

ILN NEWS



Indiana League
for Nursing

Indiana League for Nursing Newsletter

What ILN Means to Me

“The ILN affords me the opportunity to connect with other nursing educators in the state of Indiana who value and recognize nursing education as a specialized career”

Dawn Worman MSN, RN-BC, NE-BC

Board Member, Member of the Public Relations Committee, Membership Committee Chair

Message from the President

Hello Indiana Nurse Educators, I am excited to serve you as President of the Indiana League for Nursing. The ILN is one of the biggest blessings in my career. Through my involvement in the ILN, I have met other educators from across our state who share the same love of teaching and passion for the nursing profession. In addition to networking opportunities, the Indiana League offers programming that highlights innovative teaching strategies as well as forums for us to discuss challenges in our field. We also support the future of our profession with scholarships for doctoral students and MSN Nurse Educator students. I am proud of the ILN's endeavors to promote nursing education excellence and hope to include your talents and expertise to our efforts.

Our committees offer opportunities to become involved that can easily be incorporated into our very busy schedules. I encourage you to consider joining us through through one of our committees.

Susan A. Seibert,
DNP RN, Clinical Assistant
Professor, University of Southern
Indiana.



Spring Dinner and Discussion

The ILN is hosting a spring dinner and discussion on June 6, 2017, at 5:30 in the evening at IUPUI. This event will display work from faculty, students and clinicians in the areas of teaching and simulation. Abstracts are being accepted until April 3, 2017. For more information and registration, please visit the website:

<http://www.nln.org/membership/constituent-leagues/indiana/professional-development>

We hope to see you there!



Committee Spotlight: The Scholarship Committee

The ILN Scholarship committee, in accordance with ILN board direction, oversees the scholarship application and award process. The committee makes recommendations to the ILN board regarding criteria for the scholarship awards. Members evaluate the applications based on approved criteria and awards are determined based on the applications receiving the highest scores. Awardees are presented to the ILN board for approval. Awards are presented at the spring dinner and discussion.

Karen Clark EdD, RN

Chair, Scholarship Committee

Scholarship Information!

The Indiana League for Nursing (ILN) will award two (2) \$1000 scholarships to ILN members who are pursuing doctoral degrees with the intent to teach in a nursing program. ILN will also award a \$500 scholarship to an ILN member who is pursuing a MSN degree with the intent to teach in a nursing program. All applicants must submit the following materials by March 31, 2017 in order to be considered for the scholarship. Recipients will be notified in May and will be invited to attend the annual meeting in June 2017 to receive the scholarship check.

To learn more and apply, please visit:

<http://www.nln.org/membership/constituent-leagues/indiana/scholarship-information>

Newsletter Information

Please send submissions to the newsletter editor:

germanns@iindy.edu

Sara Germann RN, MS, ANP

ILN Newsletter Editor

Reflections on Ghana: A nursing student's journey

Shelby Sonnega, University of Southern Indiana

My last summer break before graduating nursing school I decided I wanted to live on the edge. This was going to be my chance to explore a part of Africa which had always been a dream of mine. After some research, I chose to travel to Ghana. It was in the village, Frankdua, where I fell in love with the African way of life. There are no words to describe the vast differences between the American and Ghanaian culture except that it is hard to believe that the two countries are on the same planet.

I spent fourteen weeks in Frankdua over my summer break which may seem like a lengthy time to be in a foreign country that has a hot climate without the comfort of air conditioning but to me, it was far from enough time. Staying busy from sunrise to sunset helped me maximize my volunteer opportunities and minimize my time of missing any westernized luxuries such as clean running water. I started my morning by working on the farm planting and harvesting crops. Next, I worked at the clinic and spent the bulk of my day there and doing community health outreach. My duties varied based on where help was needed, making flexibility a key learning lesson. Taking vitals, starting IVs, performing laboratory tests, administering vaccinations, and assisting with the delivery of babies were common jobs delegated to me.

During my visit, I saw numerous wounds that occurred from the hazardous pathway down to the river which is where the majority of the locals fetch their water for cooking, bathing, and drinking. On multiple occasions, the clinic was out of stock of bandaging material so I would buy items to refill the inventory. Before heading back to America, I put much thought into a more sustainable project to decrease the number of wounds the clinic was addressing. So when I returned home, I spoke to a few local organizations and raised money to build a staircase to the river as I thought this was the most suitable option for this dilemma.

During my last break before graduation, winter break, I decide to make a return to the village to create the community project. My knowledge of masonry work and construction is minimal, so I went into this project rather blind. Thankfully, the community leaders were of great help recruiting the necessary members to complete the stairs. It was a rewarding experience to see the project go from start to finish. Also, my brother and dad were able to make a short visit over Christmas to gain a glimpse of the Ghanaian way of life. My confidence in making additional returns to Frankdua made leaving the slightest bit easier.



This is the staircase that was built at the riverside. The water level is quite low due to it being dry season.