

President's Report 2022
Cheryl Woods Giscombe, PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC, FAAN
Virtual

The key activity for the Board of Directors this past year has been to stay the course towards the board's three strategic aims*, while supporting our members in new ways of connecting both personally and professionally. To this end, the Board has been working with the membership, communication, diversity, equity & inclusion, policy and conference committees to increase the frequency, efficacy and quality of ISPN webinars, virtual conference, regionalization, website news, and use of ISPN listserv for member communication

*ISPN Board of Directors three broad strategic aims: (1) Increase the membership by maintaining existing members and recruiting new members; (2) Increase the profitability of the annual conference; and (3) Increase income from other sources.

Ongoing Connections/Partnerships:

- Memorandum of Understanding between ANCC and ISPN continues. Includes offer of discounted credentialing to ISPN members and one free initial credentialing and one free renewal per year.
- Nursing Community Coalition (Liaison: Sally Raphael).
- Use of social media (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram)
- ISPN Foundation (Board Liaison: Ukamaka M. Oruche)
- Collaboration with the Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice.
- Collaboration with *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing* journal
- Collaboration with India Society of Psychiatric Nurses
- Collaboration with Sri Lanka Professional Nurses Clinical Society
- Collaboration World Continuing Education Alliance
- Formalized Historic Archives at the University of Virginia and begun collection of materials
- Updating the *Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice* with APNA (Cheryl Giscombe Co-chair of Joint Task Force for ISPN).

Connections/Partnership completed:

- Mental Health Liaison Group
- Honor a Nurse

Connections/Partnerships in Progress:

- Expanded partnership with Otsuka, Inc. Pharmaceutical Company
- No Health w/o Mental Health

Strategies:

- Membership form revised to better identify member diversity and to be more inclusive.
- Expanded offerings of online CE activities for members and non-members to 8 a year.
- Regionalization groups are progressing. Midwest region is active, and the Northeast and Southwest have conducted regional meetings. The other regions are planning for their first one.

Policy:

- ISPN Board approved a new Policy Committee, led by Sally Raphel, building on ISPN's Policy Special Interest Group (SIG), the committee increases ISPN's impact upon national and international issues of health and mental health policy relevant to psychiatric mental health nursing.
- Established a board liaison with the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee (Cheryl Woods Giscombe)

Governance:

- Monthly BoD meetings to conduct business of the organization.
- Regular Board updates sent to membership.
- Each board decision evaluated according to established goals and related objectives.
- Establish guidelines for website requests for announcements and notifications.
- Review and revision to ISPN bylaws. Membership Vote at 2023 Business Meeting.

Many thanks to the following who have fulfilled their tenure or stepped down from their ISPN committee roles:

- Deborah Johnson, Past President and Board Director
- Shawn Gallagher, Treasurer
- Angela McNelis, Newsletter Editor
- Andrea Kwasky, Recording Secretary

2021-2022 Board of Directors:

- Cheryl Woods-Giscombe, PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC, FAAN – President
- Ukamaka M. Oruche, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN – President-Elect
- Deborah Johnson, DNP, NP, PMHNP-BC, FAANP – Past President
- Shawn Gallagher, PhD, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC, FNP-BC - Treasurer
- Julie Bertram, RN, MSN, PhD, PMHCNS-BC
- Barbara Peterson, PhD, PMHCNS-BC, APRN
- Andrea Kwasky, DNP, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC - Recording Secretary

2021-2022 Committee Chairs

- Awards - Moniaree Jones
- Communications & Marketing – Dr. Steven Pryjmachuk
- Conference - Dr. Allison Brauch, Susan Glodstein, Co-Chairs
- Diversity and Equity – Dr. Patty Wilson, Mia Pasini, Co-Chairs
- Finance - Dr. Shawn Gallagher
- Membership - Dr. Marian Newton
- Nominating – Deborah Johnson
- Policy – Sally Raphel

Special Recognition:

Scope and Standards of PMHN Task Force Members (for working through the pandemic over two years to complete this project)

