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CCANN Annual Christmas Celebration for 2016

By Hermelinda Bitcon, RN, BSN, LC

As CCANN strives to maintain and increase professional membership, CEU opportunities, and camaraderie, we also provide some fun activities. Among those activities are fundraising opportunities for March of Dimes, Poverello House, individual families in need, Toys for Tots toy drive, and international disaster relief. You and I are CCANN.

This year's annual Christmas celebration not only included wonderful appetizers, dinner, and dancing, but a very moving, and touching experience from the heart of our very own, Emily Goines. Emily has been going through a journey that to say the least, has been challenging and emotional. Many of us were not aware of Emily's journey until she shared it with us at this event. Her daughter, Evie, has Osteogenesis Imperfecta, or OI. This disease has turned her world upside down, but through it all Emily does her job and imparts love and care as she always has. Her compassion and dedication has only been heightened through this personal experience and had us all moved to tears as she shared her story. My respect for the dedication Emily has shown to her family and her job has been magnified. To see Emily's stamina and love shine through is truly inspiring.

Coming Events:

April 29th

**March of Dimes Walk for
Babies Woodward Park,
Fresno, CA**

May 20th

**Spring Conference
Documentation Legality
Valley Children's,
Madera, CA**

August 14th

**Breakfast Conference
topic TBA**

November 18th

**Fall Conference
Neonatal Potpourri,
Valley Children's,
Madera, CA**



Christmas Party continued.....

I encourage us all to look inside our hearts and see what passion moved us to do NICU nursing. Then, share that passion as we do our job daily. Think of parents, like Emily, that have been touched by situations out of their control, and give that smile, the kind word, and encouragement they need. We all do a great job, and I am very thankful for the opportunity to work alongside each one of you. I am thankful for Emily for sharing from her heart. We have the privilege and are blessed to work with a great and cohesive team that supports each-other through more than just work.

The night of celebration didn't end with dinner and dancing, we also had drawing of door prizes. As always, lots of winners and wonderful prizes. Ter was the lucky winner of \$350.00 from the raffle. The best part, the ticket sales funded a one-time gift to Emily and her family to help with extra expenses with Evie. CCANN was proud to award \$350 to the Goines family. Thanks to all for your generous contributions! Thanks to all for your continued participation in our professional organization and its efforts.



Advocacy

The staff at the High Risk Infant Follow-Up Clinic at Valley Children's Hospital is dedicated to identifying developmental problems within the first three years of life in children who were in the NICU after birth and are at risk for developmental delays. We provide resources and referrals to help in these **childrens' growth and development**. **Approximately 200 of the patients we see each year are between the ages of 2 and 3 years old; this is typically their third and final visit.** With the generous donations from CCANN, we are able to provide these children with a developmentally appropriate graduation gift. The toys that we give **to the children include baby dolls, "push and go" cars & trains, bouncy balls, and blocks.** These gifts are a big hit with the kids and families, and they are very much appreciated by our staff. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Sincerely,

HRIF Clinic Staff

Leah Smith RNC-NIC, BSN

Coordinator High Risk Infant Follow-Up Clinic



Ter, Leah & Maribel of the HRIF Clinic



Advocacy.....

March of Dimes-Walk for Babies 2017

By Savath Sullivan

CCANN's members strive on a yearly basis for advocacy fundraising. We contribute our knowledge, professionalism, precious time, energy, resources by brainstorming for **ideas and goals**. CCANN's members seek support from vendors, organizations, doctors, fellow nurses, support staffs, friends, and families.



2017 T Shirt Design

CCANN's goal is to provide community service to the neonates, families and nursing professions by supporting **March of Dimes who does research and provides education to our neonates' families, the medical profession, and hospitals across the states.** We fundraise for and support March of Dimes since 2008. Last year we sold coupon books, MOD t-shirts, Jamba juice cards, raffles, baskets collected recyclable can/plastic bottles and received monetary donors. We donated \$4,400 to March of Dimes. This year we will kick off with similar activities and in addition, 50/50 raffles.

We would like to recognize Kamela Loo, CNNP of Valley Children's Hospital for her innovation, perseverance, stewardship, and passion for community service in Fresno. She is the "Founding Mother" that keeps CCANN of Fresno alive. Kamela's advisory, communication and marketing skills can motivate people to be more engaging with fundraising and/or be supportive.

CCANN's members would like to thank our supporters and invite new supporters and members.

March of Dimes Walk will be held at Woodward Park, Fresno on April 29 at 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Advocacy continued.....



