

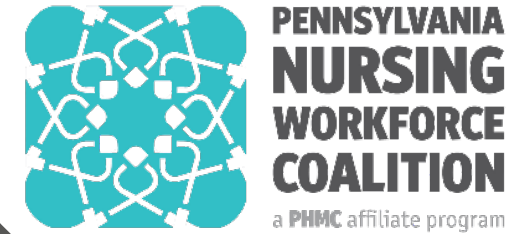
Welcome

**Nursing in Action: Advocacy, Policy, and Power –
Are YOU in the Room, at the Table, or on the Menu?**

Hosted by the PA-NWC Nurse Diversity Council

Friday, April 17, 2026, from 12 – 1:30 pm

Zoom Orientation



1

Captions

To adjust or remove captions, click the “Live Transcript” button at the bottom of your Zoom window and select “Hide Subtitle” or “Show Subtitle.”

CC
Live Transcript

2

Questions

Please add your questions for the speaker and comments for the group into the Q&A box.

Q&A

3

Technical Issues

Please message Zaharaa Davood in the chat.

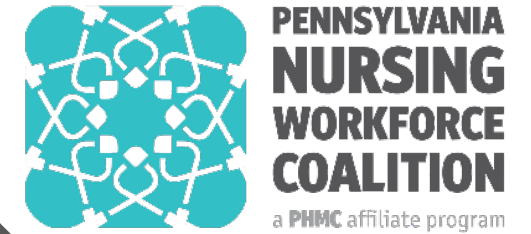
Chat

Accreditation Statement

The National Nurse-Led Care Consortium (NNCC) and the Pennsylvania Nursing Workforce Coalition (PA-NWC) are collaborating to provide nursing continuing professional development (NCPD) contact hours for the educational activity entitled **“Nursing in Action: Advocacy, Policy, and Power – Are YOU in the Room, at the Table, or on the Menu?”** Nurses completing the entire activity and the evaluation tool may be awarded a maximum of 1.5 NCPD contact hour.

The NNCC is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. None of the planning committee or speakers have anything to disclose.

The Nurse Diversity Council



- **This webinar is hosted by the Nurse Diversity Council (NDC)**, a statewide initiative of the Pennsylvania Nursing Workforce Coalition (PA-NWC)
- **Our Mission:** The NDC empowers nurses with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to deliver culturally humble care, foster inclusion across the healthcare system, and create space for thought leadership and open dialogue. Our work supports a nursing workforce that reflects the diverse and multifaceted aspects of the communities we serve, thereby enhancing healthcare outcomes for all.
- **How We Work:**
 - Host quarterly webinars and monthly virtual meetings
 - Create space for open dialogue using a Gracious Space approach
 - Serve as a hub for collaboration, mentorship, and shared resources
- **Want to Join?** Email Zaharaa Davood at zadavood@phmc.org

Our Moderator



Rev. Dr. Lorina Marshall-Blake

Setting the Tone

Our Introductory Speaker



**Lisa Summers,
DrPH, MSN, FACNM**

*Co-Founder and President
Healing Politics*

Nursing in Action: Advocacy, Policy , and Power

Pennsylvania Nursing Workforce Coalition
April 17, 2026

Lisa Summers, MSN, DrPH, FACNM
Lisa.Summers@Healing-Politics.org



Kudos to you on this collaboration



**PENNSYLVANIA
NURSING
WORKFORCE
COALITION**
a PHMC affiliate program



Key Messages

- Civic engagement promotes health.
- Representation matters.
- Nurse can (and should) be *politically* engaged.

Policy



Politics

- **Purpose of Policy**

Policy sets direction, principles, and goals to guide decisions and actions in organizations and governments.

- **Nature of Politics**

Politics involves power struggles, negotiation, and influence to shape decision-making processes and outcomes.

POLICY

Defines what
should be done

POLITICS

The process
of if and how
it gets done

"A DNP Project with legs!"



