

## 2019-20 CCANN OFFICERS

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- March for Babies/ March of Dimes in Fresno: May 2, 2020
- CCANN Late Spring "Endocrine" Conference: June 13, 2020
- 36TH NANN National Annual conference in New Orleans: October 10-13, 2020
- CCANN Fall Conference at VCH: October 24, 2020
- CCANN Christmas Party at Copper River Country Club: December 8, 2020

... It's **FALLing** for **EDUCATION** this time...

Recap of the CCANN Fall Conference 2019 :  
 Current Best Practice for the Neonate  
 By : Sarah Gil, MSN, RNC - NIC

We have yet another successful CCANN event to add to our archives thanks to Kamela Loo, NNP-BC and founder of CCANN, Linda Sepulveda, RNC-NIC and event hostess, our speakers, officers, and volunteers. Our highly anticipated fall conference on the Current Best Practice for the Neonate had an incredible line-up of speakers including three from out of town—Sara Caylor, RN who is the coordinator for the Baby Bear Project, Mollie Gronseth, NNP-BC and Terry Johnson, NNP-BC who was just awarded the NANN 2019 Lifetime Achievement in Neonatal Nursing award. Furthermore, we had three Valley Children's Hospital specialists—Dr. Derick Holt from pediatric ophthalmology, Dr. James Pierce from pediatric surgery, and Dr. Radhika Narang, a neonatologist. We also had several vendor booths with representatives from Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals, Mead Johnson, Prolacta Bioscience, Syneos Health and Silentia. The furthest traveling representative flew from King of Prussia, PA! Of the 90 attendees including nursing students, radiology students, medical residents, registered nurses, and so forth, the furthest traveler was a nurse from Roseville, CA. All program attendees were provided delicious breakfast, lunch, dessert and an opportunity to enter







## THE CURRENT BEST PRACTICES

into an exciting raffle for a chance to win a variation of wines, an iPad, and festive pumpkin floral arrangement centerpieces made by Ashton Baker, BSN, RN.

The program opened precisely at the scheduled 08:00 time with Dr. Holt, a pediatric ophthalmologist. He began his lecture with the anatomy of the eye, proceeded to explain retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), classifying severity and how to assist with ROP exams. His passion and appreciation for the eye and vision was patent and made for an especially engaging lecture. He acknowledged that he knew that ophthalmologists were not the most favorite people amongst NICU nursing staff which sparked some laughter amongst the attendees. He also stated that he appreciated when nurses knew their patients and in anticipation of the stress inducing ROP exam, “turned up the oxygen” when needed. Valley Children’s Hospital Stage III/IV ROP rates remain low in part due to strict adherence to ordered oxygen saturation limits.

Following Dr. Holt’s lecture was Sara Caylor, RN and Clinical Research Coordinator for Rady Children’s Institute for Genomic Medicine, San Diego. In her captivating presentation, Project Baby Bear: A New Tool to Genetic Diagnostics, Sara described the goals of Project Baby Bear, the clinical utility of rapid whole genome sequencing in critical care units and identifying patient populations that may benefit from the project. Project Baby Bear is the first program in the nation to provide rapid clinical genome whole sequencing (rGWS) and Valley Children’s Hospital (VCH) is one of the five participating hospitals in this pilot program. Sara shared a video of a patient impacted by Project Baby Bear which can be viewed on the Rady Children’s website. Baby Sebastian’s parents had been told that even if she survived infancy, she would have a very poor quality of life due to her seizures. However, her parents agreed to rGWS and within a few days, physicians determined her diagnosis and provided her the correct treatment. Sara shared that the first major insurer to cover rGWS was announced recently—effective July 1, 2019, Blue Cross of California will cover rGWS if considered medically necessary when specific criteria are met.



