

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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ABOUT AAACN

The American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing (AAACN) is the only association for practicing nurses and nursing leaders specialized in serving people in community and hospital-based outpatient care settings. We support them by providing programs that advance holistic and evidence-based patient care and advocate for their essential role in the future of health care.

Our mission is *Shaping Care Where Life Happens*. The strategic plan goals for 2023 were:

Demonstrating Value – To empower members to demonstrate their important role in healthcare by building the evidence on the value of ambulatory care nursing.

Advancing Competency – Provide resources to support the evolving role of ambulatory care nurses.

Shaping Care – To leverage the expertise of AAACN to influence healthcare.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the AAACN Board of Directors, we are excited to present to you the 2023 AAACN Annual Report. The purpose of this report is to communicate an overview of the accomplishments and initiatives from the last year. 2023 has been an exciting year full of resolute strategy and vision, focus on infrastructure, sustainability and partnership as well as continued exemplary service from our members. Our Mission: *Shaping Care Where Life Happens* in conjunction with our newly approved Vision: *A Healthier World Through Nursing Excellence, Leadership and Innovation; Revolutionizing Healthcare*, we believe will further advance the specialty of ambulatory nursing and its demonstrable contribution to patients and populations alike.

This annual report is structured around our organization's strategic plan: Demonstrating Value, Advancing Competency, and Shaping Care. Please take a moment to review the activities and accomplishments of this past year. We encourage you to consider opportunities to engage and volunteer in AAACN activities. We welcome feedback on how we are doing and new ideas on how to better meet your needs. AAACN's continued success is a result of the tremendous support of many individuals. To our members, volunteers, industry supporters, and staff, we would like to thank you for your continued support and in making 2023 an outstanding year. Together we move forward with resolute intention to improve the lives of the people we serve, across the diverse array of clinical settings in which we practice, with great optimism that our community is strong, our science is growing and our voice is powerful.



Sincerely and with great respect for each and every one of you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Start".

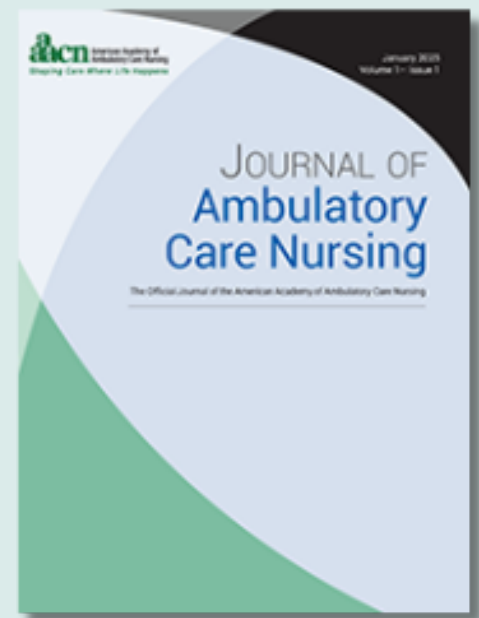
Rachel Start, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN
AAACN President 2023-2024

DEMONSTRATING VALUE

The first goal in the AAACN strategic plan is to empower members to demonstrate their important role in healthcare by building the evidence on the value of ambulatory care nursing . The following are areas we have advanced in 2023 towards achieving the goal.

Building the infrastructure for AAACN to design, conduct, and disseminate research.

Scheduled to launch in 2025, the brand new ***Journal of Ambulatory Care Nursing*** will be peer-reviewed journal dedicated to advancing evidence-based ambulatory care nursing practice, clinical research, and professional development. Led editor Susan Fowler PhD, RN, CRRN, NE-BC, FCNS the first editorial Board was assembled featuring a diverse set of ambulatory care experts including Beth Ann Swan, PhD, CRNP, FAAN, Nancy May, DNP, AMB-BC, NEA-BC, FAAN, Kathy Mertens, DNP, MN, MPH, RN, Leilani A.C. LG Siaki, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, Brandy Williamson, MSN, RN, CPN.



The Journal also conducted the first call for manuscript reviewers and over 30 volunteers. Finally, the author and submission guidelines were published leading to the open call for manuscript submissions. Submit today to be considered for one of the first issues of the journal.

DEMONSTRATING VALUE

Building the infrastructure for AACN to design, conduct, and disseminate research continued.

The **Research Committee** led by AACN's Nurse Scientist, Margo Halm, PhD, RN, NEA-BC has continued to build the structure to help AACN build the evidence on the value of ambulatory care nursing. The committee conducted a scoping review of the current state of ambulatory nursing knowledge. The search yielded over 36,000 studies! The committee is also working on presenting at the Annual Conference where attendees will gain a deeper understanding of evidence-based practice from project identification through dissemination.



**Margo Halm, PhD, RN,
NEA-BC**

Continue to support, develop strategies, and disseminate resources that articulate the value of the professional nurse.