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Welcome to Healing Politics

Healing Politics is an educational, non-partisan, non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

We are on a mission to inspire, motivate, recruit, & train nurses & midwives to run for elected office up & down the ballot while building a culture of civic engagement within the professions.

[Learn More](#)[Subscribe to Newsletter](#)

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Civic participation encompasses a wide range of formal and informal activities, such as voting, volunteering, participating in group activities, and community gardening. ([Healthy People 2030](#))





Civic Engagement Promotes Health!



www.vot-er.org



[@vot_er_org](https://twitter.com/vot_er_org)

COMMUNITIES
THAT VOTE
ARE
HEALTHIER



Health & Democracy Index

When communities vote they influence policy decisions that have a big effect on their health.

This analysis compares 12 public health indicators and voter turnout to the restrictiveness of voting policies in each state.

<https://democracyindex.responsivegov.org/>



People often say, with pride, 'I'm not interested in politics.' They might as well say, 'I'm not interested in my standard of living, my health, my job, my rights, my freedoms, my future or any future.'... If we mean to keep any control over our world and lives, we must be interested in politics.

— *Martha Gellhorn* —

AZ QUOTES

2025 ANA CODE OF ETHICS



Provision 9

Nurses and their professional organizations work to enact and resource practices, policies and legislation to promote social justice, eliminate health inequities, and facilitate human flourishing.

Analysis of OHIO Nurses' Voting Behaviors 2020-2023

Ludwick, Zalon, Patton & Baughman

- The first data on voting patterns and political affiliations of licensed nurses.
- One in 51 registered voters in Ohio is an RN.
- 48% of RNs and 52% of APRNs voted in all 3 elections, but
- 11% of nurses never voted in any of the 3 general elections.

What about Pennsylvania?

<https://doi.org/10.1177/15271544241298259>



This work *can* be bi-partisan.



NC Senator Gale Adcock (D) and ND Senator Kristen Roers (R)

REPRESENTATION MATTERS



WHO REPRESENTS US?



POLITICAL SCIENTISTS HAVE SHOWN US

A MORE DIVERSE ELECTED BODY PRODUCES BETTER POLICY



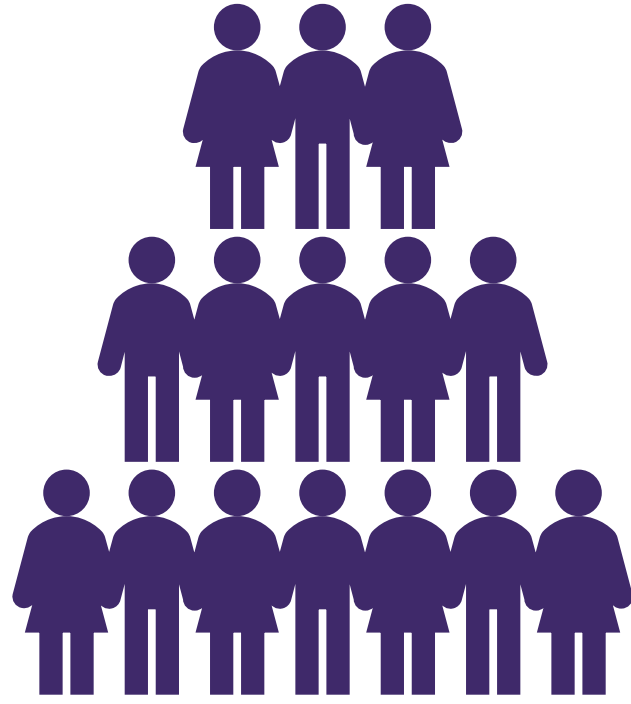
Mansbridge, J. (1999). Should blacks represent blacks and women represent women? A contingent "yes." The Journal of Politics, 61(3), 628-657.

Crowder-Meyer, M. (2020) Baker, Bus Driver, Babysitter, Candidate? Revealing the Gendered Development of Political Ambition Among Ordinary Americans. Political Behavior 42(2).