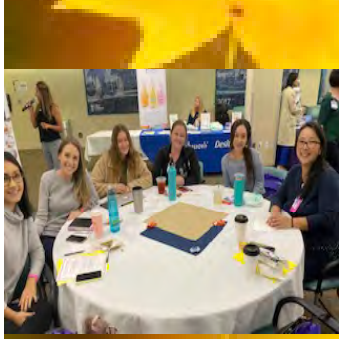
Linda Sepulveda RN - emcee



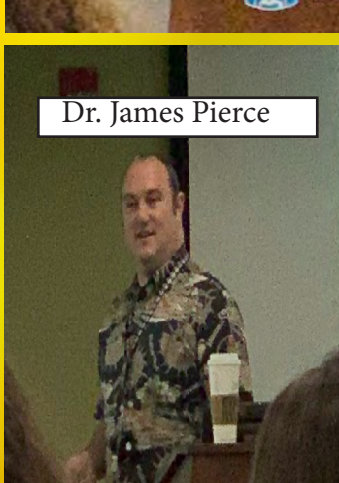
Dr. Derick Holt



Sara Caylor, RN



Dr. Radhika Narang



Dr. James Pierce



## CTICE FOR THE NEONATE



Other states may be following suit with the first being Michigan's Project Baby Bear.

After a short break and enjoyable time garnering more knowledge and tangible goodies from our visiting vendors, the program commenced with the always fashionable, Dr. Narang as acknowledged by our event hostess, Linda Sepulveda.

Dr. Narang's presentation Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy: What We Know So Far, discussed the pathophysiology and diagnostic criteria of HIE in addition to the mechanism of action of hypothermia therapy. She also reviewed the available literature for other possible therapies. Throughout her presentation, Dr. Narang kept attendees engaged through HIE assessment questions and considerably lightened the mood by sharing pictures of her travels including from Bali and Yellowstone.


Back by popular demand from the last conference, cheery and bright Dr. Pierce presented Surgical Infection and Wounds in the NICU-It's NOT just Trauma, llama-Alpaca Wound to Help a Baby Heal. He reviewed general principals of surgical infection—sources, how to approach dressing for surgical wound, how to assess and iteratively improve for effective wound care. Dr. Pierce explained these objectives in a very straightforward way and attendees were able to apply the learned principles by viewing pictures of various wounds.

Mollie Gronseth, NNP-BC, PNP-BC and current Clinical Nurse Educator for Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals presented Oxygen: Too Much of a Good Thing. She provided an overview of the therapeutic benefits of oxygen therapy, review a case study involving a newborn in respiratory distress, and discussed hazards associated with excessive oxygen exposure. In her highly interactive lecture, attendees were prompted to consider the patient requiring increasing amount of oxygen in the case study and the interventions required.



Terry S. Johnson , NNP-BC  
center



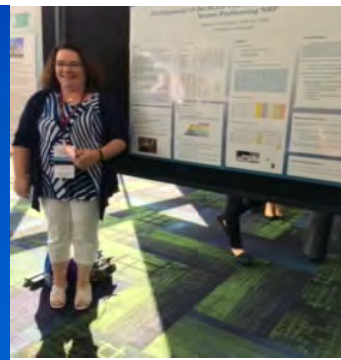


The program concluded with Terry Johnson, NNP-BC who is the current Director of Education and Professional Development at Prolacta Bioscience. She was recently awarded the NANN 2019 Lifetime Achievement in Neonatal Nursing award and spoke at the Spring CCANN conference last year. She presented two lectures: Taming the Piranha Effect: Managing Energy Expenditures & Caloric Loss to Promote Optimal Growth in the NICU and Feeding Intolerance: What's Trending on Feeding Issues in the Preterm Infant. She discussed the impact of inflammation on the growth of the preterm and stated that the highest number of antioxidants of any biological fluid is colostrum. She contended that while conditions of the placenta are unmatched, there are many conditions we can address that "cannibalize" nutrition— especially environmental stress. Terry acknowledged the quiet and calm environment she encountered within the VCH NICU during her tour the previous day.

Each of our speakers was uniquely engaging and provided a wealth of valuable information for which we are grateful! We hope you will join us for the Spring Conference on June 13, 2020 and Fall "Endocrine" Conference on October 24, 2020. For more information, check out our website: [www.ccannnurses.org](http://www.ccannnurses.org). All CCANN members interested in volunteering for the event for community involvement and/or clinical advancement, please email us at [ccann2008@gmail.com](mailto:ccann2008@gmail.com).







