



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 Native American Blessing

Jolyana Begay-Kroupa
Enrolled member of the Navajo Nation
Chief Executive Officer of the Phoenix Indian Center

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 Edmonson, DNP, RN, FACHE, NEA-BC, FAAN, FNAP, FAONL
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

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

7:30PM Dinner on Your Own

MONDAY, APRIL 13

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

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 - Imperfect Courage: 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 J. Corbridge, PhD, APRN, FAANP, FCCP, FNAP, FAAN
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 Shirely Chater Enduring Leadership Award Presentation

12:30 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 Damron, PhD, LHD, FN, FAAN
Professor Emeritus and Visiting Professor, University of New Mexico College
of Nursing
Immediate Past Chair, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
(WICHE)
Former Cabinet Secretary for New Mexico Higher Education
Former Fellow, U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)
Committee

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

Adrianna Nava, PhD, MPA, RN, FAAN
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 Committed to the Calling: Florence Nightingale's Evolving Legacy

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

Barbara Hatcher, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN
Hatcher-DuBois-Odrick Group, LLC

Panelists: Melissa Pritchard
Author, *Flight of the Wild Swan*

Greta Westwood, CBE, PhD, RN
CEO, Florence Nightingale Foundation

**6:00 PM Reception - Sponsored by Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust
Location: Camelback - 1st 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

Innovative Pathways for Advanced Practice Provider Development: Fellowship Training and Leadership Advancement Using Evidence-Based Frameworks

Brenda Olson, PhD, APRN, FNP-C

The Effectiveness of a Multicomponent Pressure Injury Prevention Program in Adult Inpatient Population

Dawn Schudt, BSN, RN and Nora Sharp, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, CCRN

From Simulation to Community Integration: A CBPR Change Agent Model for Responsible AI Integration in Dementia Caregiver Education for Black Communities

Stephanie Bennett, PhD, MBA, RN