

THE HIGHLIGHT
THE SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 51, NUMBER 4
4TH QUARTER 2025



**HERE'S THE SCOOP FROM
THE PRESIDENT**



Hello Colleagues,

It's that time of the year again when we wrap up loose ends and spend time with family and friends. It can be both joyful and stressful. Please know that San Antonio ENA (SAENA) is here for you. We are your professional organization and want to continue to grow and improve to meet your needs. Please take a moment to let us know how we can better serve you. Feel free to drop us a line any time. If you need assistance, your leadership team is here to serve.

Speaking of leadership team, we have our new officers who were just sworn in for the 2026 calendar year at our annual Holiday Party on December 9th. Everyone had a fantastic time at Chis Madrid's. Our new officers are as follows:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| ➤ Justin English | President |
| ➤ Sharon King | President Elect |
| ➤ Leslie Hinson | Immediate Past President |
| ➤ Diane Walcutt | Treasurer |
| ➤ Carol Twombly | Secretary |
| ➤ Susan Duglass | Director |
| ➤ Leah King | Director |

SAENA 2026 Meetings

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

- **January 13, 2026**
Peterson Regional Medical Center
551 Hill Country Dr
Kerrville, TX 78028
- **February 10, 2026**
- **March 10, 2026**
- **April 14, 2026**
- **May 12, 2026**
- **June 9, 2026 Networking Event**
- **July 14, 2026**
- **August 11, 2026**
- **September – No meeting!**
- **October 13, 2026 Officer Elections**
- **November 10, 2026**
- **December 8, 2026 Holiday Dinner**

Business Meetings are held in-person and via Zoom.

If your facility would like to host a SAENA Business meeting in 2026 contact: Dustin English at denglish@petersonhealth.com

Know someone who would like to present a 1-hour lecture at a SAENA meeting...contact Carol Twombly at cltwombly@aol.com

For meeting locations and Zoom access information go to:

www.sanantonioena.org/meetings/

Everyone is gearing up for an eventful new year. We have the National Leadership Conference hosted by Texas ENA in Dallas, January 29-30, 2026. In February, we have our annual virtual CEs for Texas Nurses Courses to meet Texas licensure requirements on February 25, 2026. More information be posted soon on our website: <https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/>

We are very excited to be hosting, along with Methodist Healthcare, a CEN Review Course, May 7- 8, 2026, presented by nationally recognized, Justin Milici. Rounding up the summer, we are hosting our 14th Annual Concepts of Emergency and Critical Care Nursing Conference on August 27, 2026, at a new location at the Drury Inn and Suites at I-10 West and Loop 1604. Please plan for the National EN2026 Conference in Phoenix, September 28 - October 1, 2026. See the ENA website for more information at: <https://www.ena.org/events/emergency-nursing-2026>

We will continue our monthly business meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, locations to be posted on the SAENA website at <https://www.sanantonioena.org/meetings/> . Dinner is provided. All meetings are available virtually and can be accessed from the meeting page. As one of our primary missions for SAENA, we not only provide outstanding conferences, but also education opportunities at many of our scheduled meetings. All we need is you!!

We had an amazing 2025. Please join me in making 2026 even better!!

Sincerely,



Leslie Hinson, MSN, RN, CNL, CEN
SAENA President 2025



What's Hot!

Texas Required Continuing Education

February 25, 2026

3 Virtual Courses

See flyer below!

CEN Review Course

May 7 - 8, 2026

Presented by:

Justin Milici,

**MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN,
CPN, TCRN, CCRN, FAEN
Galen College of Nursing**

Auditorium

See flyer below!

SAENA Annual Educational Conference!

August 27, 2026

Drury Inn & Suites

15806 I -10 West

San Antonio, TX 78257

See flyer below

ENA Leadership Conference

January 29 - 30, 2026

Dallas, Texas

See flyer below

SAENA Welcomes the New 2026 Officers and Committee Chairs!

The SAENA congratulates the winners of its 2026 Officer Elections held on October 14, 2025!

