

# Preemie Press

SPRING 2023



[www.dvann.org](http://www.dvann.org)

# A Letter from our President

As we look back over the past year, we are proud that we were able to continue to serve both our professional neonatal nursing community and the wider community we serve in. We continue to offer educational topics and speakers that fulfill our mission of increasing our neonatal nursing knowledge, learning to care for ourselves and to engage in discussions around health equity and the effects of racism in healthcare. While COVID previously impacted our ability to assist local organizations in person, we were able to again support our community in other ways through financial and supply donations. We were grateful to return to in-person volunteering events, provide educational information at the 2022 March of Dimes March for Babies, and to support the participation in advocacy efforts at the local and national levels.

Our 2022 Fall conference was a great success – your board again stretched their technical knowledge and resources to host a hybrid in-person and livestreamed virtual event. The evaluations were overwhelmingly positive and showed the local and national neonatal nursing community what we already knew – despite the challenges put before us, nurses will persevere, think critically and “outside the box” and achieve our goals.

A new year brings about transitions – and your DVANN board is no exception. Please welcome our new board members, Melanie Garbriel (Treasurer), Eileen Volquez (Membership Director) and welcome back Caitlin Bain (Secretary). I would like to thank our outgoing members Michelle Sohlich-Miller (Treasurer), Sharon Leonardo (Membership Director), Michele Farley (Secretary) and Annemarie Deeley (Education Chair). Thank you for volunteering your time and talents during a time when “unprecedented” became everyday and for continuing to help keep advancing DVANN and the neonatal nursing community.

Michelle Ferrant, DNP, RNC-NIC, ACCNS-N, CBC, CPLC



# 2023 Board

**MICHELLE FERRANT, DNP, RNC-NIC, ACCNS-N, CBC, CPLC**  
*President*

**MELANIE GABRIEL, BSN, RNC-NIC**  
*Treasurer*

**JENNIFER HART, MSN, RNC-NIC < CBC**  
*Podcast Director*

**EILEEN VOLQUEZ, BSN**  
*Membership Director*

**JESSICA BARBARO, BSN, RNC-NIC**  
*Community Outreach Director*

**WILLIE WALKER, BSN, RNC-NIC**  
*Advocacy Director*

**LIZ BARONOFSKY, BSN, RNC-NIC**  
*Communications Director*

**CAITLIN BAIN, MSN, RNC-NIC**  
*Secretary*

**EDUCATION DIRECTOR**  
*Position Open*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY TO OPEN BOARD POSITIONS, PLEASE EMAIL [INFO@DVANN.ORG](mailto:INFO@DVANN.ORG)**

## Upcoming Events

### LUNCH & LECTURE

*Free virtual lunch & lecture on Wednesday, April 19th at 12:00pm. Be sure to register. <https://dvann.org/event-calendar/>*

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*Looking to get involved locally? We have volunteer days scheduled with Cradle of Hope, Manna & Philabundance. All of our scheduled dates are on our website calendar under the Events tab.*



**National  
Association of  
Neonatal  
Nurses**

**Delaware Valley Chapter**

# Community Service Opportunities

## **Cradle of Hope**

This is a residential home for expectant and single mothers and their babies. We will visit the first Wednesday of the month from April to December 7-8pm. We will provide education on car seat safety, breastfeeding, nutrition, etc. as well as some snacks.

**Website: [cradleofhope.net](http://cradleofhope.net)**

**Dates: First Wednesday of every month, 7-8pm**

**Location: 2242 Mount Carmel Ave Glenside, PA 19038**

## **March of Dimes Walk**

This year's walk will be on **Saturday April 22nd, 2023 at 9:30 am**. Join our team or stop by our table to learn more about DVANN.

**Location: 4500 S Broad Street Philadelphia, PA**

## **Philabundance**

This is Delaware Valley's largest hunger relief organization. We will be participating in the following events this year: Food box packing- Small things warehouse.

**Dates: Thursday, May 4th and July 20th 6-7:45 pm at Small Things Warehouse**

**Location: 401 Domino Lane Philadelphia 19128**

## **MANNA**

MANNA is an organization that prepares food for people who have serious illnesses.

**Dates: Friday June 9th and Monday August 21st 10-1p**

**Location: 420 N. 20th Street Philadelphia 19130**

**We welcome both DVANN members and non-members to join us in volunteering. Please contact Jess Barbaro at [evenst@dvann.org](mailto:evenst@dvann.org) to sign up.**

# New Board Members

## Eileen Volquez, BA, BSN, RNC-NIC *Membership Director*



My name is Eileen Volquez and I have been a Registered Nurse for 11 years. My first degree is in Spanish and Latin American Studies. I spent a few years working for the School District of Philadelphia teaching Spanish, as well as many years working as a Legal and Medical Spanish Interpreter. At some point, I realized I wanted to become a nurse and completed Thomas Jefferson University's accelerated BSN program. I've worked in adult and pediatric community settings, adult inpatient units, and have spent the last 8 years working in different Neonatal Intensive Care Units across the Northeast. I moved back to Philadelphia in February 2020 and have worked full time in the Intensive Care Nursery at HUP since then. At HUP I am a preceptor to new nurses, member of our Unit Council, and Resource Nurse. I enjoy participating in professional development events, networking opportunities, and community outreach events. I look forward to engaging with more area NICU nurses and growing our organization.