CCANN and Advocacy

By Gilda Aum, CCANN President

One of NANN's many advocacies is to optimize care and health outcomes for the neonates and their families. We from CCANN through collaboration with our fellow members were able to support the following organizations this past 2016:

Foremost, we supported March of Dimes. CCANN sold March of Dimes t-shirts. The design was made possible by one of our artistic CCANN members. We also recycled plastic bottles and cans and sold coupon books. Friends and family joined the walk with their monetary pledges. We also got help from our loyal benefactors. One rainy day in April, CCANN donated \$4,400 to March of Dimes.

Our Ronald McDonald House of the Central Valley whose mission is to provide compassionate care to children and their families during their most trying times, was given \$700.00. The Ronald McDonald House is a home away from home. It is a place where family can stay and rest while their precious ones gets the best care they do deserve.

Terry's House of Fresno offers a place for potential families who are hospitalized for a long period of time, a place to stay and recharge while their loved ones heal and recuperate. CCANN donated \$300.00 .

High Risk Infant Follow-up Program who looks after the welfare of the premature babies after discharge reach their full potential was given \$300.00 by CCANN.

All these donations are made possible by the relentless efforts of all CCANN and our loyal sponsors who believed in our cause to help and reach out to the community we live in. It's not much when you count it, but for those who benefited from it means the greatest.



Ronald McDonald House



Terry's House



HRIF Clinic

Communication.....

CCANN's Communication

By Gilda Aum, CCANN President

Communication is a very vital component in an organization. It is through communication that one's thoughts and ideas gets to be conveyed to the recipient. Thanks to modern technology, organizational communication is delivered faster. Right now CCANN utilizes technology to its own advantage.

Currently, CCANN can be reached through www.ccannurses.com You can view our previous and upcoming events and announcements through our website. We also utilize Facebook and Twitter where you can post your relevant comments and suggestions. We also have a newsletter which comes out biannually. Members are encouraged to contribute articles or stories of interest to our newsletter.

Membership.....

CCANN Membership

By Nelfa Reynon, RN



CCANN is an association of dedicated nurses. We have 180 total members and is strong and growing each year. At this time, we are looking for more new members to join us elevate the nursing practice of our peers through great conferences with quality of neonatal nursing education as well as to allow them to participate in outreach and connect to the dynamic community of Neonatal Nurses in the Central Valley of CALIFORNIA. A growing association means more resources to support member programs. We need each one of you to help us spread the word to nursing colleagues.

This year, CCANN offers exciting new member recruitment rewards:

1. Free one year CCANN membership renewal fee for a recruit of 5 new members
2. Whoever can recruit the most RN's to join CCANN, will be eligible to go and attend the NANN conference in Rhode Island this coming October c/o CCANN expenses

Recruitment tips and strategies:

1. Encourage colleagues to join CCANN after giving bedside report
2. Personal contact to RN's is always better than flyers and advertisements
3. Reaching out new staff during their break time

We welcome everyone to help continue the great success of our Chapter. Reach out and be rewarded!



2016 Fall
Conference



Education.....



CCANN's Educational Offerings for 2017

By Gilda Aum, CCANN President

CCANN is proud to announce our upcoming educational conferences this 2017. It's a great opportunity to learn from others to improve our knowledge and skills in our chosen field.. Here is the line up of our conferences this year.

Breakfast Conference

February 4, 2017

Positive Impact on Outcomes of Critically Ill and VLBW infants with implementation of the "Golden Hour"

Spring Conference

Documentation Legality

May 20, 2017

Breakfast Conference

August 14, 2017

Topic TBA

Fall Conference

Neonatal Potpourri

November 18, 2017

Our conferences are open to everyone wanting to get the latest trends in the medical profession.

Our speakers are usually the best of the best in their chosen fields. Their topics are backed up with cutting edge evidence-based practices and wide clinical experience in their careers.

Our participants are also engaged and challenged as their knowledge is tested during the interactive Q&A portion of the conference. During scheduled breaks the participants can go and visit our vendors. Our loyal vendors Neotech Products Inc., Mead Johnson, Vygon, Kentec Medical Inc., Huggies, Mallinckrodt, Neochild and Footprint. With them are the latest products of their respective companies and they are always happy to assist each participant.

CCANN's Mission Statement:

The goal of NANN - Central California Chapter is to serve our community and bridge the gap between the various hospitals' nursing professionals in our valley. Neonatal nurses are uniting to serve and foster professional growth with a simple goal of providing excellent and safe care to the little ones we all love to care for.

Attending Conferences is a great way to improve ourselves . It is also a magnificent way to connect to other professionals



UPDATE ON EVIE—CCANN's POSTER CHILD

Hey everyone! I just wanted to give you a quick update on our sweet Evie. She has had a busy couple of months! In October, we flew Evie out to Omaha, Nebraska to see a couple of doctors that specialize in Osteogenesis Imperfecta. They hold an OI clinic regularly at the Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha. We were able to meet with a geneticist and orthopedic surgeon that are renown for their work with OI kids. They have patients that even travel from other countries to see them. We were able to walk away with a lot of valuable information. We learned that Evie has a moderate type of OI. She will ultimately be around 4'8" tall and should most likely walk at some point in her life. Trevor and I were over the moon that she might be able to walk and not be dependent on a wheelchair 24/7.

