) that we can better assist our mothers in need here on the Western Slope. If you have any maternal mental health resources in your area I would love to hear from you!

Here's to a better spring than the last!

Rainy Tieman DNP, MSN/Ed, RNC-MNN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, C-ONQS

Rainytieman@gmail.com



Save the Date!



SAVE THE DATE!
CO AWHONN 2021
State Conference –
It's a New Day!

Annual conference of the Colorado Section of the Association of Women's Health, Obstetrics, and Neonatal Nurses

DATE AND TIME:

September 9, 2021 -

- Spinning Babies in AM
- AWHONN vendor reception & hot topic moderated dinner conversations in PM

September 10, 2021 -

- Conference 8-5pm

LOCATION:

Fort Collins Marriott
350 East Horsetooth
Rd.

Fort Collins, CO 80525

Group Rates Available

Register for the conference via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/co-awhonn-2021-state-conference-its-a-new-day-tickets-145357681739>.

Join over 200 nursing colleagues from across the state for our annual event. Agenda in progress but some topics will be - Surviving an Amniotic Fluid Embolism by national speaker and survivor Stephanie Arnold - Legal Issues in Perinatal Nursing - Implementing AIM bundles - Marijuana and Breastfeeding and a Student Panel.

Meet us Thursday evening for our vendor reception, followed by moderated dinner conversations on hot topics held at local restaurants. Friday is an all-day conference with vendors, posters, keynotes | and breakout sessions.

Spinning Babies pre-conference is an **optional learning** opportunity for conference registrants at an additional cost. This course is exclusively for nurses registered for the full conference. It is limited to 36 participants.

Group rate rooms can be booked two double or one King for \$119/night through this link <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1606153024097&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Reservations can be made until August 16.

Group discount (-\$10/pp) available for groups of 6 or more- contact izzi.campanella@gmail.com for this option.

Call for Poster Presentations! (Page 1)

Colorado AWHONN Conference

Thursday and Friday, September 9th & 10th, 2021

The Colorado AWHONN Conference Planning Committee seeks quality improvement, clinical education, leadership change, and/or evidence-based practice projects related to women's health, obstetric and/or neonatal practice.

Poster presentations provide an opportunity to share new evidence supported by research, an innovative program implemented in a variety of practice settings, or a case study of a patient care issue. These posters will address challenges in women's health, obstetric and neonatal nursing practice, education, or administration. Posters must include a discussion of program outcomes. Research studies in any stage of development will be given consideration.

WE INVITE MEMBERS AND NONMEMBERS TO SUBMIT ABSTRACTS FOR THE 2021 CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9TH AND 10TH, 2021.

Abstracts are due by midnight Saturday June 12, 2021 Please email the completed abstract to Rainy Tieman at rainytieman@gmail.com You will receive notification of acceptance by Thursday July 15, 2021.

Goal and Objectives

- ⇒ Disseminate knowledge to create and sustain quality outcomes.
- ⇒ Design evidence-based solutions for diverse practice settings.
- ⇒ Develop a personal and professional leadership path.

Criteria for Selection

- Research, program, or case study complements conference goals and objectives.
- Clarity of purpose/objectives.
- Clearly delineated process for implementation program.
- Description of outcomes.
- Content free of commercial bias.
- Information is innovative, timely and meets a need.
- Applicability/implications for women's health, obstetric or neonatal nursing practice, education or research.



**CALL FOR
POSTERS**

Call for Poster Presentations! (Page 2)

Abstract Submission Requirements

1. Title page:

- Title of the poster. The title should be a concise statement of the main topic.
- Names of those presenting the poster, and the presenting facility.
- Contact information (email and phone number) for the person submitting the abstract. (*Including this information on the title page will allow the abstract to be reviewed blindly.*)



2. Brief description:

Two or three sentences, no more than 75 words, intended for posting on the conference agenda or other program materials to let attendees know what the poster is about. This description should clearly describe your objectives, results and if applicable, recommendations.

3. Two or three Behavioral Objectives:

What should the learner be able to do on completing your session?

4. References:

Reviewers want to see the scientific or academic basis for your presentation, the sources for your assertions. You will be asked to provide at least five (5) references, preferably from peer reviewed sources. At least three (3) of the references should be from the past five (5) years. (References should not be included in the text of the abstract).

5. Author Information:

Please provide contact information, credentials and affiliations for all presenters. The first author and all those presenting must submit a current CV or resume.

6. Poster Guidelines:

Posters must avoid any semblance of commercialism: those constituting promotion and advertising are prohibited. Poster presenters will be provided with a 4 ft. x 6 ft. display board.

Additional Information

Where will the posters be displayed?

Posters are put on display in the conference hall or foyer adjacent to the conference hall. Electrical outlets will not be available.

Do I need to be at my poster during the conference?

Presenters are encouraged to be at their posters and available for questions during breaks.

If I will be presenting a poster at the conference do I, and those assisting me, need to pay to attend the conference?

For those accepted to present, the application fee for attendance at the conference will be waived. This waived application fee only applies to the primary presenter.

Questions or Concerns

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Rainy Tieman (rainytieman@gmail.com). Please place the word AWHONN in the subject line on email correspondence.

Announcements

Call for AWHONN Outstanding Nurse Nominations

Do you know a nurse you would love to honor and nominate for the 2021 Colorado AWHONN nurse of the year award? We'd love to hear from you!

This award is to recognize AWHONN nurses who make an outstanding impact on the health of women and newborns and their nursing profession.

Eligible Criteria:

- Current RN license
- Current AWHONN membership

Nominees are evaluated based on evidence of the following qualities:

- Vision and passion regarding health promotion of women and newborns
- Passion and commitment to the nursing profession

Procedures:

- A subcommittee of the Colorado AWHONN Section selects the award recipient
- Nominees must have at least one (no more than 3) nomination letters
- Award recipient will be notified no later than August 1, 2021

Nominations are DUE: July 1, 2021

(To nominate see attached form on next page)



Announcements

Colorado AWHONN Outstanding Nurse Award

Nomination Form

Nominee Name: _____

Credentials: _____

Home Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Job Title/Position: _____

Employer: _____

AWHONN Member # (must be a member by June 1, 2021): _____

Years of AWHONN Membership _____

Name of Nominator: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Award Checklist:

Completed Nomination Form

Nomination/Recommendation Letter (1 minimum, 3 maximum)

Nominations should be scanned and emailed to: amy.dempsey@sclhealth.org. Subject: COAWHONN

