

# INSIGHT



The Newsletter of the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania



## MEET THE 2023-2024 SNAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### LAUREN McCARTHY, PRESIDENT

Hello Future Nurses! My name is Lauren McCarthy, and I am honored to serve as your President this year. I am in my junior year in the BSN program at Widener University, where I am also pursuing a minor in Allied Health. I had the privilege of serving as your secretary/treasurer this past year. I am also involved at my local chapter serving as the President this year and I served as Fundraising Chair for two years. I also work as a Day Camp Nurse in the summer and as a Nursing Assistant at Penn Medicine Princeton Health. When I graduate, I hope to combine the two and work in pediatric oncology nursing.



As President, I am excited to use this year to continue to increase opportunities for collaboration and professional development among our many SNAP chapters across the state, but especially in the smaller schools. I was very pleased and excited to see so many of you at this past convention. One of SNAP's greatest features is its strong networks of students, faculty, alumni, and professionals. So, I encourage you to take advantage of the many offerings that SNAP and NSNA have to offer in 2024 and to get involved in every

way you can. I feel that we are truly lucky to go to nursing school in Pennsylvania, where SNAP has such a history of investing in the development of the next generation of nursing leaders. If you have any questions or any ideas regarding how SNAP can better serve its members, please feel free to reach out. I hope to see you at Capitol Hill, LEAD Workshop, NSNA, and our 72nd Convention!



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### MARIA SANTANA, VICE PRESIDENT

Hi all! My name is Maria Santana and I am ecstatic to serve as your vice president this year. I am currently a junior BSN student at the University of Pittsburgh where I am the



President of our Nursing Student Association. Additionally, I assist in research on lactation and breastfeeding and I work as a PCT at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh in the Pediatric ICU. I am especially passionate about women's health and obstetrics and hope to work as a labor and delivery nurse in the future! As your vice president, I am so excited to plan SNAP's 72nd Annual Convention in

Lancaster! I look forward to providing you with opportunities to grow and develop as future nurses and I hope to meet many of you this year. If you have questions or just want to talk, please email me at [vicepresident@snap-online.org](mailto:vicepresident@snap-online.org).

*"To do what nobody else will do, a way that nobody else can do, in spite of all we go through; that is to be a nurse".*

### **JANE FOSTER, SECRETARY TREASURER**

Hello everyone! My name is Jane Foster and I am so excited to be serving as your Secretary Treasurer. I am currently a junior traditional BSN student at the University of Pennsylvania with a double major in Nursing and Nutrition. Since joining SNAP my freshman year, I've been able to attend three SNAP conventions and two national conventions. At the local level, I've recently served as Treasurer and am getting ready to begin my term as President for the 2024 school year. I also previously served on the state level as the NEC East and chair for the 2022 year. I love to bake, hang out with my friends, and drink lots of coffee! After graduation, I hope to begin a career in Pediatric nursing and complete my Nurse Practitioner degree in pediatric acute/primary care. I'm looking forward to keeping you all up to date through insight and encourage you all to submit articles to be published. I'm looking forward to meeting you all in this coming year and please feel free to reach out at any time!





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opportunities available!

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## MEGAN LE, LEGISLATIVE COORDINATOR

Hello! My name is Megan Le and I am honored to serve as your Legislative Coordinator this year. I am a sophomore BSN student at Villanova University, where I am pursuing a minor in Disabilities Studies. I recently co-authored a resolution that was passed by the House of Delegates and understand the feeling of intimidation and confusion. I am ready to walk side by side with anyone who is interested in writing a resolution. It is breathtaking to see student nurses write something that they are passionate about, addressing pressing issues. I highly encourage everyone to take advantage of the powerful opportunities that SNAP offers. When I took my first step of joining SNAP, I had no idea the abundance of gifts and experiences that were offered. Going to my first SNAP convention as a freshman was a shock, and an unforgettable experience. Please encourage your friends and fellow classmates to come along with you on these impactful moments that will help shape your nursing paths!

A little bit about me! I am heavily involved in my SNAP chapter, where I serve as Special Projects Co-Chair. I also am my class representative for the Undergraduate Nursing Senate, a nursing ambassador, and a nursing peer mentor. Outside of nursing, I am passionate about Special Olympics, The Bandana Project, bowling, and the outdoors. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or if you just want to chat!



AVA MEGLIO, NORTHWEST REGIONAL



## COORDINATOR

Hi! My name is Ava Meglio, and I will be serving as SNAP's Northwest Regional Coordinator. I am a sophomore at the University of Pittsburgh. In my local chapter at Pitt, I am the Professional Development chair and a member of the Mental Health, Resolution, and Engage Campaign committees. I am also an Undergraduate Research Assistant at Pitt Nursing and minoring in Spanish. I am not sure what I want to specialize in yet, but I am currently interested in NICU nursing and labor and delivery! Outside of school, I love to travel, read, and go to concerts! I am so excited for this opportunity and look forward to getting to know my fellow SNAP members. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time!