**NURSES GET
RESULTS.**

NURSES IN ELECTED OFFICE





0

U.S. Senate

3

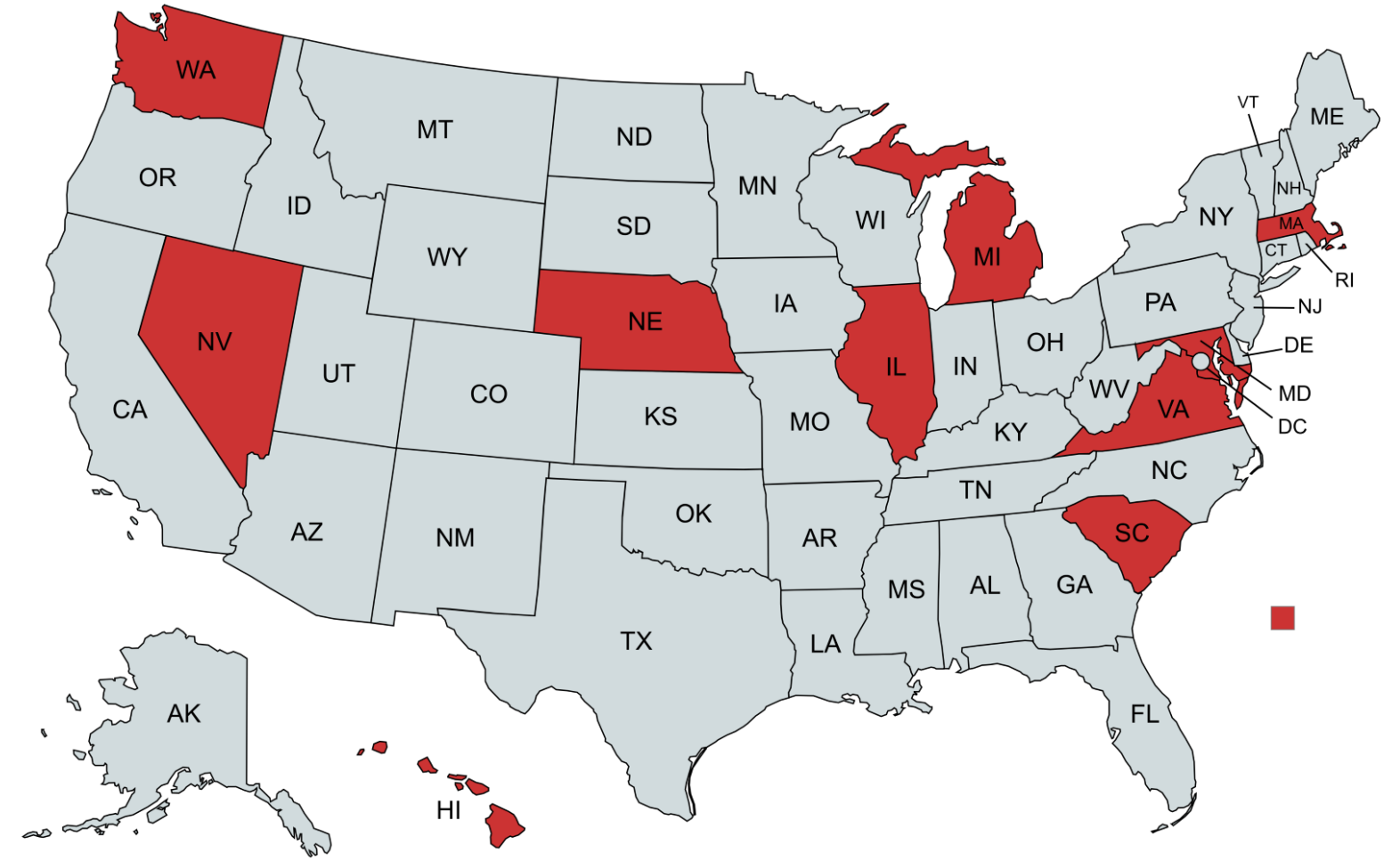
U.S. House

86

State Legislatures

??