Our Ultimate Guide to Savannah Georgia  
The 35th NANN Annual Conference



The NANN 35th Annual  
Conference  
By : Nelfa Reynon, RN

The 35th NANN Annual Conference was held on October 9-12, 2019 at the Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa and at Savannah International Convention Center in Savannah, Georgia USA.

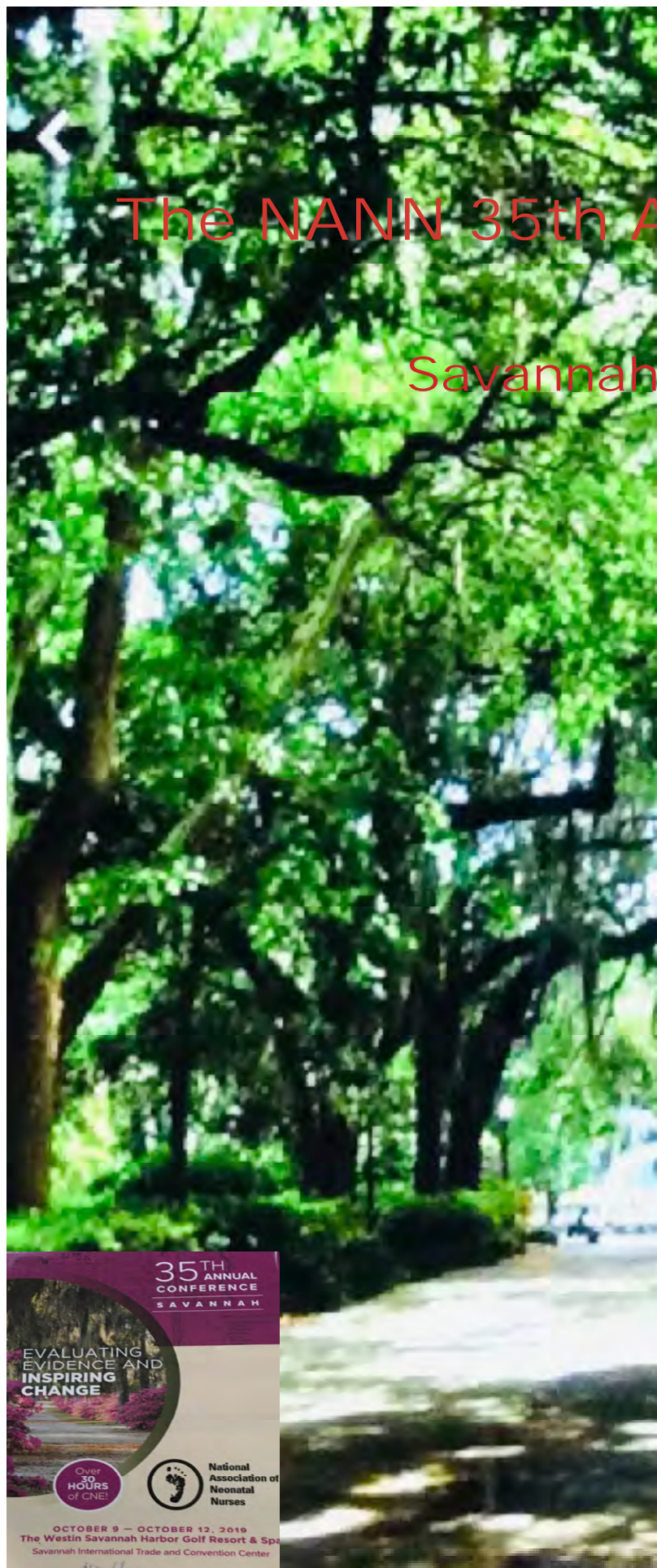
NICU nurses deserve a break from everyday stress in the workplace like a trip to the annual gathering in Savannah, Georgia. The convention was attended by more than 900 NICU nurses, educators, and Neonatal Nursing leaders.

