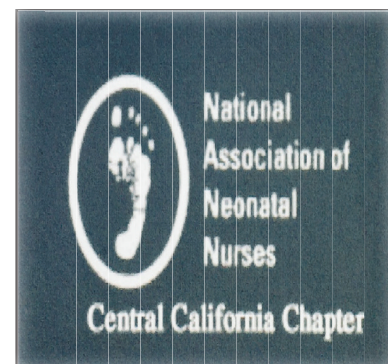




## CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF NEONATAL NURSES



### 2019 CCANN OFFICERS

President : Kamela Loo , NNP-BC  
Pres Elect : Rose Kalebjian , RNC  
Treasurer : Nelfa Reynon , RN  
Secretary : Sarah Gil, RN  
Chief Officer : Gilda Aum , RNC  
Newsletter Editor/Publisher :  
Coralee L. Agnas , RNC

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- \* 35th NANN Annual Conference  
at Savannah, Georgia -  
Oct. 9-12 , 2019
- \* CCANN Fall Conference -  
October 19, 2019
- \* CCANN Xmas Event at Copper  
River Club - December 3, 2019

### Learning in Spring !

### Spring Conference 2019 : GI Hot Topics

By : Rose Kalebjian , CCANN President Elect

On a beautiful Saturday morning in April, over 100 healthcare professionals and students listened attentively to six of our very own Valley Children's doctors presenting a wide variety of information all revolving around neonatal gastroenterology. Welcoming the crowd with her charm and wit, RN Linda Sepulveda was our emcee throughout the half-day conference. CCANN President and NNP, Kamela Loo, created a wonderful program including breakfast and lunch. There were several vendor booths with reps from Prolacta, Small Beginnings, Mercury Medical, Vygon, Mead Johnson and Mallinckrodt. There was a wonderful raffle including the top prize of diamond earrings, second prize of a full year's membership of NANN/CCANN, a third prize of the Fall 2019 CCANN Conference, and several other goodies!

The day started with Dr. James Pierce, a Pediatric Surgeon. His energetic and engaging demeanor made the topic of "Tubes, Stomas, and Dressings...Oh my!" fascinating. It's great to hear a surgeon's perspective of care nurses can give to these patients and the latest in techniques. Two of our newer Neonatologists to Valley Children's, Dr. An Na Liang and Dr. Grace Lin, spoke for the first time at a CCANN event. Dr. Liang lectured on the topic "Formula versus Human Milk and Cow's Milk Allergy", bringing a case study to recognizing the presentation of cow's milk protein allergy in the preterm infant. She spoke about the differential diagnoses and how there are no tests to prove these allergies. Elimination diets and challenge procedures remains the gold standard. Dr. Grace Lin was able to help us examine the neonatal microbiome with a myriad of great information including the differences between the gut



microbiota of vaginal vs. cesarean-sectioned neonates and breastfed vs. formula-fed neonates.

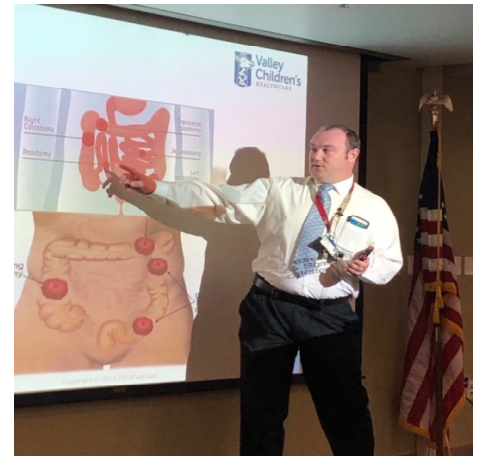
The Medical Director of Pediatric Surgery, Dr. Michael Allshouse, addressed the subject of “Big Problems in Tiny Tummies: A Review of Acute Surgical Conditions in Preterm Neonates”. With his humorous and story-telling manner, he delighted the audience until lunch began. The compassion he displayed while talking about his former patients, his family and working at Valley Children’s was inspiring. His presentation reviewed serious surgical conditions including congenital diaphragmatic hernias, esophageal atresias and tracheoesophageal fistulas, omphaloceles, etc.