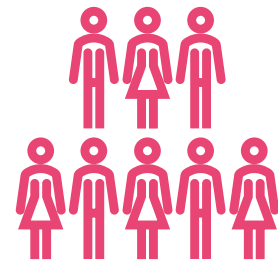
School Board, City Council, County Council,
Mayor, County Coroner, Sherrif



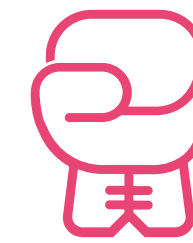
Created with mapchart.net

Curley and Stone. Nurse State Legislators, 2013 to 2023. Nursing Outlook 72(2024).

NURSES' QUALITIES ARE WELL SUITED FOR ELECTED OFFICE



Leading & building teams



Conflict management



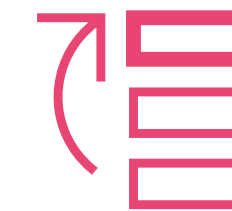
Collaboration



Negotiating



Data driven decision making



Managing competing priorities



Listening skills



Expert communicator

Nurses are considered the most honest & ethical profession

<https://news.gallup.com/poll/655106/americans-ratings-professions-stay-historically-low.aspx>

NURSES SEE HEALTH IN ALL POLICY

What are social determinants of health?

Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.

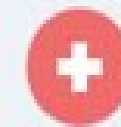
SDOH can be grouped into 5 domains:



Economic Stability



Education Access and
Quality



Health Care Access and
Quality



Neighborhood and Built
Environment



Social and Community
Context



POLITICAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH



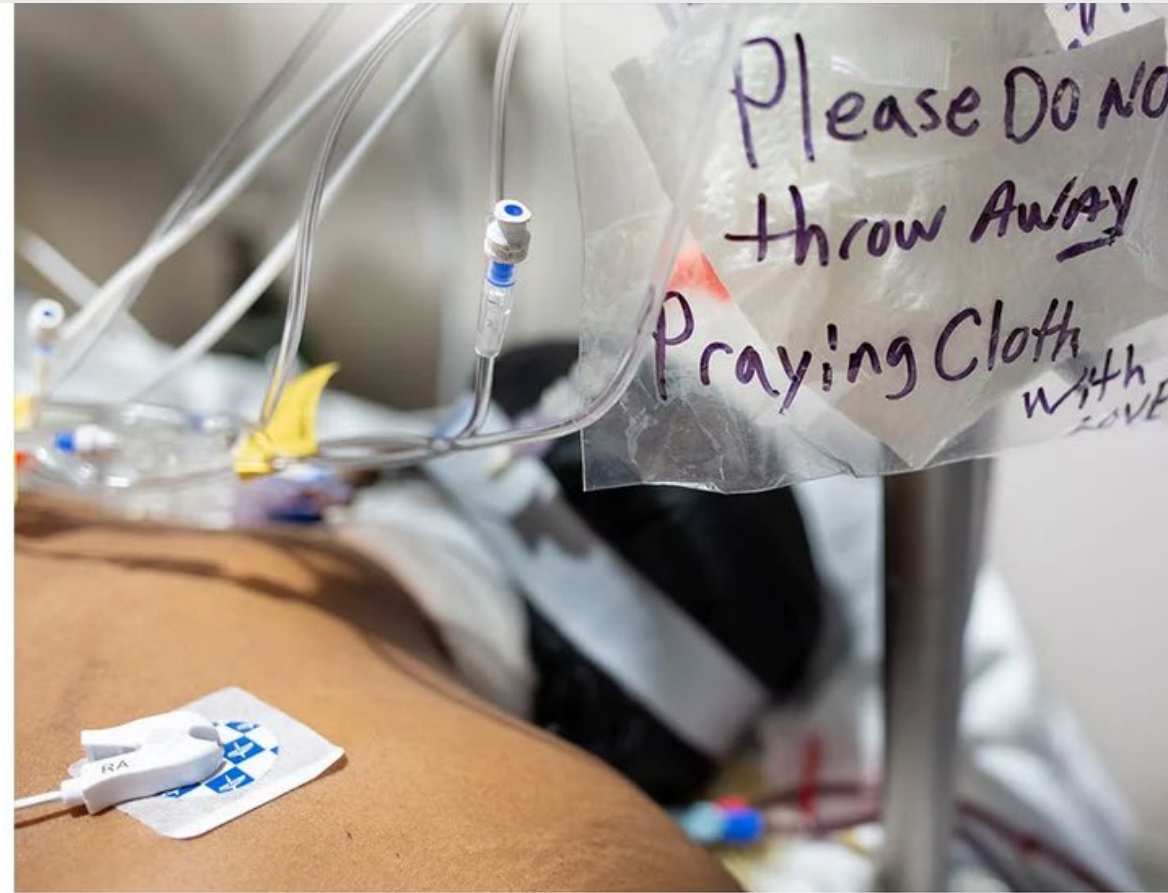
- The fundamental causes of the social determinants of health that create & worsen health inequities.
- Three major aspects of PDOH are voting, government, & policy.