## FAITH FANNIE, SOUTHWEST REGIONAL COORDINATOR

Hi everyone! My name is Faith Fannie, and I am excited to spend another year as your Southwest Regional Coordinator. I am from Loyahanna, PA and attend Nursing School at West Penn Hospital School of Nursing in Pittsburgh. I am a Senior this year and will be graduating in May. I am currently the President of our schools Nursing Students' Association. This year I will be the Chair of the Community Health Committee and we will be doing a Period Product Dive. I wanted to share a little about myself; I am an identical twin and spend a lot of my time outside of Nursing school doing fun activities with my family. I have a yellow lab named Graham Cracker, "He is really cute". I also enjoy cooking, baking, and crafting. I hope to continue to work with the schools in my region and look forward to meeting new members of SNAP.





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### **KIERAN COOK, SOUTHCENTRAL REGIONAL COORDINATOR**

Hi! My name is Kieran Cook and I am your South-Central Regional Coordinator for the upcoming 2023-24 year! I am currently a sophomore in the Penn State University Park BSN Program and am minoring in psychology. At Penn State, I serve on the board as the College Ambassador which included planning one of the only student run career fairs in the state and organizing prospective student tours in our sim labs. I can't wait to meet some of you whether it be at LEAD, Capital Hill, NSNA Convention or State Convention next year!



### **HALLIE BANNON, NORTHEAST REGIONAL COORDINATOR**

Hello everyone! My name is Hallie Bannon and I'm very excited to be the NorthEast Regional Coordinator for this upcoming year. I am currently a first-year nursing student at Lackawanna College. At Lackawanna, I currently hold the position of our school's chapter president. I am thrilled to be able to get more involved with SNAP both within the schools' chapters and at the state level. Besides school, I work as a resident assistant in the developmental services department at allied services.

About me, I enjoy crafts, going to T. J. Maxx & Target, Dunkin runs and playing with my dog Milo! After graduation, I plan on

furthering my education and working as a labor and delivery nurse. I'm excited for all the opportunities SNAP offers and I can't wait for our next SNAP convention in November. I look forward to serving as this year's NorthEast Regional Coordinator!



**ADRIANA BERDECIA COLON,  
SOUTHEAST REGIONAL COORDINATOR**

Hello Pennsylvania! My name is Adriana Berdecia Colon, and I have the greatest pleasure of serving as your SouthEast Regional Coordinator. I'm in my 2nd-year of nursing school at Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC), where I currently serve as Vice President of my local school chapter. My favorite nursing specialty is the operating room (OR), where I aim to contribute my skills and passion to the realm of surgical nursing. Beyond my stethoscope, you can find me crocheting, baking, or getting lost in the world of LOTR. As a passionate advocate for the nursing community, I believe that our journey is not just about learning the ropes but crafting a narrative of resilience, unity, and shared success. In the words of Gandalf, *"Even the smallest person can change the course of the future."* So, let's be those change-makers! Together, let's elevate the art of caring and learning beyond the classroom! Your dreams, my passion, our journey. Join me in shaping a future where our smallest actions lead to monumental change.



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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### JANUARY 2024

- **Deadline** for January INSIGHT: Tuesday, January 2
- SNAP Board of Directors Meeting, Saturday and Sunday, January 20-21

### FEBRUARY 2024

- **Deadline** for February INSIGHT: Thursday, February 1



*The Association of  
Tomorrow's Nursing Leaders*

- **Deadline** for NSNA Constituency Status (for delegates) February 7

## MARCH 2024

- **Deadline** for March INSIGHT: Friday, March 1
- **Deadline** for LEAD Workshop, Friday March 15
- **LEAD Workshop** for first and second year SNAP Members, Saturday and Sunday, March 23 and 24

## APRIL 2024

- **Deadline** for April INSIGHT: Monday, April 1
- **NSNA 72nd Annual Convention** in Orlando, FL April 3 - 6

## MAY 2024

- **Deadline** for May INSIGHT: Wednesday, May 1

## JUNE 2024

- **Deadline** for June INSIGHT: Saturday, June 1
- SNAP Board of Directors Meeting, June 8 and 9

## SEPTEMBER 2024

- **Deadline** for September INSIGHT: Monday, September 2
- SNAP Board of Directors Meeting: Saturday, September 7

## OCTOBER 2024

- **Deadline** for October INSIGHT: Tuesday, October 1

**Deadline** for Chapter Constituency Status (determines # of delegates for SNAP convention. NSNA will send list of members at the end of day): Tuesday, October 15