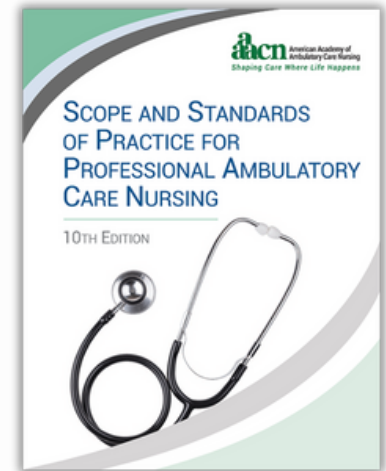
The **NSI Task Force** lead by co-chairs: Rebecca Dellefave, BSN, RN, MS; Rachel Start, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN; and Ann Marie Matlock, RN, DNP, NE-BC are in the process of revising the Nurse-Sensitive Indicator Industry Report. The updated, expanded edition is expected to be available in the summer of 2024.

The **Role of the RN in Ambulatory Care Nursing Paper Task Force** has revised the AACN Position Statement which reflects the current state of ambulatory care and the crucial role of the RN as a care provider, care coordinator, and care partner. It also highlights potential role changes and adaptations for the future. Chair Aleesa Mobley, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, CPHQ and Co-Chair Jean Bernhardt, PhD, MSN, NEA-BC, CNP will present their findings during the Annual Conference.

ADVANCING COMPETENCY

Provide resources to AAACN members that support the evolving role of ambulatory care nurse.

The revised **Scope and Standards of Practice for Professional Ambulatory Care Nursing** was published in 2023. The 10th edition contains significant revisions from previous versions. In addition to the revised scope of practice, the publication contains 17 standards. The first six standards address the phases of the nursing process; the last 11 standards address professional performance. These changes



offer clarification and specificity for the distinct domains of clinical and administrative nursing practice in ambulatory care settings. Purchase today from the AAACN bookstore.

The **Workplace Safety Task Force** led by Chair Dawn Fletcher, DNP, NEA-BC, RN and Co-Chair Beth Sparks, RN, MSN, CNML published a new **AAACN Position Statement on Workplace Violence, Incivility, and Bullying in Ambulatory Care**. The statement describes the vast impact of workplace violence on ambulatory care nurses and the critical role nurses must play in advocating for its prevention and lays out the basic tools and actions needed in preventing an event, during and after an event, and in influencing a culture of safety within an organization.

AAACN's **DEI Committee** chaired by Amy Cadoret, MHA, MSN, NEA-BC, AMB-BC launched a new DEI webinar series. The free quarterly calls featured topics covering LGBTQ+ Patient Identities, Cultural Humility, Sexual and Gender Identity, and Leadership.

ADVANCING COMPETENCY

Provide resources to AAACN members that support the evolving role of ambulatory care nurse continued.

The **Publications Committee** guided by Chair Cara Spencer, PhD, RN, FNP-BC and Co-Chair Caroline Coburn, DNP, MS, ANP-BC are responsible for overseeing the AAACN publication review timeline, making recommendations for authors, and writing groups, monitoring progress of production, and proposing new publications. They have been working on identifying new editors for the *Core Curriculum for Ambulatory Care Nursing* and exploring new ways to modernize our resources.

The 2023 **Virtual Leadership Symposium**, Shaping Care Where Life Happens. This Symposium was held as a thank you to our volunteers and to build our leaders. The goal of this year's symposium was to provide them with leadership development opportunities, professionally and within AAACN. This year's session included a presentation, The Power of Nursing from Rebecca Love, RN, MSN, FIEL, an update from our new Nurse Scientist, Margo Halm, an update of our strategic plan, rebranding and leadership pathway by AAACN's CEO Pete Pomilio and a discussion led by our President-elect Rachel Start with our 2022 Emerging Fellow Board members, Jessica Polk and Brandy Williamson on their experiences in their first year of this new position.

AAACN's **Special Interest Groups (SIGs)** continues to be one of the most valued member benefits that allow members to connect across eight specific topic areas: Care Coordination and Transition Management (CCTM), Leadership, Nurse-Sensitive Indicator (NSI), Pediatrics, Staff Patient Education, Telehealth Nursing Practice, Tri-Service Military, and Veterans Affairs. In 2023, networking calls were introduced to allow more time to exchange ideas and connect with other members.

SHAPING CARE

To leverage the expertise of AAACN to influence healthcare.

The **Advocacy Committee** chaired by Tracy Gosselin, PhD, RN, AOCN, NEA-BC, FAAN has been very active as they work to influence legislation. Through AAACN's involvement with the Nursing Community Coalition, a forum for professional nursing organizations to collaborate on a wide spectrum of healthcare and nursing issues, including practice, education, and research, the committee reviews and determines if AAACN should support, or not support legislation that will affect AAACN members, and the practice of ambulatory care nursing. The committee also developed a response to the proposed CMS physician fee schedule. AAACN has engaged an outside consultant to develop an overall plan and strategy that will help AAACN influence healthcare. The committee will share the initial plan during the Annual Conference during the Town Hall.