Next on the program describing gastrointestinal medications we administer to the babies was Dr. Joanna Cheung, PharmD. She reviewed the mechanisms of action and potential side effects of medications such as famotidine, ursodiol, simethicone, phenobarbital, erythromycin, etc. Dr. Cheung also summarized practice recommendations for administration of enteral medications through a feeding tube.

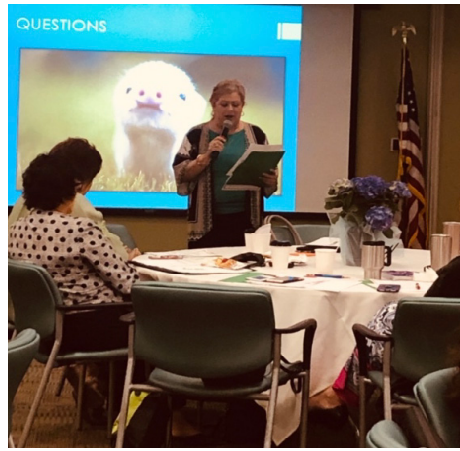
Dr. Indira Chandrasekar was our final speaker on our half-day journey exploring baby tummy issues. She spoke regarding the differences between TPN and Enteral nutrition. Sprinkled in her lecture were some case studies and questions for audience participation.

We were so fortunate to hear these experts for the day! We are also grateful for Sarah Gil submitting the application for the 2019 NANN Abbott Educational Grant of \$3,050 that CCANN was awarded to support the conference. CCANN looks forward to bringing the Fall Conference at Valley Children’s on October 19th, 2019 where we will discuss the best evidence-based practices in Neonatology.

Hope to see you there!











**MARCH OF DIMES WALK**  
 Walk for the Babies  
 Fresno Woodward Park - May 4, 2019  
 By : **Ashton Baker , RN**  
**Team NeoNurses and Friends , Team Captain**



This year our chapter team Neo Nurses and friends participated in the 2019 March of Dimes walk on May 4th , 2019. Our team shirts were designed by Andy's Sport and Logo Design in Madera. The purple shirt design was a fox family stating, "Great Loves Comes with Miracles". We wanted our shirts to symbolize our families and our love for our preemies. The team captains this year was last year captain Ashton Baker and Co-captain Kamela Loo. This year with the weather being sunny , we brought more fun to our families by offering free face painting, giving out bubbles, and just enjoying staff and their families, and our March of Dimes families on this very special day.



Very special thanks to the Mayor of Madera Andy Medellin and his team at Andy's Design Sports Logo for the wonderful T-shirt design and their support. Overall, our chapter sold over 140 t-shirts; \$8.00 each profit, total net profit \$1120.00. A huge thanks to Rachel Harrison and other CCANN staff, for T-shirt sales at Valley Childrens. T-shirt sales at the Merced, St. Agnes and Hanford NICU satellites were led by Ashton Baker. CCANN President Kamela Loo designed CCANN vest for staff, which sold total of \$500.00 Cash raffle 40/20/20 and CCANN conferences raffle made a total profit 600.00. Other donations like staff hair cut donations by Valerie Johnson donated \$47.00; staff nurse Jenifferre Mencillas offered CCANN massages total \$253.00. With donations from other sources and CCANN donations we reached our target goal of \$3000.00. We the CCANN committee want to thank all our NICU staff and their families for helping us reach our goal again this year !!!









## Valentine's Day cookie fundraiser

This year CCANN put together cookie bouquets for staff to give to their special loved ones this Valentine's Day. The cookie bouquets were sold for \$35.00 a piece which included home baked cookies in the shape of hearts, ovals and flowers made by **Kim Collins - NOC Charge RN** at VCH and hand painted mason jars with burlap ribbons made by other CCANN staff members. Overall CCANN sold over \$600.00 worth of cookie bouquets.







.. Fun way of learning  
with friends ....



## New Approach to Allergy Management

By : Nelfa Reynon, Valley Children's Hospital NICU-RN

The Central California Association of Neonatal Nurses (CCANN) in conjunction with the local MeadJohnson Pharmaceutical company sponsored a scientific conference entitled "The New Approach to Allergy Management" with Dr. Fayer Grishan as guest speaker. Dr. Fayer is the current Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics of University of Arizona. The event was held at Flemings Restaurant in Fresno last January 23, 2019.