- Elizabeth Bonham, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN
- Edilma Yearwood, PhD, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN
- Andrea Kwasky, DNP, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC
- Rene Love, PhD, DNP, PMHNP-BC, FNAP, FAANP
- Sara Horton-Deutsch, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN
- Regional Initiative Leaders (Marian Newton, PhD, RN, PMHNP and Beth Bonham, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN)

Special Kudos to the ISPN Foundation Board

- **President**, Ann Roselle, MSN, ACNP-BC
- **Past President**, Ex Officio, Jim Kane, MN, RN, CNS, NEA-BC
- **Treasurer**, Dan Wesemann, DNP, PMHNP-BC, ARNP
- **Secretary**, Karan Kverno, PhD, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC
- **Board Member**, Cynthia Handrup, DNP, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, FA
- **Board Member**, Brayden Kameg, DNP, PMHNP-BC, CARN, CNE
- **Board Member**, Aparna Kumar, PhD, MSN, CRNP, PMHNP-BC
- **Board Member**, J. Kaye Knauff, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC

The ISPN Conference Committee

- Allison Grauch, DNP, APRN, PMH-BC, NP-C, CARN-AP
- Susan Glodstein, DNP, RN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC

The Rees Group Management Team members:

- Jessica Retzlaff, MS
- Mary Johns
- Jane Shepard, CMP
- Susan Rees, MS



International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses

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COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING COMMITTEE Report

Date: February 23, 2022

Submitted by: Dr Steven Pryjmachuk

Division/Committee Name: Communications and Marketing Committee

Summary of activities:

We have held two meetings in the period March 2021-February 2022. The first meeting in May 2021 was attended only by three people and was not minuted because Jess Retzlaff was unavailable. One of the people attending the meeting was the President, Cheryl Giscombe, so we used the meeting time to discuss a few issues to be considered by the Board and at subsequent Communications and Marketing Committee meetings. Unfortunately, because of Jess being unavailable, no follow-up Communications and Marketing Committee meetings were scheduled until Susan Rees contacted Steven Pryjmachuk to arrange one. The second meeting was held in February 2022 and picked up on the issues that were outstanding from the May Meeting.

Key issues for the Board and future C&M Committee meetings are:

- Further pursuing the member spotlight section for the website. It was suggested that members being spotlighted were also offered the opportunity to present at a webinar for ISPN members (see below). Susan Rees will put a call out for member spotlights at the conference.
- Connections between the social media team, the Membership Committee and other relevant committees so that activities are joined up and not duplicated. We ask the Board to consider instigating a (virtual) platform for chairs of the committees to get together to share their activities.
- Developing webinars that 'spotlight' members and also provide some degree of 'social responsibility' to the wider community. These webinars could augment the existing CEU webinars so that ISPN offers three types of webinar:
 1. The current CEU webinars for ISPN members
 2. 'General interest' webinars delivered by ISPN members to ISPN members (e.g. spotlight webinars, international members explaining MH services and issues in their countries, ISPN members discussing 'hot topics')
 3. ISPN members delivering free webinars open to the wider community (e.g. child MH experts offering a webinar to schools or parents, dementia experts offering a webinar to group/care homes, substance misuse experts offering a webinar to community groups)

Action items for the Board of Directors: see above

Specialty Divisions:

Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing, Psychiatric Consultation-Liaison Nursing, Adult and Geropsychiatric Nursing, and Education and Research in Psychiatric Nursing
Founding Organizations: ACAPN • ISPCLN • SERPN



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Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee Report

Date: 2/27/22

Submitted by: Patty Wilson & Mia Pasini

Division/Committee Name: **Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee**

Summary of activities:

1. Produced a manuscript for the Archives of Psychiatric Nursing: "Honoring the Past and Charting the Future: The International Society of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurses' Commitment to Advance Diversity and Equity in Mental Health Care"
2. Consulted with Andre Tomlin, The Mental Elf <https://www.nationalelfservice.net/mental-health/>, to develop video series to demystify psychiatric-mental health (PMH) nursing and encourage college students and current RNs to pursue a career in PMH nursing through inspirational stories of individuals with wide-ranging careers in mental health nursing. Interviews with diverse, seasoned, and novice PMH nurses will highlight the various roles/settings/and opportunities within PMH nursing, possible educational and career paths, and the unique challenges and invaluable rewards of a career in PMH nursing. Due to funding, we will focus first on a short 3-5 min promotional video ending with a link to our ISPN website for further information.
3. Discussed nursing careers with a focus on mental health nursing to college freshman at Morgan State University, a historically Black College/University (HBCU) in Baltimore, Maryland. We have not met the goal of participating in a high school. We plan to collaborate with Dr. Faye Gary to present to high school students in Ohio.
4. ISPN DEI Committee chair will introduce and moderate the presentation of our ISPN diversity speaker, Dr. Bridgette Brawner during the virtual 2022 ISPN Conference in March 2022.

Action items:

1. We ask to connect with the Social Media Committee to: (1) assist with a social media campaign promoting careers in mental health nursing using the (preliminary) hashtag #LetsTalkMHNursing, (2) update ISPN webpage to include information for those interested in careers in mental health nursing, i.e. educational pathways (including international students).
2. We request assistance from the board to seek funding from Johnson and Johnson to complete the 2 additional planned videos in the promotional video series. The second video will depict a day in the life of a PMH nurse, and the third video will depict the educational and career paths for PMH nurses (North American focus).
3. We seek to collaborate with our existing ISPN mentoring program to develop a mentoring program for those interested PMH nursing who are not nurses or are nurses interested changing their practice area to PMH.

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Membership Committee 2021-22 Report

Date: February 21, 2022 (Feb 2021-Feb 2022)

Submitted by: Marian Newton

Division/Committee Name: Membership Committee (Membership year June 30-July1)

Summary of activities:

1. Met 10 times during year on 2nd Wednesday at noon
2. Presented 10 one hour Webinars over lunch hours (noon-1P) one Wednesdays/month; webinars met CE needs of membership committee and other ISPN members at large.
3. Webinar ideas were gathered from member surveys at end of webinars and conferences and members joining ISPN. Committee goal was to meet learning needs of members thru polling members. Committee agreed to alternate topics evenly divided between psychopharmacology and psychotherapy with topics each month identified by ISPN members from presentation evaluations.
4. Initiated an ISPN student initiative to increase number of students and excite their interest in ISPN; Johnny Yumas and Dina Fradkin led this initiative.
5. Initiated an ISPN initiative for Peer Support; Brayden Kameg led this initiative.
6. ISPN is divided into 6 regions and meetings are to take place 4 times per year within Region. ISPN members will meet in region where they reside and get to know and work on activities identified at Regional meetings.
7. A focus area also this year is a new member welcome letter to new members to help them feel connected and welcome in ISPN
8. Latest idea is a Membership Committee mentor-mentee initiative to connect new members with longer-term members. This initiative started with one new member and will go to ISPN BOARD for approval.

Need Board Approval: Mentor-Mentee initiative to connect new members with longer-term members. This initiative will go to ISPN BOARD for approval

2021 Non-Student Members _361_____

2022 Non-Student Members__381_____

2021 Student Members _258_____

2022 Student Members__262_____

Marian Newton, current ISPN Membership Chair, genuinely thanks the dedicated and hard-working Membership Committee members for their ideas and professional work with ISPN membership initiatives.

Our meetings were supportive of each other, our professional ISPN goals and fun. I also thank Dr. Beth Bonham, member of our committee for her support, and frequent proofing of ideas and Minutes.

Marian Newton

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***Connections* Newsletter Report**

Date: 12.30.2021

Submitted by: Angela McNelis

Committee/Group Name: Editorial Board of *Connections*

Summary of activities: During 2021, the editorial board of the newsletter, consisting of Angela McNelis, and Sara Horton- Deutsch. Brayden Kameg, Rhea Mitchell, Crystal Andrews, Alicia Stringfellow and DNP student John Yuhas, constructed and delivered one electronic newsletter in fall. In December, Editor Angela McNelis resigned after 12 years serving in this position.