- **President Elect – Sharon Keith**
- **Treasurer – Diane Walcutt**
- **Secretary – Carol Twombly**
- **Director – Leah Keith (2-year term)**

2026 Committee Chairs will be:

- **Scholarship – Tom Culwell**
- **Trauma / Injury Prevention / TNCC – Susan Douglass**
 - **Co-Chair – Barbara Baldwin**
- **Pediatrics / ENPC – Diane Walcutt**
- **Bylaws and Policies – Sharon Keith**
- **Election Process – Leslie Hinson**
- **Membership – Yvonne Moseley**
- **Fundraising – Linda Simpson**
- **Media – Leah Keith**
- **Government Affairs / Nursing Practice – Mary Leblond**
- **Professional Education – Carol Twombly**
- **Conference – Lisa King**
- **Newsletter – Carol Twombly**
- **Professional Organization Liaisons:**
 - **San Antonio Nursing Consortium (SANC) – Mary Leblond**
 - **South Texas Regional Advisor Council (STRAC) – Yvonne Moseley**

SAENA's NEW MEMBERS

The SAENA welcomes our new members who joined since September 16, 2025:

Chris Salas, Kymberly Segura, Liai Meza, Dionne Brown, Grace Rinard, Marsharee Burgess, Erin Britt, Kevin Robards, Adrian Rivera, Savannah Carter, Gregory Quiroz, Jose Gonzalez, Amber Pizzini, Shaheen Issayi, Chima Iwuagwu, Kimberly Cloonan, Zane Watson and Amy Zamora.

2026 TNCC Provider Courses!

February 21 - 22, 2026

May 16 - 17, 2026

August 1 – 2, 2026

October 10 – 11, 2026

**Course will be held at the
STRAC Building
7500 US-90 #1,
San Antonio, TX 78227**

**For more information see
<https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/tbcc/> or**

**Contact: Susan Douglass
susan.douglass1948@yahoo.com
or (210) 215-5540**

2026 ENPC Provider Courses!

January 10 – 11, 2026

April 11 – 12, 2026

August 15 – 16, 2026

December 12 – 13, 2026

**Courses will be held at the
Methodist Clinical &
Professional Education
Department
8109 Fredericksburg Road**

**For more information see
<https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/enpc/> or**

**Contact: Diane Walcutt at
dianewalcutt@yahoo.com or
(210) 387-7236**

Safety Whys' Child Care Course

A 7-hour training program for students 11 - 17 years of age who want to be more confident when babysitting. The course focuses on the child's action, logical consequences and interventions necessary to keep the child safe.

2026 Courses

Saturday, May 9, 2026

November 14, 2026

Courses will be held at:

Helotes Police Department, 12951 Bandera Road, Helotes, Texas 78023

For more information click on the on the SAENA website 'Education' tab or

<https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/safetywhys/>

Congratulations!

The SAENA is pleased to honor the following members and local facilities which received:

ENA's 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award:



- **Mary Leblond, MSN, RN, CEN, CA-SANE, CP-SANE, FAEN**

Texas ENA's 2025 Nursing Practice and Professionalism Award:



- **Diane Walcutt, BSN, RN, CEN, CPEN**

ENA's prestigious 2025 Lantern Award:



- **CHRISTUS Children's Stone Oak Freestanding Emergency Department – San Antonio, Texas**
- **Methodist Children's Hospital Pediatric ER – San Antonio, Texas**



What's Happening and What's New? Nursing Practice & Government Affairs

What's Happening and What's New in Nursing?