**Deadline** for Resolutions: 5 pm on Tuesday, October 15

**Deadline** for Abstracts for SNAP Poster Session: 5 pm on Tuesday, October 15

**Deadline** for Chapter/Individual Awards and Scholarships: 5 pm on Tuesday, October 15

**Deadline** for SNAP Consent To Serve applications (running for SNAP Board/NEC positions) 5 pm on Wednesday, October 30

- **Deadline** for **SCORE Challenge Bowl** Registration: 5 pm on Monday, November 4

## NOVEMBER 2024

- **SNAP 72nd ANNUAL CONVENTION AT THE WYNDHAM RESORT AND CONVENTION CENTER, LANCASTER: NOVEMBER 20 - 23, 2024**

## DECEMBER 2024

- **Deadline** for December INSIGHT: Monday, December 2
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## **HAILEY FALZONE, GREATER PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL COORDINATOR**

**Hello everyone! My name is Hailey Falzone, and I am from Nazareth, Pennsylvania. I am a sophomore nursing student at Villanova University, and I could not be more excited to serve as your 2023-2024 Greater**

**Philadelphia Regional Coordinator. I have wonderful things in store for this year and I cannot wait to strengthen our relationships across the region! I have grown with the SNAP chapter at my university over the past year and I currently hold the position of Special Projects Co-Chair. At Villanova I also serve as a SNAP student mentor, FCN Ambassador and tour guide, committee member of the Villanova Supernovas, and an active member of LEVEL, a group on campus aimed at bridging the gap between students of varying abilities. I am most interested in pursuing ICU nursing with a dream of owning my own business and becoming an aesthetic/cosmetic nurse. Outside of school I love watching Vampire Diaries, hanging out with my family and playing on any intramural team I can find! I cannot wait for this year, and I hope you are all as excited as I am!**



## **LAUREN FIELDS, CENTRAL PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL COORDINATOR**

**Hi everyone! My name is Lauren Fields, and I am excited to serve as your SNAP Central Philadelphia Regional Coordinator this year! I am a traditional BSN Student at the University of Pennsylvania, class of 2027. Here, I'm an active member of our SNAP chapter, where I serve as legislative coordinator. This past semester, I've really enjoyed all that SNAP has to offer, from community service initiatives throughout West Philly, to amazing networking opportunities at state and national conventions. And I am very excited to continue getting more involved! In my free time, I also sing in an a cappella group, and love trying new restaurants throughout the greater Philadelphia area.**



**As Central Philadelphia Regional Coordinator, I look forward to connecting nursing students across our area. So please feel free to**

reach out with any questions, comments, or requests. And I look forward to seeing everyone at convention!



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## LOOKING TOWARDS NSNA

*by Cody Mitchell, NSNA Director East*

Greetings Pennsylvania NSNA Students!

I hope your spring semester is off to a great start. I wanted to reach out and encourage you to attend the upcoming 72nd NSNA Annual Convention being held April 3-7, 2024, in

Orlando, Florida. This year's theme is "**ELEVATE:  
Dreams Help Make the Impossible Possible**"  
- how inspiring!

The NSNA Convention is a wonderful opportunity to network and connect with over 3,000 nursing students from across the country. You'll have the chance to meet nursing leaders, learn new clinical and leadership skills, and gain helpful advice for your future nursing career. I highly recommend attending the NCLEX-RN review session to get valuable test-taking tips. Plus, with the convention being held at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, you can take advantage of exploring Orlando and the theme parks during your free time!



An important way Pennsylvania students can make an impact is by writing a resolution to be considered by the NSNA House of Delegates. Resolutions that are adopted become part of NSNA's national policies and initiatives. This is a great way for your voice to be heard on issues affecting nursing students and the nursing profession. The deadline for submitting resolutions is January 15th, so start brainstorming ideas now! Consult the NSNA website for tips on crafting an effective resolution. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to shape the future of nursing and advocate for student nurses nationwide.

Investing in your professional development as a nursing student is so valuable. Attending the 2024 NSNA Convention will help equip you with skills and connections to excel in your nursing career after graduation. I hope to see a strong contingent from Pennsylvania there! Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

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***Dear SNAP Member/Faculty Advisor:***

I encourage you to submit articles and photos to the INSIGHT newsletter! Any items that are pertinent to other nursing students in Pennsylvania are welcome to be included. This is your way of informing other students across the state.

Send your articles, pictures, calendar of events, and contact information to [snap@snap-online.org](mailto:snap@snap-online.org). The deadline to receive these items is approximately the first day of the month of publication.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

*Sincerely,*

***Jane Foster, SNAP Secretary Treasurer***



**QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS? CONTACT CINDY SHINGLER, SNAP  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AT (717)671-7110 OR EMAIL:**

**[SNAP@SNAP-ONLINE.ORG](mailto:SNAP@SNAP-ONLINE.ORG)**

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