Action items for the Board of Directors:

- 1) Appoint new Editor for *Connections*
- 2) It has been increasingly difficult to generate participation among editorial board members for soliciting and/or creating content for the newsletter. I believe this is predominantly due to the ongoing pandemic and resultant increased responsibilities of the members. Moving forward, consider ways to engage the broader ISPN community to contribute content.

ISPN Policy Committee Report 2021-2022

It has been almost 2 1/2 years since the Committee formation. Two new members were added in mid-2021, Beth Bonham and Andrea Kwasky. In the meantime, we have maintained active membership with the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) (63 nurse members) and the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) (over 100 special mental health interest groups). We were recently notified of MHLG full member status after serving a year as an affiliate member post nomination by the Global Alliance for Behavioral Mental Health and Social Justice. The previously submitted mid-year Policy report has been attached for continuity.

NCC includes 63 national professional nursing organizations that are the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession. With over four million licensed Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), and nursing students, the profession embodies the drive and passion to continually improve care for patients, families, and communities. NCC members believe that the healthcare delivery system should be one that promotes wellness, advances research through scientific discovery, and provides timely access to care across the continuum. The Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) is a coalition of national organizations representing consumers, family members, mental health and addiction providers, advocates, payers and other stakeholders committed to strengthening Americans' access to mental health and addiction care.

We developed two ISPN Position Statements: Strengthening Safety Nets for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (published in December Archives Journal) & Telehealth for Mental Health Care, ready for Board approval. These add to the January 2021 Statement Mitigating the Stress and Mental Health Trauma of COVID-19 for Nurses and Healthcare Providers.

As of Feb 2022, there are 5115 bills in Congress, 988 Mental Health and 432 Child Mental Health (double # of 2020). Of the mental health ones, 174 became law in 2020.

The following are ISPN endorsed NCC coalition work for 2021.

December 2, 2021: Fifty-six members of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) sent a letter strongly urging the Senate to preserve shared nursing priorities, including support for nursing education pathways, the Nurse Corps, and Omnibus, in their Build Back Better Act.

November 19, 2021: Sixty members of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) sent a letter to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees requesting at least \$314.472 million for Title VIII Nursing Workforce and Development Programs and at least \$200.782 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022.

November 19, 2021: The Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) issued a statement after the House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better Act. This bill included NCC top priorities that address nursing education, the workforce, and public health.

September 17, 2021: The Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) issued a statement after the House Energy and Commerce Committee advanced their piece of the Build Back Better Act. These reconciliation recommendations included nursing priorities that address public health and education, as well as investing billions in pandemic preparedness initiatives.

September 14, 2021: Fifty-three members of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) signed onto a letter to the House Veterans' Affairs Committee urging them to support and advance S.1220/H.R.2568 - United States Cadet Nurse Corps Service Recognition Act of 2021.

August 12, 2021: The Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) sent a letter welcoming Dr. Meena Seshamani, who was recently selected to be the Deputy Administrator and Director of Center for Medicare at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

July 29, 2021: The Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) issued a statement after the U.S. House of Representatives passed the seven-bill minibus for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 that includes historic investments in the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs and the National Institute of Nursing Research.

July 26, 2021: The Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) sent a letter to Ms. Dawn O'Connell, who was recently confirmed as the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at the Department of Health and Human Services.

July 26, 2021: The Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) sent a letter to Dr. Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, who was recently confirmed as the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use at the Department of Health and Human Services.

July 9, 2021: Fifty-two members of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) sent a letter to Congressional Leadership and key Committees outlining our shared public health, education, and workforce priorities and urged their inclusion in any infrastructure package.