With the NICU nurses from around the world, we were all welcomed by their unique Southern hospitality and met with inspiring speakers on this 4-day event of the most recent frameworks, methodologies, and most current updates in Neonatal Nursing are indication of the conference with its Theme: “Evaluating Evidence and Inspiring Change”

The NANN 35th Annual Conference was a one-stop shop for the latest trend in Neonatal Nursing covered a wide range of topics, packed with education, networking opportunities and fun. Filled with over 30 contact hours of continuing education units and nearly 50 sessions with broadly acclaimed speakers.

Some of the topics include:

- . Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
- . Steroids in the NICU
- . Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy  
(The Before, During and After Hypothermia Therapy)
- . Gastroschisis
- . EEG and aEEG
- . Vaccines
- . Perinatal and Neonatal Palliative Care
- . Neonatal GERD
- . X ray Interpretation
- . Calcium Levels and Calcium Homeostasis
- . Fetal Interventions
- . Challenging NICU Parents
- . Best Practice in Neonatal PICC
- . NRP to PALS
- . Inborn Error of Metabolism





# Annual Conference

, Georgia

- . Transcatheter Closure of PDA in Preterm Babies less than 2kg
- . Epidermal Electronics for NICU
- . Human Milk Warmer/ Colostrum

There were workshops and different types of presentations. We, the participants, had the opportunity to choose among various sessions to attend and develop recommendations and learning skills on the latest updates of Neonatal Nursing. While in between sessions, we had opportunities to learn and deepen our knowledge through the visual presentations, including, but not limited to, various poster boards and an Exhibit Hall with product showcase of the latest innovations of Neonatal Nursing.

NANN just wouldn't be the same without our annual Soiree Party. The "NANN after Dark" was held on the second day of the conference as we celebrate the 35th anniversary under the stars. We had packed our dancing shoes for this gathering and we conformed to the dress code of everything blue for those attending Nights in NANN Blue at Westin Savannah Harbor Lawn. It was a wonderful experience joining the NANN 35th annual conference. This whole event was not only geared to supplement our nursing knowledge, but it gave us the opportunity to meet with NICU peers from around the globe.

We managed to find time to explore Savannah, Georgia. It is a vibrant city, which has several historical attractions. The Spanish Moss stands out as one of the city's backdrop. The live oak trees are Savannah's favorite tree. To satisfy the foodies in us, we managed to enjoy the wide selections of dining spots. We had a blast during our stay in Savannah. We managed to sneak some time to visit Tybee Island before our flight back to Fresno. Tybee Island is a small city near Savannah which is known for its wide-stretched sandy beaches, its 18th century lighthouse station.

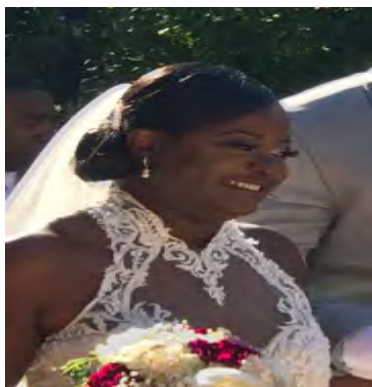
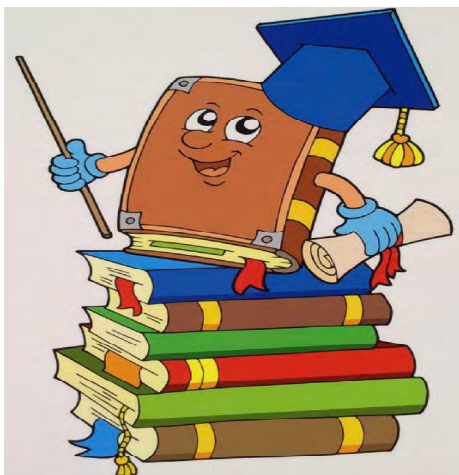
There's nothing like SaNANNah! To my fellow NICU nurses, please join us for the 36th annual conference on October 10-13, 2020, which is to be held in New Orleans, USA. We hope to see you there!