- **Exclusive e-cigarette use, dual use with cigarettes raise odds for prediabetes**

December 10, 2025 By [Isabella Hornick](#) with Perspective from [Felix Aguilar, MD, MPH](#)

https://www.healio.com/news/pulmonology/20251210/exclusive-ecigarette-use-dual-use-with-cigarettes-raise-odds-for-prediabetes?utm_source=selligent&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20251211HM&utm_content=20251211HM#1AAEEC47C780445498B02AE9CD9B7184

1. Key takeaways:

- Exclusive e-cigarette users vs. never users had a heightened likelihood for self-reported prediabetes but not diabetes.
- Users of both e-cigarettes and cigarettes had elevated odds for both diagnoses

- **The battle against resistant hypertension: New guidelines, drugs and treatment options** December 09, 2025 By **Scott Buzby**

<https://www.healio.com/news/cardiology/20251209/the-battle-against-resistant-hypertension-new-guidelines-drugs-and-treatment-options>

1. Key takeaways:

- Lifetime risk for hypertension is up to 90% among U.S. adults.
- Updated guidelines and a pipeline of novel drugs may help to address the growing prevalence of resistant hypertension.
- American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology/Multisociety Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults published in August

- **Hemorrhage Control in Pelvic Fracture**

- More than one in three patients with pelvic fractures who require early transfusion and invasive hemorrhage control interventions die, even though a variety of advanced hemorrhage control interventions are available, a study finds. Only pelvic angioembolization alone is associated with reduced mortality

Read More: <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamasurgery/fullarticle/2799004>

- **CMS requirement for ED boarding metrics should improve outcomes**

December 10, 2025 By [Owais Durrani, DO](#) and By [Robert Glatter, MD](#) .

<https://www.healio.com/authors/odurrani>

<https://www.healio.com/authors/rglatter>



1. Key takeaways:
 - ED boarding leads to missed diagnoses and higher mortality.
 - The Emergency Care Access and Timeliness measure requires ED metric reporting.
 - Data should drive accountability, with rewards for meeting benchmarks.

What's Happening and What's New in Government Affairs?

State

- ***The 2026 Texas primary slate is set***
With the candidate filing deadline behind us, TribCast digs into the musical chairs that awaits voters in 2026 by [ELEANOR KLIBANOFF](https://www.texastribune.org/author/eleanor-klibanoff/) DEC 9, 2025
[HTTPS://WWW.TEXASTRIBUNE.ORG/AUTHOR/ELEANOR-KLIBANOFF/](https://www.texastribune.org/author/eleanor-klibanoff/)
- ***Sexual Assault DNA Kit: A new Texas law allows for forensic medical exams for sex assault survivors even if no report has been made to law enforcement. The Texas Department of Public Safety says the first kit under the program, which began on Dec. 1, was collected last week.***
https://www.dps.texas.gov/news/dps-implements-limited-consent-dna-testing-program-sexual-assault-survivors?_bhlid=16e0b2a33a950ab44f85c1d5e48628ec5e8d2e1f

National

(Washington Update: December, 2025)

- ***Department of Education Declines to Consider Nursing a 'Professional Degree'***
As part of the implementation of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, the Department of Education recently released a proposal to enact new borrowing limits on federal student loans for graduate students.

ENA calls on the Department of Education to explicitly include nursing in its definition of "professional degrees" within this proposal. If the proposal is approved as currently written, nurses pursuing advanced degrees could be limited in the amount they may borrow in federal student loans.

According to the proposal, beginning in July 2026, federal loans for students in graduate degree programs will be capped at \$20,500 per year, with a \$100,000 lifetime limit. Students in programs designated as "professional degrees" would be capped at a higher limit of \$50,000 per year, with a \$200,000 lifetime limit.

Previous loan borrowing limits on graduate degrees were essentially set at the full cost

of obtaining the degree, something the administration argued was leading universities to charge high costs for degrees that offered limited return **on that investment. A** Proposed Rule is expected in early 2026, when the public will have an opportunity to comment on the changes. Watch for more information from ENA about how to submit comments when that period opens.

Excluding advanced nursing degrees from the “professional degrees” designation could discourage interested candidates from pursuing education they might not be able to afford without a federal student loan. Limiting the number of graduate-prepared nurses could complicate an already existing shortage of nurses, those at the stretcherside as well as nursing school faculty. ENA recently signed onto two letters opposing this proposal, which can be read here: <https://www.ena.org/advocacy/federal-letters-support>

- **Funding Restored After Shutdown Ends, However Questions Remain**

The November agreement to reopen the U.S. government restored funding to a wide array of federal programs and offices including critical nursing research at the National Institutes for Health, while continuing the processing of nursing education grants and scholarships through Title VIII programs.