As we confronted COVID-19 and worked within a digital environment, NCC member organizations met for virtual monthly meetings, with an average attendance of at least 57 members. At these and other virtual NCC events, members of Congress and key agency officials were invited to speak on issues impacting the health of our nation and other public health infrastructure needs. In addition, the NCC welcomed the 117th Congress and the incoming Biden-Harris Administration highlighting our core principles and priorities as we confront this public health emergency. As we look at continued engagement - virtually and in-person - in the year to come, we celebrate the work we have accomplished and remain steadfast in our commitment to support the current and future nursing workforce.

ISPN/Mental Health Liaison Group Endorsements

- ***MHLG supported the 988 Implementation ACT***

July 2022

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

The MHLG urged Congress to forego any long-term continuing resolution and fully fund the crisis care continuum in lead up to the launch of 988 in July 2022.

- ***MHLG supported Medicare Mental Health Inpatient Equity Act***

October 18, 2021

Medicare

Senators Collins and Smith and Representatives Tonko and Huizenga introduced legislation to eliminate Medicare's discriminatory 190 days lifetime limit for inpatient psychiatric hospital care.

- ***MHLG Endorsed the Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act (S. 1795)***

October 13, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

The bill authorizes \$805 million in grants and other funding to support research, improve the pipeline of culturally appropriate providers, build outreach programs that reduce stigma, and develop a training program for providers to effectively manage bias and reduce disparities in access to and delivery of mental health care for Black and brown youth.

- ***MHLG supported The TRIUMPH for New Moms Act (S. 2779)***

October 12, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

The TRIUMPH for New Moms Act will fill gaps in maternal mental health care, build a national strategy, and provide guidance to governors for implementation. In doing so, it will integrate mental health into existing maternal care programs and reduce maternal mental health disparities, especially for women of color.

- ***MHLG supported the Behavioral Health Crisis Services Expansion Act (S. 1902)***

September 29, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

MHLG writes the leaders of the Senate HELP Committee in support of the Behavioral Health Crisis Services Expansion Act (S. 1902), legislation that would provide critical support to develop and sustain crisis services across the country at time when more people than ever, including children, are struggling with worsening mental health, substance use and suicidal ideation.

- ***MHLG Supported TRIUMPH for New Moms Act***

September 28, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

The TRIUMPH for New Moms Act will fill gaps in maternal mental health care, build a national strategy, and provide guidance to governors for implementation. In doing so, it will integrate mental health into existing maternal care programs and reduce maternal mental health disparities, especially for women of color.

- ***MHLG Support Lifeline Anomaly in FY22 Continuing Resolution***

September 17, 2021

Appropriations

MHLG supports additional funding for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline be included in a Fiscal Year 2022 Continuing Resolution as requested by the Office of Management and Budget. This funding will provide critical resources for the network and operations of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL) as it transitions to 9-8-8 on July 16, 2022.

- ***Moms Matter Act (S. 484)***

September 10, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

The Moms Matter Act, part of the Momnibus package, will make investments in community-based programs to support moms with maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders. The bill also provides funding to grow and diversify the maternal mental health care workforce.

- ***Moms Matter Act (H.R. 909)***

August 23, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

Supported The Moms Matter Act, part of the Momnibus package, will make investments in community-based programs to support moms with maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders. The bill also provides funding to grow and diversify the maternal mental health care workforce.

- **Senate HELP May Mental Health Bills**

July 22, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

MHLG wrote to the Senate HELP Committee to take action and approve 9 House passed mental health bills to help prevent suicide for all ages, enable diagnosis and treatment for substance use disorders, and overall support patients with mental health conditions.

- **Excellence in Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Act (H.R. 4323)**

July 7, 2021

Medicaid and CHIP

This legislation – introduced by Representatives Matsui, Mullin, Craig, McKinley, Fitzpatrick and Tonko – would allow for every state and territory the ability to join the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) demonstration and would authorize investments in the model for current and prospective CCBHCs.