Marjaree Mason Donated School Supplies



## Back-To-School Drive for Marjaree Mason Center

Do you know that Marjaree Mason Center “supports and empowers adults and children affected by Domestic violence, while striving to prevent and end the cycle of abuse through education and advocacy”? In the year of 2017-2018, Marjaree Mason Center had served 5,274 adults and 824 children and provided 56,000 night of safe housing to these clients. Additional \$51,000 was spent to house emergency clients at motels when shelter at full capacity (Marjaree Mason Center, Years of Hope and Healing).

Central California Association of Neonatal Nurses (CCANN) had supported Marjaree Mason Center in the past through donation of toiletries in the past few years. Once again, CCANN supported the Marjaree Mason Center through the Back-To-School support under the leadership of Gil-Da Aum, Chapter Officer on August 2019. We had collected backpacks, binders, pencils, erasers, crayons, glue, index cards, rulers, reusable water bottles, safety scissors and snacks. We personally dropped off the bulk donation to Marjaree Mason Center Main Office at 1600 M Street, Fresno, CA. Our donation of small tokens will help the school year on a “positive note for the center’s children”.

Thank you again for CCANN members who donated or supported this school supplies drive for Marjaree Mason Center! You had made a difference in someone else’s life.

## Sophia Kemp ... letter of Thanks to CCANN

10/22/2019

CCANN  
9300 Valley Children's Place  
Madera, CA 93636

Dear CCANN:

Thank you so much for the \$1,500.00 scholarship I was awarded this year, July 2019. The money will be used to help cover the cost of my books, and the cost of my mandatory campus visit to Alabama in October 2019. I am very thankful to CCANN for choosing to award me a scholarship this year. Thanks for investing in me as I continue my journey to become an NNP. I have successfully finished my first year, and in the fall, 2019 I will be entering my second year (fifth semester) and starting my clinical rotations. My expected graduation date is July 2020. I hope to continue to contribute to the success of CCANN and play my part in contributing to the growth of our organization.

The NNP program is becoming more challenging, but with the help of my mentors, and CCANN leadership I have no doubt that I will have all the tools I need to succeed. I do plan to stay an active member in this organization, as we strive to make the world a better place for our neonates and their families.

Graciously,

*Sophia Kemp*

Sophia Kemp



SOCIALLY COMPLEX FAMILY



## Empowering Health Care Professionals to Confidently Support Unique Families in Obstetric Care

By : Hazel Hiponia, **BSN , RN**

Members and guests of the Central California Association of Neonatal Nurses (CCANN) took part in a dinner program sponsored by Mead Johnson Nutrition last September 12, 2019 at Campagna in Fresno.

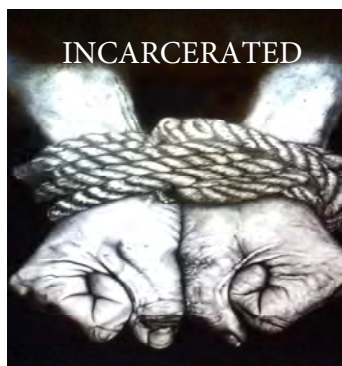
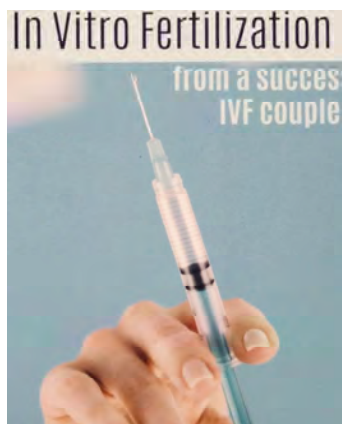
The topic for the night was “ Empowering Health Care Professionals to Confidently Support Unique Families in Obstetric Care”. Not just your normal run in the mill clinical nursing or medical topic that CCANN mostly features with its dinner program offerings but really, Unique Families?