However, questions remain related to subsidies that helped lower the cost of insurance in the ACA marketplaces, which had been implemented as part of pandemic relief. Without these subsidies, insurance premiums for millions of people will skyrocket. The Kaiser Family Foundation estimates these increases will affect people across income levels. Most notably, individuals below 250 percent of the federal poverty level could see a fourfold rise in their premiums. The Commonwealth Fund reports as many as 5 million people will lose coverage in 2026, with millions more facing much higher premiums. If primary and preventive care is unaffordable, more people may put off care until they need emergency treatment, adding additional strain to many EDs that are already overcrowded and undercompensated. Senate Republicans have promised a vote to extend the subsidies as early as this week, although it is not clear if the House is prepared to schedule a similar vote.

<https://www.kff.org/affordable-care-act/aca-marketplace-premium-payments-would-more-than-double-on-average-next-year-if-enhanced-premium-tax-credits-expire/>

<https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-briefs/2025/oct/expiring-premium-tax-credits-lead-340000-jobs-lost-2026>

Despite this temporary relief, Congress will need to act on FY26 funding again before Jan. 30, when the current continuing resolution expires. Options include passing the remaining appropriations bills, enacting another short-term continuing resolution or passing an omnibus that essentially funds the government for the remainder of the fiscal



year, typically with few opportunities for increases to individual programs. Without action, there is risk of another partial government shutdown.

Is the Nursing Shortage is Real. Title VIII Programs Provide Real Support.

<https://www.votervoice.net/ENA/Campaigns/130098/Respond>

Emergency Nurses are Under Attack! A Federal Criminal Law Could Help Deter Violence.

<https://www.votervoice.net/ENA/Campaigns/130338/Respond>

Boarding and Overcrowding Have Been Problems for Years. Let's Do Something About It.

<https://www.votervoice.net/ENA/Campaigns/129758/Respond>

MISSION ZERO Is Popular, Innovative, and Needs to be Reauthorized. Learn More

<https://www.votervoice.net/ENA/Campaigns/128587/Respond>

Workplace Violence Has No Cure. Tell Congress to Do More to Fight It!

<https://www.votervoice.net/ENA/Campaigns/126220/Respond>

Support Tyler's Law to Effectively Implement Fentanyl Testing in EDs!

<https://www.votervoice.net/ENA/Campaigns/124643/Respond>

Support the Reauthorization of Programs to Combat Emergency Nurse Burnout!

<https://www.votervoice.net/ENA/Campaigns/121284/Respond>

EN411 Grassroots Advocacy

Members of Congress need to hear from their constituents – this means you! Action Alerts highlight ENA's priorities before the House and Senate. Through the links below, you can send a letter or X post to your member of Congress.

ENA State Leaders: Got a State Bill to Track?

Contact ENA Government Relations and let us know the bill number - gov@ena.org.

If you haven't signed up already, click below and never miss another Action Alert!

[Join EN411](#)



**Mary Leblond, MSN, RN, CEN, CA-SANE, CP-SANE, FAEN
Chair Government Affairs Committees**

YOUR 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Leslie Hinson

President Elect: Dustin English

Past President: Barbara Baldwin

Treasurer: Diane Walcutt

Secretary: Carol Twombly

Directors: Lisa King and Susan Douglass

YOUR 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Dustin English

President Elect: Sharon Keith

Past President: Leslie Hinson

Treasurer: Diane Walcutt

Secretary: Carol Twombly

Directors: Susan Douglass and Leah Keith

YOUR 2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bylaws / Policies: Dustin English

Election Process: Barbara Baldwin

Media: Yvonne Moseley

QSIP / Trauma / TNCC: Susan Douglass

QSIP Co-Chair: Barbara Baldwin

Pediatrics / ENPC: Diane Walcutt

Nursing Practice/Government Affairs: Mary Leblond

Membership: Wanda Sparks

Fundraising: Linda Simpson

Conference: Lisa King

Professional Education: Leslie Hinson / Carol Twombly

Newsletter: Carol Twombly

Scholarship: Thomas Culwell

Media: Yvonne Moseley

YOUR 2026 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Membership: Leah Keith

