



# VOICES OF IMPACT

## NURSING LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY IN ACTION

APRIL 12-14, 2026 • EMBASSY SUITES • PHOENIX, AZ

### SATURDAY, APRIL 11

#### **Sedona Full Day Adventure Tour - *Limited Availability!***

**Sign up when you register for the Summit! Only \$199 (includes lunch)**

***Limited to 14 People***

Embark on a magical tour to Sedona. Visit all the hot spots including Chapel of the Holy Cross, Oak Creek Canyon, & majestic rock formations.

Travel through Sedona up scenic roads to historical mining town of Jerome and then travel back to Phoenix through the Prescott National Forest, Prescott.

**8:00 AM - Pick up at Embassy Suites by Hilton Phoenix Biltmore**

**12:00 PM - Lunch in Uptown Sedona**

**5:30 PM - Arrive back at Embassy Suites**

### SUNDAY, APRIL 12

**12:00 PM      Registration Opens**

**12:30 PM      Poster Presentations Available for Viewing; *see list of presenters at the end of the agenda.***

**1:00 PM      Summit Kick-Off**

Kathy Davis, DNP, RN, MBA, CPHQ  
NurseTRUST President

**1:20 PM      Land Trust Statement with Native American Blessing**

**1:30 PM      Embedding Strength Focused Nursing Leadership into Healthcare Leadership and Higher Education**

Presenters:    Jeannine Acantilado, MSN, MBA  
                     Elan Consulting Services

June Altaras, MN, NEA-BC, RN

**2:30 PM      Focused Table Group Discussions**

**3:15 PM      Break**

**3:30PM      Raising your Voice through Service on Boards**

Moderator:    Cole Edmondson, DNP, RN, FAAN  
CEO Nurses on Boards Coalition

Panelists:    Tara Cortes, PhD RN FAAN  
Executive Director Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing,  
Clinical Professor NYU School of Nursing

Rhonda Anderson, DNSC(h), MPH, RN, FAAN, FACHE  
Chamberlain University Board of Trustees and Chair of the Governance  
Committee, Board member, Nurses on Boards Coalition, ANCC and AONL

**5:15 PM      Break**

**5:30 PM      Membership Meeting**

**6:30 PM      2026 Shirley Chater Enduring Leadership Award Presentation**

**6:45PM      Welcome Reception — Sponsored by American College of Education**

**7:30PM      Dinner on Your Own**

**MONDAY, APRIL 13**

***Need a New Professional Headshot? Thanks to Galen College of Nursing for their sponsorship! Stop by today between 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM for a complimentary headshot.***

**7:30 AM      Breakfast – Provided by Hotel**  
***Poster presentations available for viewing starting at 8:00 AM. See list of presenters at the end of the agenda.***

**8:00 AM      Registration Opens**

**8:30 AM      Keynote: Raising Our Voices to Impact the Future of Nursing  
Sponsored by University of New Mexico College of Nursing**

Susan Hassmiller, RN, PhD, FAAN  
Sulu Coaching and Consulting, Co-CEO, Former Senior Advisor for Nursing, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)  
American Red Cross, Board of Directors

**9:15 AM      Leading Change: Advocacy and Innovation in Nursing Workforce Evolution**

Moderator:  
Penny Beattie, DNP, MBA, RN, BC-NE  
Assistant Professor, University of New Mexico School of Nursing

Panelists:    Noelle Trinder, DNP, RN  
Senior Director, Healthcare Careers, Banner Health

Susan Corbridge, PhD, APRN, FAANP, FCCP, FNAP, FAAN, ANA:  
ANCC  
Chief Education Innovation Officer and  
Former Dean of the University of Illinois Chicago

**10:45 AM Break**

**11:00 AM Abstract Presentations**

**Leadership That Listens: Kaizen-Driven ED Throughput and Satisfaction**

Savannah Wilson, MSN, RN, CEN

**Nurse Leaders, Ethics & Caritas: Caring Approach to Substance Use Disorder**

Penny Beattie, DNP, MBA, RN, BC-NE and Connie Smith-Fassler, DNP, MHA, RN, CNML

**A Descriptive Phenomenological Exploration of the Lived Experience of Nursing Faculty in Academia in Georgia**

Yolaine Nozile, RN, PhD, CLNC, FNC

**Analyze the role of nurse leadership and community-based participatory research (CBPR) in promoting advocacy, cultural relevance, and sustainability within Native American communities**

John Lowe, PhD, RN, FAAN and Melessa Kelley, PhD, RN

**Amplifying Nursing Voices: Board Representation and Workforce Sustainability**

Bonny Kehm, PhD, RN, CNE and Nelson Tuazon, DNP, DBA, RN, NEA-BC, CENP, CPPS, CNE, FNAP, FACHE, FAAN

**Gamification and System Thinking: An Innovative Teaching Approach for Improving Nursing Practice and Care Outcomes**

Debra Thompson, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN and Vickie Pisowicz, MBA, MPP