The strength of AAACN lies in the combined knowledge and skills of our members. We have been actively exploring methods to recognize **subject matter experts** within our membership, aiming to deploy them in situations where AAACN can demonstrate its expertise. A request for volunteers was initiated, with more than 150 members stepping forward to contribute, thus assisting in the development of our initial database.

AAACN continues to foster **strategic partnerships** with several key stakeholders to discuss ways to improve healthcare and ensure ambulatory care is represented.





The 2023 AAACN Annual Conference was an event enlivened with a passionate call for the ambulatory care nursing community to lead boldly as healthcare advocates of change, fueled by a collective devotion to share clinical and workplace expertise in support of creating physically and psychologically safe healthcare settings of equity and inclusion for all. In total, the conference program was a courageous call for ambulatory care nurses to be “the change.”

The Annual Conference embodied the leadership spirit of AAACN, bringing 1,026 registrants and more than 20 exhibitors together for a powerful hybrid program championed by insights from more than 75 speakers over a 5-day event held April 11-15 at the Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate in Orlando, FL.

In the conference’s opening remarks, AAACN President Deena Gilland, challenged attendees to think about AAACN’s ability to reshape the ambulatory care nursing profession for a world increasingly committed to propelling healthcare equity for all.



48TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

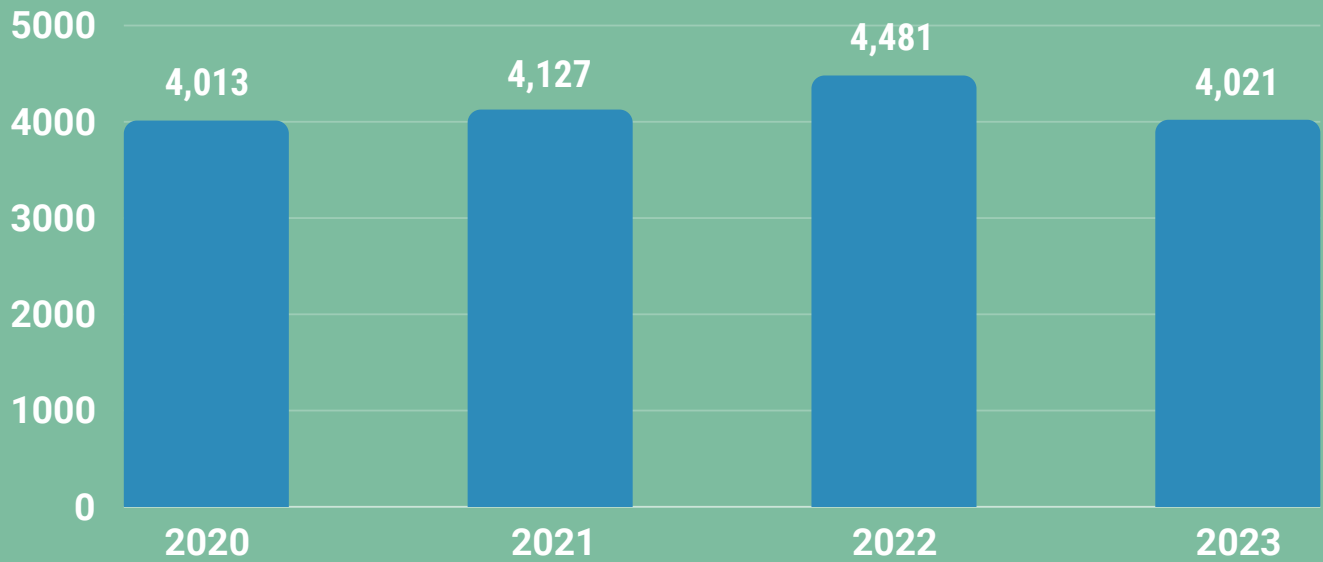
The opening keynote presentation, *Advocacy: Amplifying Voices to Improve Healthcare*, presented by Billy Rosa carried Gilland's opening remarks to take attendees even deeper into the mechanism that is healthcare advocacy – inspiring attendees to amplify their voices and, in doing so, the voices of patients, families, colleagues, institutions, and multidisciplinary stakeholders to make measurable and tangible improvements in health outcomes.

With advocacy leading many discussions, a mindful and informative Town Hall focusing on workplace safety in the ambulatory care nursing environment presented an opportunity for attendees to share individual practice experiences. Facilitators and Co-Chairs of the AACN Workplace Safety Task Force Dawn Fletcher, and Elizabeth Sparks, hosted a panel supported discussion of workplace violence prevention efforts, with a focus on development of action planning and strategic response.