Fundraising: Linda Simpson

Conference: Lisa King

Professional Education: Carol Twombly

Scholarship: Thomas Culwell

Media: Yvonne Moseley

Newsletter: Carol Twombly

2026 Texas ENA Meetings

Q1 – January 31, 2026

Renaissance Hotel

2222 N. Stemmons Frwy, Dallas

Hosted by Dallas County ENA

Q3 – July 24 – 25, 2026

Location to be determined

Hosted by Gulf Coast ENA

Q2 – April 10 – 11, 2026

Cotton Court Hotel

1610 Broadway St, Lubbock

Hosted by Hi Plains ENA

Q4 – October 16 – 17, 2026

Location to be determined

Hosted by Texas 10-59

For location and hotel info check the Meetings page of the TxEA website.

<https://txena.org/meetings/>

Opting Out

If you wish to opt out of receiving this Newsletter or other SAENA announcements, please notify SAENA at cltwombly@aol.com

A purple t-shirt is shown from the front, laid flat. It has a crew neck and short sleeves. The text is printed on the chest area.

SAENA Shirts!

SAENA has new Chapter shirts!

Two styles of the SAENA purple shirts:

- **“Golf Shirt”**
- **“Fishing shirt”**

Prices are \$35 - \$45+ per shirt based on style and size.

Only cash or check will be accepted when ordering.

Pick up of the ordered shirts can be done at a SAENA Business meeting.

Texas Board of Nursing - Continuing Education Requirements for RNs

All Texas RNs are reminded to review the Texas Board of Nursing's mandatory continuing education re-licensure requirements located on the website at https://www.bon.texas.gov/education_continuing_education.asp#D

There are several factors which must be kept in mind when reviewing the information on the website:

- Course content must meet the stipulation requirements of the Texas Board of Nursing
- The time frame or licensure cycle for repeating the requirement differs from course to course
- The RN's practice type and/or 'float unit' may determine if a nurse needs to take a course
- Advance Practice RNs (APRN) have additional course requirements than RNs
- Course requirements are not automatically met with certification
- Additional education requirements may be added at any time. These requirements are announced in the Texas Board of Nursing's Bulletin.

Current RN Requirements:

- Forensics Evidence Collection
- Older Adult and Geriatric Care
- Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics
- *Human Trafficking Prevention

****Must be an approved Texas HHS course.***

Current APRN Requirements:

- Pharmacotherapeutics
- Tick-Borne Diseases
- *Pain management and prescription of opioids
- *Prescription of opioids
- Authorization to receive information from the Texas Prescription Monitoring Program

**** All APRNs with prescriptive authority authorized to prescribe opioids***

Note: In 2025, the Texas Legislature passed a bill requiring education on nutrition/metabolic health to be added to the mandatory continuing education for Texas nurses. Specific requirements for this course: the number of hours of education required, which nurses need to have the education, and how often it needs to be taken will be finalized by late 2026. Members will be notified by the SAENA as soon as the requirements are published by the Texas Board of Nursing.



SAVE THE DATE!

3 for Texas Nurses: Required Nursing Education

A Virtual Seminar

February 25, 2026

1. Forensic Nursing for Emergency Department Nurses:

Lisa King, MSN, RN, CA-CP SANE

Fulfills NPA §301.306 and Rule 216.3(d) which is a one-time Texas Board of Nursing requirement

Course Time: 0800 – 1000 CT



2. Older Adult / Geriatrics Care – A Special Population:

Yvonne Moseley, MSN, RN, CEN

Fulfills the NPA §301.306 and Rule 216.3(h) for 1 licensing cycle.

Course Time: 1010 – 1210 CT



3. Human Trafficking: Training for Healthcare Professionals

Muriel Lanford, MSN, RN, TCRN

Fulfills NPA §301.306 and Rule 216.3(i) for 1 licensing cycle.