Having a safe and clean home to live in is a social determinant of health; the political determinant of health is the redlining practice that led to Black & Brown people living in more disenfranchised neighborhoods.

Daniel Dawes

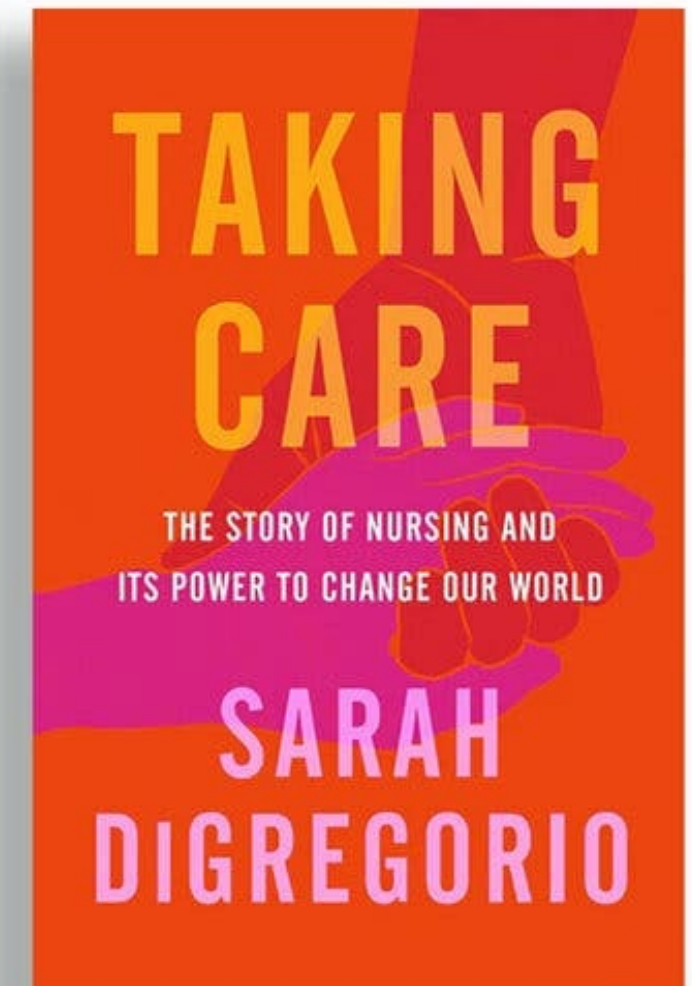
Satcher Leadership Institute at the Morehouse School of Medicine

The public trusts nurses. *What if we leveraged that?*



Why *your stories* are important.