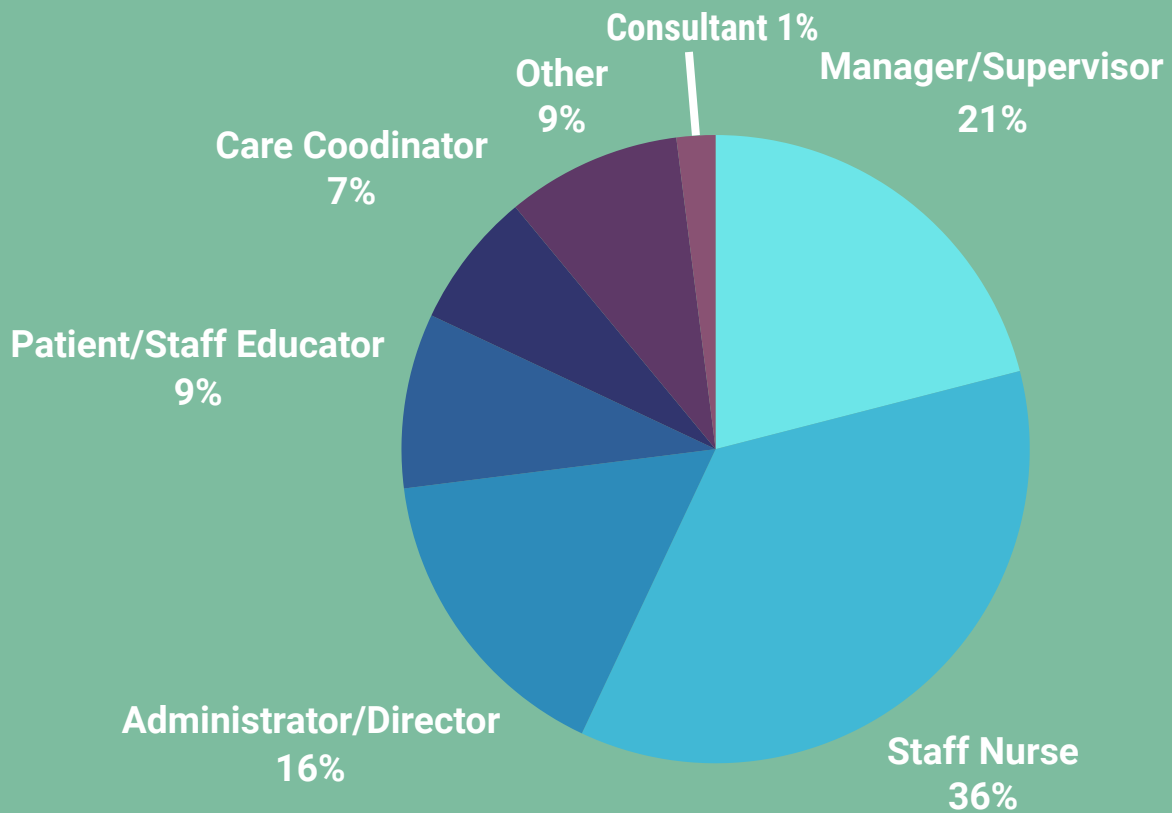
As the 2023 conference wrapped up, *The Mandate for Ambulatory Nursing to Lead the Transformation of Health Care* featured closing remarks from 2023-2024 AACN President Rachel Start who shared the energy of the upcoming year, including AACN's continued support for the growth of ambulatory care nursing science, increased efforts by AACN's new Advocacy Committee and newly updated resources, including the AACN paper on the Role of Registered Nurse in Ambulatory Care Nursing. In her closing remarks, Start encouraged attendees to realize the authentic value and power of ambulatory care nursing.