Course Time: 1220 - 1350 CT



Location: This is an online seminar held on **Zoom.com**. Attendees will be emailed the Zoom access link once registration has been completed. Each course is limited to 80 participants.

Course Fee:

ENA Member:	\$20 / course. Discount: All 4 courses for \$70.
Non-Member:	\$30 / course. Discount: All 4 courses for \$100
LVN/EMT/**Student:	\$20 / course. All 4 courses for \$70

Registrant must be an ENA member on the day of the seminar to receive the ENA Member Discount

****Student** – as defined by ENA: an individual obtaining their initial licensure as an RN (registered nurse).

Contact Information: Carol Twombly cltwombly@aol.com

Refund Request: A written request must be received prior to February 1, 2026, for a refund. No refunds will be issued after February 1, 2026.

Texas Board of Nursing Continuing Education: https://www.bon.texas.gov/education_continuing_education.asp

Watch the SAENA website for more information and registration!

www.sanantonioena.org

CEN Review Course

May 7 – 8, 2026



Justin Milici

**MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, CPN, TCRN,
CCRN, FAEN**

ENA Member - \$275 Non-Member - \$325

**Galen College of Nursing
Auditorium**

13805 I-10

San Antonio, TX 78249



Scan me!

To register use the Scan Me or see the SAENA website at:
<https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/2026-cen-review/>



San Antonio Emergency Nurses Association

SAVE THE DATE!

SAENA's 14TH ANNUAL Conference

***Concepts of Emergency and
Critical Care Nursing – 2026***

August 27, 2026

****Note New
Location!****

Drury Inn & Suites

15806 I –10 West

San Antonio, TX 78257

(Intersection of I-10 and 1604 on the Access Road)

FREE Parking and Wifi

Early Bird Registration – Ends May 31, 2026

ENA Member: \$70 Non-ENA Member: \$85 LVN / EMS/ Student: \$70

Regular Registration – Starts June 1, 2026

ENA Member: \$80 Non-ENA Member: \$95 LVN / EMS / Student: \$80

7 hours of education!

www.sanantonioena.org



ENA Leadership Conference Registration Is Open

Registration for ENA Leadership Conference 2026, happening Jan. 29-30 in Dallas, **is officially open to council, chapter and global leaders.** Connect with your peers for two energizing days of growth, strategy and inspiration designed to elevate your leadership and help you make an impact that resonates worldwide impact within the ENA community.

What You'll Gain:

- Valuable insights and practical strategies to strengthen your leadership impact at every level
- Actionable tools to enhance council and chapter performance and member engagement
- Guidance on operations, fundraising, and professional development
- Opportunities to build stronger, more effective teams
- Connections with peers to share ideas and best practices
- Innovative approaches to leadership and organizational growth
- Contact hours

Who Should Attend

All ED nurses eager to grow as leaders are welcome, whether you're new to leadership as an ENA council or chapter officer, elevating your role in the ED or preparing to present at a future ENA conference.

Note: 2026 council president, president-elect and treasurer or secretary/treasurer roles are eligible for complimentary registration.

Where You'll Be

Renaissance Dallas Hotel
2222 North Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75207

Don't miss this dynamic, career-boosting event. Register today and make 2026 your year of leadership growth!

[Register Now](#)

<https://www.ena.org/events/ena-leadership-conference-2026>

[Book My Hotel](#)

https://book.passkey.com/event/50989109/owner/865/home?utm_campaign=296689845

Bonus Opportunity (Limited Seating)

Successful Professional Development: Applications that Get Approved

Join this free pre-conference session on Jan. 28 to learn how to craft accreditation-ready applications and documentation the first time so you can focus on developing people in their careers, not paperwork.

Additional questions about ENA Leadership Conference 2026?

- Registration: webupdates@ena.org
- Event: meetingservices@ena.org
- Educational Program: conference.education@ena.org
- Council/Chapter Roles: governance@ena.org
- Contact Hours: cne@ena.org



Happy Holidays!