- Nurses know things other people don't know.
- Nurses see things other people don't see.
- You understand the *impact* of policies that might not be apparent to legislators, policy makers and the general public.



If you can learn to do this....

you can surely do this!

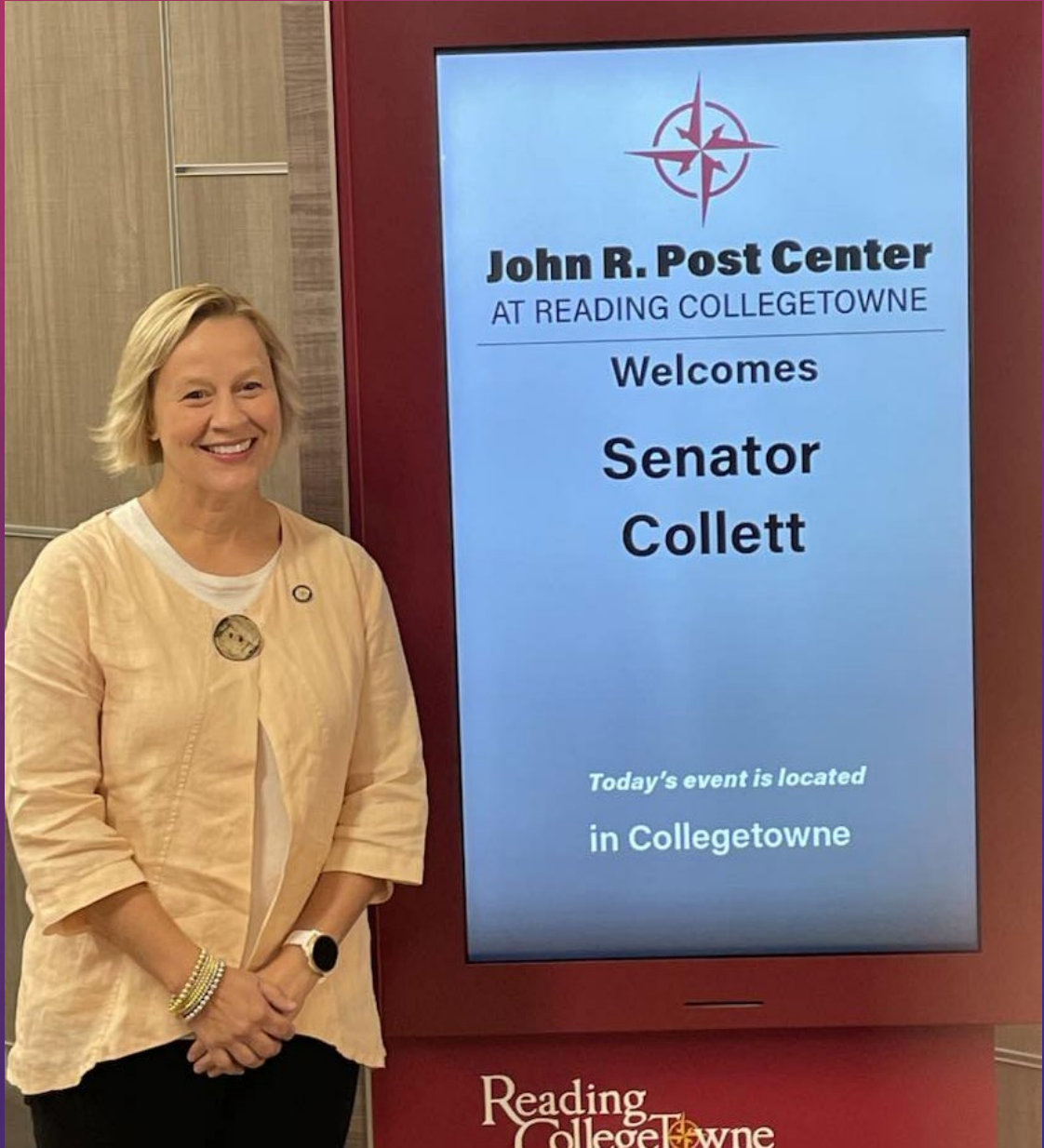


You have to see it to be it.