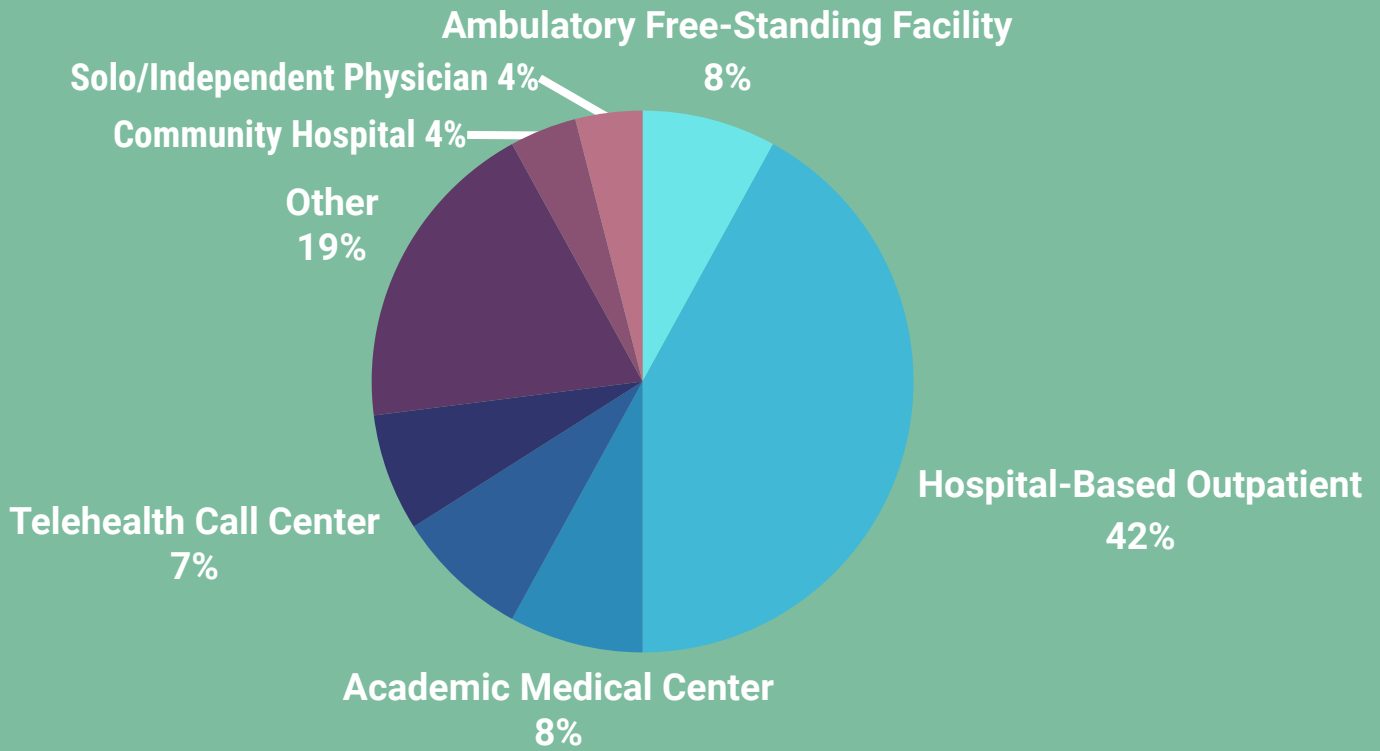
MEMBERSHIP



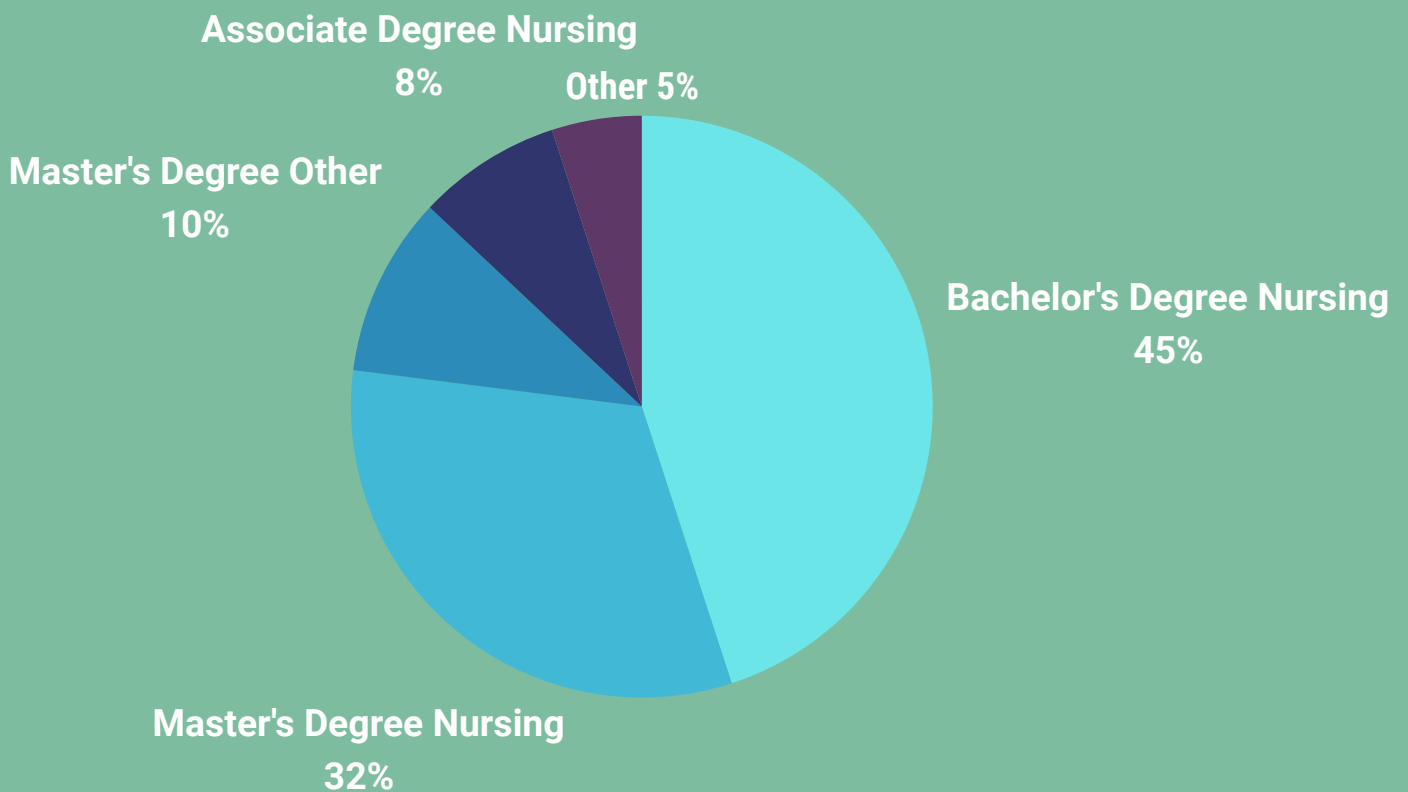
Position



Employment Setting

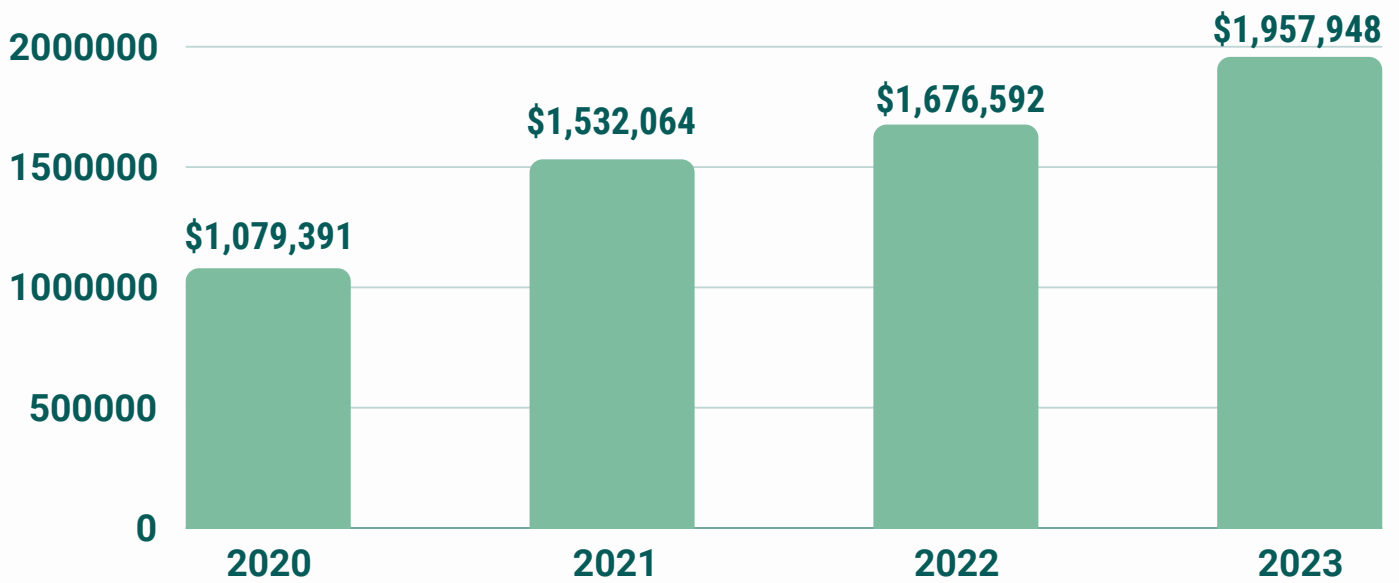


Highest Level of Education

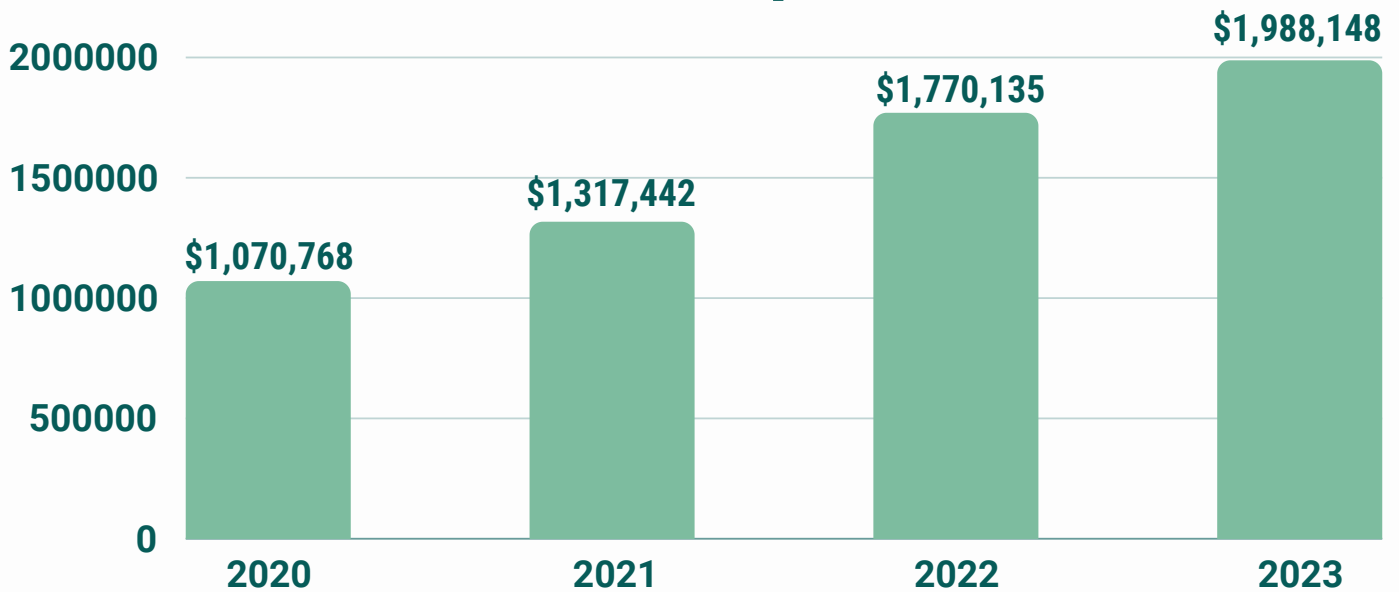


FINANCIAL UPDATE

Gross Income

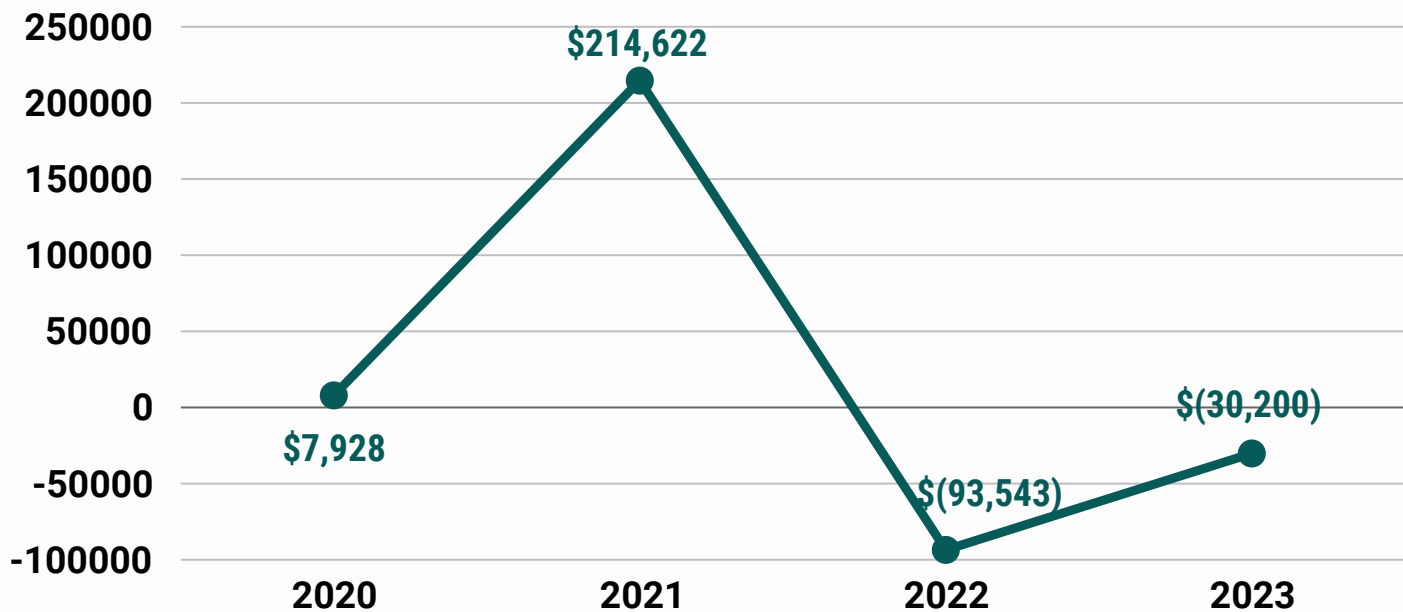


Gross Expenses



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Net Income



Net Assets

As of December 31, 2023, AAACN's total net assets were approximately **\$2,739,000** which would cover 16 months of operating expenses. Best practice for associations is to have enough net assets to cover six to eight months of operating expenses. These assets are being utilized to reinvest back into AAACN to further advance the strategic plan and build additional resources for the membership. The Board continues to fulfill their fiduciary responsibility to monitor the funds of the association.