Rebecca Vahle, MA, an elementary educator and adoptive mom was the speaker for this interesting topic. She is also the founder of Family-to-Family Support Network. The network is a pro-education, non-profit organization that partners with hospital professionals and community organizations to better serve families throughout pregnancy and post-delivery. With its Unique Families Program, it employs integrated, patient-centered approach with the mission to transform health care culture and services to be a unique family sensitive system wide and nationwide in providing consistent, neutral and compassionate care. On a client level, it empowers pregnant women and girls to make healthy decisions for themselves and their newborns. It provides comprehensive hospital and community training to provide compassionate care to every patient served, developing and supporting simple infrastructure to meet complex needs and connects community resources to address patient needs resulting in improved patient outcomes.

Unique families include families needing extra attention during the prenatal period in planning for their hospital time and warm hand-off to community resources. Examples of these are families facing adoption and surrogacy arrangements, incarcerated patients, socially complex families, refugees, immigrants, families struggling with critical issues and needs such as substance abuse disorder, sexual assault and domestic violence.

The attendees also learned to practice accurate adoption language. Learning the power of this language gave the attendees a different mindset on how using a compassionate tone is free from judgements of the words we use. Please refer to picture.

The triad of good food, inquisitive minds and an open attitude for new learnings, Miss Vahle’s final words for the night is “ awareness, education and empowerment is hardwired in all of us”. As caregivers, we all have an important role to play not just to our neonatal population but also to their families.





## Merry Christmas

Kamela Loo's Angels



To bid adieu to the 2019 year, CCANN hosted its annual Christmas Holiday event on December 3rd. What a fun party that was! The Copper River Country Clubhouse was filled with laughter and love of nurses, doctors, spouses, families, and friends throughout our Central California. The Winter decorations were in full bloom in the hall. The large, beautiful Christmas tree was surrounded by unwrapped Toys for Tots gifts donated by the attendees. Centered on each table were elegant lanterns designed by our Ashton Baker. The vendors were stationed around the room: Ross Nicholls from Mead Johnson, Ame Heinemeyer and Terry Johnson from Prolacta, Florizel Mason and Molly Gronseth from Mallinckrodt, Cassandra Wendling from Syneos Health, and Natalie Horvat from Mercury Medical. Terry came all the way from Chicago and Molly traveled from Utah. Ross was a huge help with setting up the projector and screen in order for us to have our presentations on the ready. CCANN appreciates all of the vendors' support at this event!

Starting the program, our Emcee Linda Sepulveda welcomed the crowd and introduced the keynote speaker. The Director of Pediatric Surgery at Valley Children's Hospital, Dr. Michael Allshouse, once again made us laugh, made us cry, and made us realize how much of an impact we can have on our patients' and families' lives. The talk was entitled, "Your Baby Has Down Syndrome. Is the Glass Half Empty of Half Full? If You Aren't Careful, You Can Drown in Either" where he explored the topic so near and dear to his heart and the hearts of us healthcare providers. Being a father of three children with Down Syndrome, his sincerity on the topic touched our spirits and opened our minds to what it means when a mother and father hears for the first time their baby's diagnosis. Dr. Allshouse said if you can take away one thing from the talk, it's to connect with and treat the patient that happens to have Down Syndrome, not to treat them as the "Down's patient" diagnosis. What a joy it was to hear his endless anecdotes from his personal and medical life. We look forward to more addresses given by Dr. Allshouse!

CCANN Celebrates  
By : Rose Kaleb



Merry  
Christmas  
From  
CCANN



es the Good Times!  
jian , BSN RNC-NIC

## And a Happy New Year from CCANN to You!

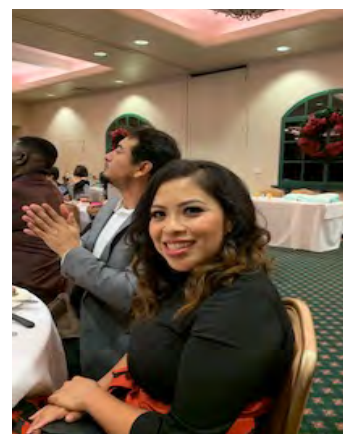
How lucky we are to have a wonderful person working as the Director of Pediatric Surgery.