This event was attended by several Central Valley hospitals health care professionals, roughly 50 participants consists of doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists and other allied paramedical workers. Attendees are workers that came from our local hospitals like Valley Children's Hospital, CRMC/Clovis Community Hospital, Kaiser Permanente - Fresno and Saint Agnes Medical Center.

The speaker emphasized the importance of standardized diagnosis of allergy, early allergy intervention, it's short and long term comprehensive management, the key role of probiotics in infant nutrition and the keen food choices in the road to good health.







## New Trends of Reducing GT placement in NICU

By : Nelfa Reynon, NICU-RN, Valley Children's Hospital

The CCANN in collaboration with Mead-Johnson sponsored a breakfast educational event at Marie Callendar's Restaurant in Fresno last June 20, 2019 with Dr. Indira Chandrasekar as the guest speaker with the topic of Reducing Gastrostomy Tube Placement in the NICU.

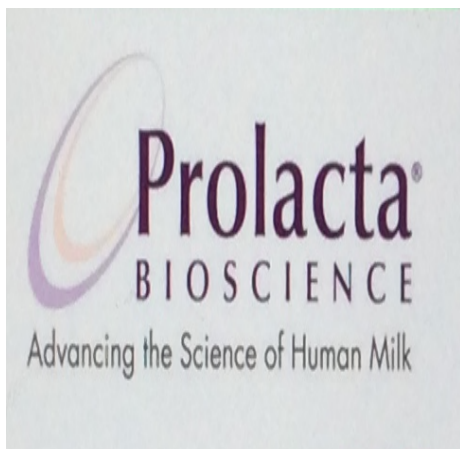
Dr. Chandrasekar is a practicing neonatologist of Valley Children's Hospital who gave a valuable insight regarding ways of improving the management of infants with feeding difficulties and reducing the chance of GT placement in the NICU.

She emphasized on the various conditions of infants with feeding difficulties and that are potential candidates for GT placement. She mentioned about cohort studies of complications and management associated with GT placement. She also stressed the importance of education regarding safety precautions, anticipatory guidance and provision of contact information of GI clinic for growth and nutritional follow up upon patient discharge and later reassess the need of future GT placement .

The conference attracted the attendance of 21 healthcare professionals mainly MD's, nurses, respiratory therapists and dietitians from Central Valley.







## Chapter Fundraising Revenue

By : Gil-Da Aum RNC-NIC , CCANN Officer

CCANN is a non-profit organization and thrives on the support of its dedicated members, sponsors and vendors.

We held many fundraising events to actively help our community and its members throughout 2018. Fundraising not only benefits our chapter and NANN, but helps to bridge the gap between professionals in our community. Our vendors help us generously each year and our members have innovative ideas for fundraising. Because of our efforts, we are able to accomplish our mission and have an impact on the professional development of nurses throughout the Central Valley of California. Sales are normally done in the means of cash, check transaction and Venmo. Venmo seems to be the newest sales strategy to keep up with the 21st century.

**Educational Conferences** – This year, our main revenue came from holding two major educational conferences which members pay \$45, non-members pay \$65, and student participants pay \$30 each to attend. In addition, presenters donate their knowledge and time to make these events a success. Every year, members and students look forward to our conferences. It is convenient to earn CEU's, while participants are educated on the latest trends. Our Spring CCANN conference was awarded \$3,050 by Mead Johnson in the area of the nutritional topic.

**Vendors** - As we evolve as a unit, our sponsors' unwavering support is vital in our growth. On behalf of CCANN, we would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to our major sponsors. With their esteemed contributions, CCANN was able to offer inexpensive educational conferences to our nurses, respiratory therapists, speech and occupational therapists and radiology students. In return our sponsors bring with them their newest medical products to be displayed in our conference. Our Corporate financial sponsors are Mead Johnson, Mallinckrodt and Prolacta Bioscience. Other sponsors include Vygon, West Coast University, Small Beginnings and Silentia. The vendors can choose the level of sponsorship that suits their needs, from a nominal fee of \$200.00 for an individual event, or corporate level sponsorship fee of \$600 for participating at all chapter events for the year. Truly, this encounter with the vendor representatives imprints a profound impact on our professional growth. For more details kindly visit their websites and be amazed at their cutting-edge medical products that keeps us all well informed of the advances in medical technologies. Vendors had brought in over \$2,600 this year so far.