AWARDS & SPONSORS

2023 Award & Scholarship Recipients

Above & Beyond/President's Award

Tabitha Anglea

Excellence Awards

Kimberly Regis (Administrative)

Leslie Morris (Clinical)

Conference Scholarships

Virginia Byrnes

Edtrina Moss

Toni Wendling

Candia Baker Laughlin Certification Scholarship

Bridget Carter

Lilly Klomsten

Education Scholarship

Laura Koke

2023 Annual Conference Exhibitors & Sponsors

American College of Education

American Medical Technologists

American Nurses Credentialing Center

Boston Medical Center

Braxton College

ClearTriage

Dartmouth Health

LVM Systems

Mayo Clinic

National University

Oculi

On-Call Hub

Otto Trading Inc.

The DAISY Foundation

Schmitt-Thompson Clinical Content

Soothing Scents Inc.

The DAISY Foundation

UW Health

Vizient



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President: Rachel Start, MSN,
RN, NEA-BC, FAAN



President-Elect: Stephanie
Witwer, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN



Immediate Past President:
Deena Gilland, DNP, RN, NEA-BC,
FAAN



Treasurer: Cynthia Murray, BN,
AMB-BC



Secretary: Andrea Petrovanie-
Green, MSN, RN, AMB-BC



Director: Mary Blankson, DNP,
APRN, FNP-C, FAAN



Director: Kimberly Regis, DNP,
RN, NEA-BC, CPNP-PC, BCC



Director: Cara Spencer, PhD, RN,
FNP-BC



Emerging Fellow: Na Lim Heo,
MDiv, MSN, RN

Volunteer Leaders

Thank you to all of the volunteers who help advance our mission!

Committees

Program Planning Committee

Chair: Penny Overgaard

Nominating Committee

Chair: Deena Gilland

Research Committee

Chair: Margo Halm

Publications Committee

Chair: Cara Spencer

Co-Chair: Caroline Coburn

DEI Committee

Chair: Amy Cadoret

Advocacy Committee:

Chair: Tracy Gosselin

Task Forces

Preceptor Guide Revision

Chair: Sara Kollman

Role of the RN in Ambulatory Care
Nursing Position Statement/Paper
Revision

Chair: Aleesa Mobley

Co-Chair: Jean Bernhardt

Nurse-Sensitive Indicator Industry Report Revision

Co-Chairs: Rebecca Dellefave,
Ann Marie Matlock, Rachel Start

Workplace Safety Task Force

Co-Chair: Dawn Fletcher

Co-Chair: Beth Sparks

Teams

ANPD Team

Chair: Staci Redding

Lippincott Procedures Team

Chair: Christine Mueller

Special Interest Groups

Care Coordination and Transition Management (CCTM)

Chair: Molly Moran

Leadership

Chair: Diane Woods

Staff Patient Education

Chair: Linda Brixey

Pediatrics

Chair: Samantha Styne

Telehealth Nursing Practice

Co-Chair: Scott Teplin

Co-Chair: Kim Trost

Tri-Service Military

Chair: Jennifer Felsing

Veterans Affairs

Chair: Andrea Kossoudji

NSI:

Co-Chair: Deborah Cantlin

Co-Chair: Annette Hamlin

VOLUNTEER LEADERS CONTINUED



ViewPoint is the official publication of the AAACN. It is a peer-reviewed, bimonthly resource for nursing professionals. This year we saw a transition of editors from Karol DiBello to Elizabeth Fritze. Together they facilitated six issues covering topics such as: CCTM, emerging clinical issues, health policy, leadership, safety, and telehealth. Thank you to Karol and all involved in writing and reviewing articles.

Nursing Economics[®]

AAACN contributes to the *Perspectives in Ambulatory Care* column published up to six times annually in *Nursing Economics*. Thank you to column editor, Mary Jo Vetter, for serving in this role and helping promote ambulatory care nursing.

Certification Review Course

Instructors E. Mary Johnson, Susan M. Paschke, Christine Ruygrok, Diane Resnick and Dawn vonderheide led AAACN's Certification Review Courses again in 2023. The group presented in-person at several venues including during the Annual Conference in Orlando and a new live online instruction course.

National Office Staff

Pete Pomilio, Chief Executive Officer

Jennifer Stranix, Director of Membership & Association Services

Nicole DeMers, Association and Board Services Manager

Stephanie McDonald, Association Project Manager

Olivia Parry, Association Services Coordinator

Peggy Robins, Conference Manager

Michele Boyd, Education Director

Kristina Moran, Conference Education Coordinator

Jennifer Jardine, Education Coordinator

Celess Tyrell, Online Library Program Manager

Kathy Thomas, Managing Editor, *ViewPoint*

Donna Olthoff, Advertising/Exhibits



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