## Caitlin Bain, MSN, RNC-NIC *Secretary*



Hello DVANN! My name is Caitlin Bain and I am so grateful to have the opportunity to join the board as your new Secretary. After working as a NICU nurse at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children for 9 years, I have begun the transition into my new role as Central Nurse Educator; a role that will allow me to assist in easing the transition to practice for newly hired RNs in their various specialties. After completing my MSN in 2022, I had some free time on my hands and decided to once again join your DVANN board. I am looking forward to all of the great events we have planned this year and hope to see you all there!

## Melanie Gabriel BSN, RNC-NIC

### *Treasurer*



My name is Melanie Gabriel. This year marks my 30th year in the nursing profession. I started my nursing career in my home country, the Philippines where I worked at National Children's Hospital, Quezon City as a staff nurse/head nurse for eight years. Then I decided to work abroad and landed a job in the NICU at University College London Hospital, UK. In 2006, I came here to the U.S. after being recruited by UPHS and started working as a Clinical Nurse II in the ICN of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Since then, I transitioned to different roles and was involved in different committees. Currently, I am the Infant Delivery and Resuscitation Nurse in the ICN. I am also one of the lead nurses in the Resource Group. I am a member of the PICC Team and the Code Committee. I joined DVANN to expand my leadership abilities outside my comfort zone. I am excited to work with other NICU Nurses who are self-empowered and motivated.

# 2022 Award Winners

2022 International Service Award:

*Lauren Heimall*

2022 R.E.A.C.H. Award:

*Corin Wood*

2022 Professional Development Award:

*Kameela Miller*

# Financial Summary

Money In	
From NANN/DVANN Dues	\$4,740
Speaker Fee (Given back to DVANN since DVANN covered hotel expenses)	\$350
DVANN Fall Conference (Vendor Fees)	\$4,000
<b>Total income for 2022 as of 11/12/22</b>	<b>\$9,090</b>

Money Left Over	
Income minus expenses	- \$8449
<b>***THIS DOES NOT REFLECT INCOME FROM EVENTBRIGHT FOR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION</b>	

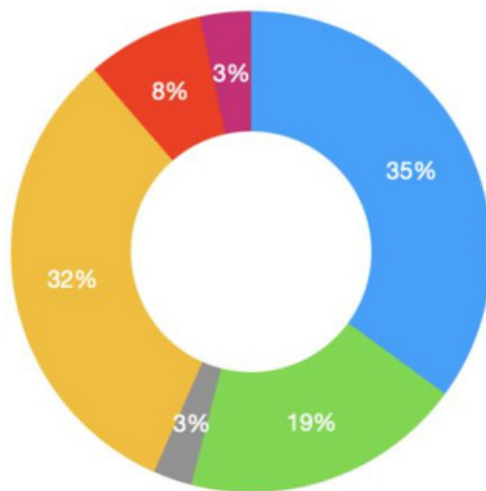
Money Out	
<b>2022 DVANN Fall Conference Costs - ROUGH ESTIMATE</b>	<b>\$4,005</b>
NANN Virtual and In-Person Conference Fee Reimbursement	\$2,165
Transition Gifts	\$300
DVANN Member Appreciation Dinner	\$3,662
Membership Dues - Reimbursements to Board Members	\$900
DVANN Supplies	\$394
<b>Awards</b>	<b>\$500</b>
G Suite Fees	\$362
Donation (MOD)	\$1,000
Pocketsmith Yearly Fee	\$90
Trip to NANN (Vegas)	\$1,015
NIMI Conference in Washington (Total Costs)	\$2,142
2022 (Virtual) Spring Dinner	\$350
2022 Summer Dinner	\$455
PSNA Application	\$200
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$17,539</b>

Wells Fargo Checking Account - \$22,835.27  
 PayPal Account - \$7,297.60  
 Venmo Account - \$650.00

**Total Assets - \$30,782.87**

Michelle Sohlich-Miller, BS, BSN, RNC-NICU, CBC

Money Out



- 2022 DVANN Fall Conference Costs - ROUGH ESTIMATE
- NANN Virtual and In-Person Conference Fee Reimbursement
- Transition Gifts
- DVANN Member Appreciation Dinner
- Membership Dues - Reimbursements to Board Members
- DVANN Supplies

# Thank You



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