Evie's mobility has increased dramatically over the last couple of months. By the end of November Evie had learned how to sit up independently, crawl, and get up on her knees. The day before Thanksgiving Evie woke up from her nap with a huge hematoma on the right side of her head. After a few hours in the ER and a CT scan, we learned that she had a possible right parietal hairline skull fracture. She luckily had no other damage and no signs of neurological impairment. A week later Evie decided it was time to try to test out her climbing skills. She climbed over this activity cube toy we have and fell over it head first into the floor. Initially she seemed okay. She didn't exhibit any signs of pain or any broken bones. So, I opted to wait it out for a little bit. But, as time went on, she acted like her neck was bothering her. So, back to the ER at Valley Children's Hospital. We did a CT scan and saw a C2 fracture of her spine. We were then admitted into the hospital for 3 days to get a MRI and results. Luckily there wasn't any damage to her spinal cord. She was fitted with a neck collar that she is still wearing, and will wear for at least 6 more weeks.

Everything seemed to be going pretty status quo for a couple of weeks until mid-January when Evie broke her femur after being bumped while in the shopping cart at the grocery store. We then contacted our specialists in Omaha and made the decision to fly Evie to Nebraska for emergency surgery on her femurs. Evie's femurs are very bowed, or curvy. They have a 90 degree curve. Essentially, they are shaped like a half circle, which makes them even weaker than the OI already does to them. We opted to have our surgeons there place intramedullary telescoping rods in both of her femurs. Not only will this straighten them, but give them more strength and stability as well. She is currently recovering from her surgery, but we are hopeful that she will learn to walk soon and will be able to do it without fracturing her femurs. Her legs are finally straight!

As always, Evie is smiling and happy through it all! She is the most courageous little girl I have ever met. She faces any challenge with a smile on her face, and never ever complains! She is such a joy and I'm blessed to be her mom. Hopefully soon I'll be able to tell you how she runs around everywhere!

Emily Goines



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Neonatal
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Central California Chapter

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Membership:	Nelfa Reynon
Newsletter Publisher:	Karen McGough
Photographer:	Hermelinda Bitcon
Facebook, Twitter:	Leslie Williams
Instagram:	Jennifer Castaneda

Follow us on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/CCANN2007>

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Central-California-Association-of-Neonatal-Nurses/125767764241672>

We're on the Web!

www.ccannurses.com



Community service....

Giving back is a great way to be involved in our community. Giving comes in many forms. You can physically volunteer to help or you can participate by organizing a fundraising for a particular organization. Here is a summary of the organizations we helped this past year:

1. Community Food Bank of the Central Valley

Community Food Bank serves over 28,000 people each month in Fresno, Madera, Kings Canyon, Kern and Tulare counties through a variety of programs in helping fight against hunger.

2. Marjaree Mason Center

We conducted a winter coat drive where members could donate slightly used winter outfits such as sweaters, jackets and scarves. The collected items were sent to the Marjaree Mason Center, a shelter for abused women. We also donated \$300 worth of toiletries to the organization.

3. Toys for Tots

This organization provides toys, books and other gifts to less fortunate children. During our Christmas Party we asked all members to bring with them unopened toys for the children as donations. We gave \$300 check for the children to enjoy the season.

4. American Heart Association

A \$500 check was donated to the American Heart Association, a non-profit organization in the United States whose sole mission is to build healthier lives free of cardiovascular diseases and strokes.

5. Family in Need

This year we helped defray the cost of their medical expenses. A total of \$3250 was given to two families. CCANN sold coupon books, Jamba Juice cards and conducted a 50/50 raffle. **Along with the donations, CCANN wished them well as they face their health crisis'.**

6. Nursing Scholarship

During the Nurses Week in May we gave \$500 to one of our members as she advances her career to a masters level in nursing

CCANN is dedicated to promoting the importance of community service to all its members. If you want to experience the power of giving kindly, join us for our list of organizations we will be helping this 2017.



Chapter Awards

2016 NANN Chapter Advocacy, Community Service, Educational Offerings, Fundraising, and Membership Recruitment and Retention Award

2015 NANN Chapter Of The Year Award

2014 NANN Chapter Community Service and Fundraising Award

2013 NANN Chapter Communication Award

2012 NANN Chapter Education Offerings, Fundraising, Community Services, and Membership Recruitment & Retention Award

2011 NANN Chapter of the Year Award

2010 NANN Chapter Communication and Education Offerings Award

2009 NANN Chapter Communication Award