Nurse Legislators in Pennsylvania



Sen. Judy Ward (R-30)



Sen. Maria Collett (D-12)



Rep. Tarik Khan (D-194)



Rep. Bridget Kosierowski (D-114)

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Be an informed voter and vote in *every* election.
 - Pennsylvania primary is May 19th!
- Maintain membership in professional associations.
- Develop a relationship with your legislators.
- Attend Hill Day events!
 - ANA Lobby Day – June 25, 2026
 - ENA Day on the Hill – Apr 28, 2026 - Apr 29, 2026
- Get a Vot-ER badge and register voters.

GET A FREE VOT-ER BADGE BY SCANNING THE QR CODE

- Select Healing Politics from the organization drop-down box on the order form.
- Start registering voters!
- Let's increase the number of *nurses* w/Vot-ER badges!



SCAN ME



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Consider donating to a PAC.
- Partner with the government affairs staff at your institution.
- Model civic engagement for students, colleagues, friends, family.
- Subscribe to the Healing Politics newsletter and follow us on social media.
- Attend Healing Politics monthly online events.



Run for something &/or support nurses who do!

Healing Politics Campaign School for Nurses & Midwives

JULY 30 - AUGUST 2, 2026

Hosted by Polis: Center for Politics at Duke University



Non-Partisan | Focused on State & Local Races |
Learn how to run, manage, or work on a campaign

The curriculum:

- Designed specifically for nurses & midwives
- Real-world strategies you can put to use right away
- Interactive sessions designed for hands-on learning
- Led by experienced campaign professionals & nurse legislators

The agenda includes:

- Developing a winning campaign plan
- Campaign finance & fundraising fundamentals
- Engaging effectively with the media
- Building grassroots support through field organizing
- Using digital & online campaign tools

For more information visit:
Healing-Politics.org



Thank you, and on to the panel!

Lisa.Summers@healing-politics.org



Our Content Experts



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Q&A

Please add your questions for the speaker and comments for the group into the Q&A box or the chat.

Evaluations

1

Complete your evaluation **before Friday, May 1, 2026**. You must submit an evaluation for NCPD contact hour credit.

2

Evaluation link and slides will be emailed this afternoon. Recording will be available next week.

3

If you would like to join the Nurse Diversity Council, please email Zaharaa Davood at zadavood@phmc.org

THANK YOU. **THANK YOU!** THANK YOU
THANK YOU. **THANK YOU!** THANK YOU
THANK YOU. **THANK YOU!** THANK YOU

**To our Content Experts, Moderator,
Nurse Diversity Council, and
Audience!**

Connect with the PA-NWC



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Nurse Leader Connect – Session 1

- **Wednesday, May 20 at 3 pm**
- Each session will spotlight a focused leadership topic while creating space for participants to share experiences, compare approaches, and learn from one another.
- This session breaks down realistic, responsible ways to engage in legislative issues and fulfill your professional obligation to speak up - no matter your comfort level or experience.



Nurse Diversity Council Summer Webinar

- ***Professional Presence and Workforce Readiness: Coaching Nurses for Real-World Practice***
- **Thursday, July 23 from 12 – 1:30 pm**
- This faculty-focused webinar explores how nursing education can lay the foundation for personal sustainability and community well-being by strengthening professionalism, resilience, and communication.



Join Us in Supporting Our Work



- The NDC is a statewide initiative of the Pennsylvania Nursing Workforce Coalition (PA-NWC)
- Scan the QR code to explore the impact of PA-NWC initiatives across the state!
- Help us sustain and grow this work, your support makes a difference!