**Merchandise Sales** - This past year, our most successful fundraising effort was through the sales of NICU-themed sweatshirts, which were





**NICU Sweatshirt**



**NICU Vest**

popular throughout local area NICUs. NICU sweatshirts are generic items and they can be worn in any neonatal units. This year, we sold over 100+ NICU sweatshirts and raised a net profit of \$ 1,500.

Save Around the World Coupon Book and Jamba Juice Cards- CCANN sold coupon books and Jamba Juice cards this year which totaled near \$1,000. This will be used to reward the CCANN nursing scholarship.

CCANN Membership- CCANN collected \$25 per member. It has been very beneficial that NANN has centralized the membership collection for the sub-chapters. The average 90 members have roughly brought in a cash flow of approximately \$1,800 annually to our chapter.

Fundraising helps us to build bridges as many of our activities cross over to other NICUs in the area. This budget allowed us to provide an educational scholarship, help those in needs, and provide educational conferences. We thank all our members, vendors and sponsors. We recognize their support is very critical to help keep the organization afloat!



**Leadership** is the capacity to  
translate vision into **Reality**







## **CCANN Scholarship**

**By : Sarah Gil RN , CCANN Secretary**

We are proud to present **Sophia Kemp** as our recipient of the 2019 CCANN Scholarship award. This award is given to qualified recipients who have demonstrated commitment and dedication to the field of neonatal nursing. Sophia has been a Neonatal Intensive Care nurse at Valley Children's Hospital for the last 14 years. She enjoys her role as a neonatal resuscitation nurse and is in pursuit of her Masters degree to be a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner. She is interested in advancing her education to impact the outcomes of the tiniest of the population at a higher level of nursing care. Currently, she is attending courses at University of Alabama, Birmingham and will be expected to graduate as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner in the year 2020.

She has been a member of CCANN since its inauguration in 2008 and actively participates in many of the CCANN events including fundraising activities such as March for babies-March of Dimes, educational conferences, and community service events.

Her colleagues including fellow nurses and neonatologists are immensely excited and supportive of her educational endeavors.

Congratulations Sophia!

CCANN also awarded NANN/CCANN membership to 4 conference attendees namely : Siri Wride RN, Jordan Wright RN, Kandie Rojas BSN and Ashton Baker, RN at the value of \$135 each. In addition, CCANN also offered a value of \$20 discount to 25 members to subsidize membership costs as well. A total of \$ 2540 was given back to our own members.



... **NEVER** give up something you really **WANT**  
It is difficult to **WAIT**  
**BUT** it is more difficult to **REGRET** ...



## **Membership, Recruitment and Retention**

By : Nelfa Reynon , NICU-RN

Since the start of Central California Association of Neonatal Nurses (CCANN) 11 years ago, our association enjoys continued success because of its outstanding members. CCANN would like to share exciting highlights of several accomplishments that were achieved in the areas of membership.

CCANN started in 2008 with 103 members. It has been our priority over the past years to grow our membership. Through the leadership of our founder, Kamela Loo, we remain strong and successful, as, our association reached 180 members as of January 2018. We were honored in 2013 to be the recipient of national award for Membership, Recruitment and Retention. In October 2015, we are proud to be the recipient of the highest national award as “Chapter of the Year”.

While building our membership, we have maintained our goals of education, fundraising, donating to community organizations, and offers scholarship rewards for professional development. To become a member of CCANN, you must also be a member of National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN) as well. Nurses grow with NANN and CCANN membership. As a member of NANN, you belong to the premier professional organization of neonatal nurses.

There are countless opportunities to broaden your horizon as a member of this association including neonatal networking, collaboration and volunteering. Together, we can improve patient care and advance the neonatal nursing profession.

The benefits of being a member are as follows :

Opportunity to receive discounts on educational events and conferences both regional and national, free subscription to NANN nursing journal to keep members in the loop on current neonatal nursing news, free breakfast conferences and earn CEU'S, chances to earn Nursing Scholarship rewards for professional development, and participate in the discount promotion. NANN offers group discount rates for new members and group renewal as well, to make it easier and less expensive. CCANN welcomes you to join us and be an advocate to connect with the NICU nurses In the Central Valley and experience being a part of this strong, inspirational and compassionate organization.

Together, we can make a difference!