- **Excellence in Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Act (S. 2069)**

June 30, 2021

Medicaid and CHIP

This legislation introduced by Senators Stabenow and Blunt with Senators Wyden, Daines, Cortez Masto, Ernst, Smith, and Tester would allow for every state and territory the ability to join the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) demonstration and would authorize investments in the model for current and prospective CCBHCs.

- **Medicaid Bump Act (H.R. 3450 / S. 1727)**

June 21, 2021

Medicaid and CHIP

This vital and innovative legislation would incentivize states to expand coverage of behavioral health services, including mental health and substance use services, by providing a corresponding increase in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) matching rate to 90% for these services.

- **Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention (STANDUP) Act**

June 8, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

MHLG writes a letter to Senate HELP Committee leaders Chairwoman Patty Murray and Ranking Member Richard Burr in support of legislation which will encourage more educational agencies to create and implement student suicide awareness and prevention training policies via competitive SAMHSA grants. MHLG sent a similar letter House leaders when its version was introduced in March 2021.

- **MHLG Nomination Support Letter Dr. Delphin-Rittmon SAMHSA**

June 7, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

MHLG expresses support for Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon to serve as the Assistant Secretary of Mental Health and Substance Use.

- **116th-Passed MH Legislation During May Mental Health Month**

May 5, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

MHLG Urges Congress to pass mental health legislation passed out of E&C last Congress.

- ***Promoting Effective and Empowering Recovery Services (PEERS) in Medicare Act of 2021***

May 3, 2021

Medicare

MHLG wrote a letter to House leaders and Ways and Means Committee leaders in support of H.R. 2767, legislation seeking to provide Medicare coverage of peer support services for individuals with mental illness and/or substance use disorders who are being treated in primary care and receiving integrated behavioral health services.

- ***FY2022 Presidential Budget Request Response and Support***

April 23, 2021

Appropriations

MHLG wrote a letter of support to congressional appropriators urging high levels of funding as requested in President Biden's FY2022 topline presidential budget request.

- ***Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act***

April 21, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

- ***Mental Health Professionals Workforce Shortage Loan Repayment Act***

April 13, 2021

Other Mental Health and Addiction Issues

MHLG wrote a letter of support and thanks to Sens. Murkowski and Smith and Representatives Katko and Napolitano for their legislation that would create a student loan repayment program for mental health professionals who commit to working in underserved communities.

- ***FY2022 Appropriations Requests***

April 7, 2021

Appropriations

MHLG submitted the following appropriations requests to the Labor-HHS-Education, Military Construction-Veterans Affairs, and Commerce-Justice-Science House Subcommittees on Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2022. What follows is a broad array of appropriations recommendations for mental health and addiction policies and programs, a majority of which are supported by the majority of the Mental Health Liaison Group full voting members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Raphael, MS, APRN-PMH, FAAN, Chair

Pam Galehouse, PhD, RN, CNL

Barbara Peterson, PhD, PMHCNS-BC, APRN

Brayden Kameg, DNP, PMHNP-BC, CARN, CNE

Cynthia Handrup, DNP, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN

Beth Bonham, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN

Andrea Kwasky, DNP, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC

February 22, 2022

Attachment I

Date: July 20, 2021 Policy Committee Board Report

Summary of ISPN Activities:

As this is written there are 1994 health care legislative bills introduced in the 117th Congress from Feb 20, 2021 of those Mental Health bills are 502 House Resolutions [HR] & 210 Senate [S]. As a member of the Nursing Community Coalition from JULY 2020- JUNE 2021 ISPN has signed on to 36 letters, statements, & testimony, attended 3 virtual ncc member only events with congressional and federal agency members, engaged with 4 agencies. NCC had an average of 57 member participants on monthly zoom meetings.

The major agenda items have been advocacy for:

- \$200 million in supplemental funding for nurse corps.
- \$4.5 million increase of Title VIII funding in fy 2021.
- \$5.9 million increase of NINR funding in fy 2021 and fy 2022 appropriations for Title VIII and NINR.

