

APNA Kentucky Chapter Election 2024

Candidate Statements

President-Elect

Dawn Glowatz, APRN, PMHNP-BC

I have always wanted to help others in some way along their life journeys and becoming a registered nurse over 30 years ago seemed like a good place to start. Then about 15 years into my career, I decided to return to school and earned my master's degree to become a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner in 2010. I have practiced as an APRN ever since. My goal of helping others along their life journeys has evolved into specifically caring for and educating others on their journeys toward mental wellness.

After graduating from the University of Kentucky, I have worked in a variety of healthcare settings including both inpatient and outpatient psychiatry, a psychiatric residential treatment facility, primary care settings with integrated behavioral health services, and within the role of psychiatry consultant, assessing and treating patients within the medical hospital setting. Each of these settings has allowed me the privilege of working with not only numerous patients of varying ages, who have dealt with a variety of both acute and chronic mental health concerns, but also their families and other healthcare providers.

I have also been a member of numerous organizations such as the American Nurses Association, Kentucky Nurses Association, the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, the Kentucky Chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association in which I served as secretary for a short time, The Kentucky Association of Nurse Practitioners and Nurse Midwives, Postpartum Support International, and also the Kentucky Chapter of Postpartum Support International where I currently serve as a board member.

It is my desire to use my varied experience as both an RN and psychiatric nurse practitioner to advocate for those dealing with mental health issues and to also lead and mentor the next generation of psychiatric RNs and APRNs.

President-Elect

Linda Mays, DNP, PMHNP-BC

I'm excited to submit my nomination for the APNA Kentucky Chapter President-Elect position. Serving on the nominating committee for the Florida Chapter and contributing to the national nominating committee has given me a deep appreciation for the importance of leadership in supporting our members and advancing psychiatric nursing.

As President-Elect, I look forward to collaborating closely with the chapter president, helping to implement chapter goals, and ensuring a smooth leadership transition. I will focus on fostering teamwork and offering support to assist the president and chapter in flourishing while simultaneously preparing to assume future leadership roles.

My goal is to create an environment that fosters connection, empowerment, and inspiration for growth among all members. In addition, I will promote collaboration and innovation, giving our members the resources and opportunities to thrive personally and professionally. I'll also focus on encouraging participation and leadership among all members to help shape the future of our chapter.

All in all, it would be an honor to serve the APNA Kentucky Chapter, working together to make a meaningful impact in our commonwealth and nationally. Thank you for your time and consideration! I look forward to the opportunity to grow with you all.

President-Elect

Madelyn Strong-Cline, BSN, RN

In 2017, I began my career in Psych/Mental Health Nursing at Eastern State Hospital as a Mental Health Associate. I have continued my involvement by being an undergraduate nursing research assistant, representing KY- APNA as a Board of Director Scholar and presenting at several Psych/Mental Health Conferences. I am also currently pursuing a DNP in Psych/Mental Health from the University of Kentucky and anticipate graduating in May 2025. I currently serve as the Chair of the Nursing Research Council at the University of Kentucky where I have grown in my leadership skills, hosting yearly research conferences for the University. My research interest includes Therapeutic Gardening to promote Professional Quality of Life for nurses as well as with patients. As president my goal would be to find innovate ways to improve behavioral health outcomes for this population. It would be an honor to serve as our Chapter's President, thank you for your consideration!

Treasurer

Lisa Haynes, BSN, PMH-BC

I am interested in holding the position of Chapter Treasurer because I want to become more involved in the Kentucky Chapter of the APNA. I was so inspired by the Annual Conference this year, and our state meeting during the Conference convinced me that we need to take all steps possible to become an active Chapter and pursue more community involvement in an attempt to further destigmatize all things mental health related. How can I encourage my team to become active members, if I myself am not doing all I can to further the cause? I have 20+ years' experience as a legal assistant / office manager / paralegal, where I was responsible for payroll, accounts payable and accounts receivable. I also have 10 years' experience as a psychiatric RN,

which is where my real passion lies. I am excited to see what the future holds for our Kentucky Chapter and am eager to be a part of it!

Treasurer

Christine Williamitis, PhD, DNP, ACNP, FNP, PMHNP

Dr. Christine Williamitis has been a nurse for over 40 years and a Nurse Practitioner since 1997. Dr. Williamitis has taught graduate and undergraduate students since 1997 and has been a full time educator since 2014 continuing to actively work as a Nurse Practitioner in the Psychiatric Mental Health field. She has extensive experience in Critical Care and Critical Care Transport as a flight nurse prior to becoming a PMH NP and has enjoyed all phases of her career, but especially now working in mental health. She was chosen as a Janseen scholar in 2011 by the American Psychiatric Nurse's Association and continues to be active in APNA. Dr. Williamitis provides a psychiatric outpatient clinic for Huntington's Disease patients which is grant supported from the Huntington's Disease Society of America and also provides psychiatric care for patients with intellectual and physical disability in both an inpatient and outpatient settings. She is the co-author of the Cedar Lake mood and emotions measurement instrument.