The night continued with the delicious meal, while Co-Presidents, Kamela Loo and Gil-Da Aum, presented the CCANN end of the year report and what to look forward to in the upcoming 2020 year! As a recap, our 2019 Spring scholarship of \$1500 went to Sophia Kemp based on her fundraising contribution to the organization. The \$500 Fall scholarship went to Roces Velasco based on her contribution in setting up the foundation of CCANN. The \$250 Fall scholarship was awarded to Sarah Gil based on her communication via ccann2008@gmail.com and her help with winning a \$3050 national education grant with Abbott Nutrition for the organization. All three recipients are NNP interns at University of Alabama (UAB). Special recognition awards were presented to Nelfa Reynon for Outstanding Lifetime Member Service, Sarah Gil for Outstanding Member Achievement, and Ashton Baker for Service Appreciation. Congratulations for these impressive friends of CCANN!

To kick off the festivities, our Venus Geraldo's husband, Adam, was gracious enough to sing Mel Torme's "The Christmas Song". His sweet tone and smooth vibrato put us in the holiday mood! Continuing with the program, the "Dancing Divas" (Maricon Esteban, Ana Antero, Ethel Groger, Doris Evangelista, Mila Nino) from the Philippine Nurses Association of Central California performed a couple of choreographed numbers.

The Divas started off in festive costumes dancing to Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You". Following, there was a successful raffle, raising \$480 for Operation Smile and \$165 for purchasing more Toys for Tots. Throughout the rest of the night, the attendees danced away to the music of "Groove N Effect" DJs and snapped some fun, merry shots at the C&N Photobooth! We're looking forward to next year's party on December 8, 2020- Save the date!

Happy  
Holidays  
from  
CCANN







CCANN Christmas Party at  
Copper River Country Club December 2019



Central California Associ  
Toys f



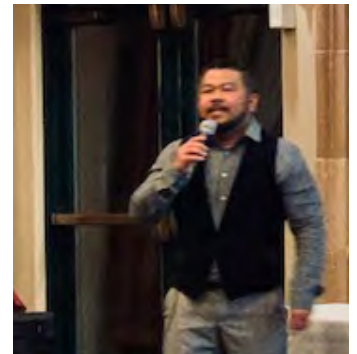
Philippine Nurses Association of Central California  
(PNACC) Dancing Divas





ation of Neonatal Nurses  
or Tots

Happy Holidays



And the Dance Floor on FIRE!





## NASCEND Essentials Conference By : Joy Dagarag, RN

Dr. Kathryn Dawn Forbes, the CEO and founder of NASCEND, LLC, was the guest speaker at the recent NASCEND Essentials Conference held in Fresno on October 24 at the Radisson Hotel Convention Center.

The topic was entitled, "Understanding Addiction and Its Impact to Substance Abuser and the Substance Exposed Infants". The speaker talked about strategies on how we can optimize care and maximize comfort to decrease treatment with pharmacology. A good avenue to explore is the use of music. She encouraged caregivers, care providers and parents in the use of music, specifically "lullabies", to improve the outcome of substance-exposed infants. Dr. Forbes further talked about feeding and nutrition. She taught us how to use her revised NAS assessment tool.

The conference was attended by several health care professionals coming from various medical institutions in the Central Valley, namely Valley Children's Hospital, Community Regional Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente and Saint Agnes Medical Center.

A huge acknowledgment to the sponsor Mead Johnson Nutrition for the generous invitation to the event.



### Recruitment Effort

"You definitely succeeded in doing your part to help grow membership and your creative thinking and generosity helps many nurses receive the additional education and benefits that are so valuable."

- NANN Marketing and  
Membership Coordinator

\*Subsidized \$20 for 30 members (\$600)

\*Awarded 2 members for NANN/  
CCANN renewal: Jordan Wright and  
Kadie Rojas (\$310)

\*Raffle award : 1 member for NANN/  
CCANN membership (Siri Wride)

### Acknowledging Our Sponsors