Below are many of the bills and letters sent with ISPN's name:

- March 1** Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act HR1475/ S1795
- March 24** Congratulatory letter to President Biden and Congress on passage of American Rescue Plan Act HR 2736/S928.
- April 2** Mental Health Professional Workforce Shortage Loan Repayment Act HR 3150/S 1578
- April 20** Letter on President's Plan for Children & Adolescents at the US Southern Border to V.P. Harris, Secretary Becerra & Surgeon General Murthy.
- May 19** Rep.S. Wild bill HR 4327 To Amend Higher Education Act of 1965 to promote comprehensive Campus Mental health & Suicide Prevention plans
- May 21** NCC letter supporting reintroduction of the US Cadet Nurse Corps service Recognition Act HR 2568/S 1220
- May 21** NCC Letter to HHS ED Written testimony for record
- May 25** Letter to Sen Tina Smith for S version of Mental Health Services for Students Act S1841
- May 27** Improving Data Collection for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) letter of support HR 3467
- June 4** Nomination of Dr. Delphin-Rittmon for SAMHSA asst secretary
- June 11** The Medicaid Bump Act HR 3450/S 1727 would incentivize states to expand coverage of Behavioral health services by increasing Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) health services
- June 11** Employing Digital Therapeutics to Help Address Mental Health & Substance Use Crisis Letter to CMS
- June 13** NCC Infrastructure Letter
- June 17** Medicaid Bump Act HR 3450/S 1727 MHLG
- June 18** Increasing Access to Mental Health in Schools Act
- June 9** Testimony of NCC to LHHS and Education Subcommittee to support Title VIII of Public Health Services Act for fiscal 2022 \$530 million for Nursing Workforce and 193 million for NINR
- June 21** Nurse Cadet Corp letter
- June 21** Increasing Access to Mental Health in Schools Act
- June 21** Stabilize Medicaid CHIP Coverage Act of 2021 HR1735/ S 646
- June 21** Senators Mastro & Cassidy Promoting Effective & Empowering Recovery Services in Medicare Act of 2021

- July 8** Moms Matter Act letter
- July 9** Welcome letter to DHHS asst secretaries for ASPPR, MH & SA
- July 9** CAMRA Act HR 2161/ S 971. This bill requires the National Institutes of Health to fund research regarding the effects of media on infants, children, and adolescents. Such research must examine the impact of media (e.g., social media, television, video games) on cognitive, physical, and social-emotional development.
- July 13** SERVE Act HR 2567/S194 Supports education recognition for Veterans during Emergencies Act
- July 17** Mental Health Parity Implementation Assistance Act HR 3753/ S 1962
- July 16** Posted on ISPN Web site:
- July 20** The following pieces of legislation have imminent introductions in the U.S. Senate, and all passed the House of Representatives in May 2021. These bills are high priorities for ISPN & the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) and we urge the Senate Committee to consider them as they evaluate mental health and suicide prevention priorities.

The Biden Administration recently posted the Updating Payment Parameters rule, which reverses some of the Trump Administration's sabotage of the Affordable Care Act. The proposed rule extends the enrollment period for Marketplace coverage and expands the role of navigators to help consumers understand and use their coverage. The rule also restores guardrails for 1332 waivers. It is important to create a strong administrative record to support these changes.

Helping Emergency Responders Overcome (HERO) Act (H.R.1480)

The *Helping Emergency Responders Overcome (HERO) Act*, introduced by Rep. Bera (D-CA) would improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers. This legislation would better identify first responder suicide rates, risk factors, and interventions, and develop best practices for the prevention and treatment of posttraumatic stress among first responders.

Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act (H.R.2981)

The *Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act* introduced by Reps. Katko (R-NY), Beyer (D-VA) and Napolitano (D-CA) would support an increased authorization for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to ensure high-quality crisis service delivery.

The Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act (H.R. 2862)

The *Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act* introduced by Reps. Beyer (D-VA) and Kinzinger (R-IL) would establish a national educational campaign to raise awareness of the three-digit suicide lifeline phone number (988), suicide prevention resources, and foster more effective discourse on how to prevent suicide.