**Addressing Burnout Amongst Nurses of Color: The SHINE Summit**

Jacqueline Nikpour, PhD, RN

**Action and Advocacy: The Lived Experience of Nurses Advocating for Policy Change and Social Justice**

Cynthia Paidipati, PhD, APRN, PMH-NP/CNS-BC and Jennifer Sandoval, DNP, MSN, RN-BC

**Leading Change through the Head, the Heart, and the Hands**

Krystal McGovern, DNP, MSN, MBA, RN, CNE, CPHQ, CCRN, MEDSURG-BC

**Incorporating an Interprofessional Pathway & Mentorship Model Initiative: A Conceptual Model for Transforming Health Professions Leadership Pipelines**

Precious Davis, EdD, MSN, BSN, RN

**Amplifying the Silent Voices: Nursing Leadership to Address Moral Distress and Vicarious Trauma Among Healthcare Interpreters**

Melissa Wilson, PhD, APRN, CCNS, FAAN

**12:15 PM Leaders Lunch – Sponsored by Kaiser Permanente**

**1:15 PM A Fireside Chat: Raising your Voice to Impact Policy**

Moderator: Wanda Montalvo, PhD, RN, FAAN, FADLN  
Executive Director, Leonard A. Lauder Community Care Nurse  
Practitioner Program, The University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing

Panelists: Barbara I. Damron, PhD, LHD(h), RN, FAAN  
Professor Emerita and Visiting Professor  
University of New Mexico Health Sciences College of Nursing  
Senior Advisor to the Director, Project ECHO  
University of New Mexico

Sue Birch, MBA, RN  
Former Director of Washington Health Care Authority

Adrianna Nava, PhD, MPA, RN  
Former President of National Association of Hispanic Nurses Inc.

Lauren Inouye, MPP, RNN  
Chief Advancement Officer, American Academy of Nursing

**2:45 PM Break**

**3:00 PM Using the VIA Character Strengths Interventions to Engage, Advocate and Inspire**

Presenters: Jeannine Acantilado, MSN, MBA  
Elan Consulting Services

June Altaras, MN, NEA-BC, RN

**4:30 PM General Session**

**6:00 PM Reception - Sponsored by Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust**  
**Location: Camelback - 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**

## **TUESDAY, APRIL 14**

**7:30 AM Breakfast – Provided by Hotel**  
*Poster presentations available for viewing starting at 8:00 AM. See list of presenters at the end of the agenda.*

**8:00 AM Registration Opens**

**8:30 AM Representative Selina Bliss (R-AZ) (Invited)**

**9:30 AM Bringing it all Together: Upskilling for Advocacy**

Facilitator: Vivian Torres-Suarez, MBA, BSN, RN  
Torre Healthcare Consulting, LLC

**10:30 AM Group Report Out**

**11:00 AM Closing Session**

Kathy Davis, DNP, RN, MBA, CPHQ  
NurseTRUST President

**11:30 AM Summit Ends**

**2026 Abstract Poster Presenters:**

**Flush The Delays: A Rapid Fix For Urinalysis Collection in the Emergency Department**

Savannah Wilson, MSN, RN, CEN

**From Bottlenecks to Breakthroughs: Kaizen-Driven Improvements in Emergency Department Flow and Patient Satisfaction**

Savannah Wilson, MSN, RN, CEN

**Nurse Leaders, Ethics & Caritas: Caring Approach to Substance Use Disorder**

Penny Beattie, DNP, MBA, RN, BC-NE and Connie Smith-Fassler, DNP, MHA, RN, CNML

**A Descriptive Phenomenological Exploration of the Lived Experience of Nursing Faculty in Academia in Georgia**

Yolaine Nozile, RN, PhD, CLNC, FNC

**Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Competencies Essential to Project Success**

Crosby Lindner, BSN, RN, PCCN

**Enhancing Patient Safety in Bariatric Surgery: Development and Implementation of an Anticoagulation VTE Prophylaxis Protocol**

Exequiel Naculangan, DNP, MAN, RN, PCCN

**Voices of Impact in Practice: Nurse-Led Point-of-Care Testing Revolutionizing Emergency Care**

Tana Elliott, MHA, BSN, RN, CEN, SANE-A, CA-SANE

**Gamification and System Thinking: An Innovative Teaching Approach for Improving Nursing Practice and Care Outcomes**

Debra Thompson, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN and Vickie Pisowicz, MBA, MPP

**Promoting Healthy Lifestyles among Native American Youth: The intersection of Environmental Awareness, Cultural Knowledge, and Health Behaviors**

Melessa Kelley, PhD, RN, John Lowe, PhD, RN, FAAN

**Transforming Rural Emergency Care Through Innovation: The Development of UNMC's Emergency Nurse Practitioner Program**

Haley Hays, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, ENP-C, AGACNP-BC

**Scoping Review, Including Use of AI**

Melissa Wilson, PhD, APRN, CCNS, FAAN

**DREAM Program: Advancing Discharge Readiness and Developmental Milestones in Regional NICUs**

Kerri Covert, MSN, RN, RNC-NIC