



# Save the Date

**NMANA Annual Conference**  
**October 7-9, 2016**  
Tamaya Resort, Albuquerque, NM

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

With the recent end of the legislative session, let me first say thank you to those of you who participated on the Government Relations Committee helping to review legislation that has the potential to affect our profession. Many hands make light work and nine or ten heads are better than one!

Several weeks ago I had the pleasure of joining with several CRNAs in a meeting with Representative Lujan Grisham to request her support for HB 1274 related to CRNA practice at the VA. We have a phenomenal GRC chair, Polly Zelaya, who coordinated the meeting. The experiences related by CRNAs were invaluable in advocating for the support of this bill. Representative Lujan Grisham praised CRNAs for our continual hard work in the promotion of patient safety. We are holding meetings with other state and federal legislators and invite you to join with us in our meetings. Contact Polly Zelaya for details at [pwetz8@gmail.com](mailto:pwetz8@gmail.com).

We are excited to announce the imminent debut of our brand new website. As you all know, our previous website had been neglected for a while. We commit to keeping the new website up-to-date to serve you better. The new website will provide a better face of New Mexico CRNAs to our legislators who are looking for accurate information, to CRNAs outside the state interested in joining us here, as well as keep you more involved with what the Board is working on.

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## ARE YOU REGISTERED WITH THE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM?

New Mexico's drug overdose death rate has been one of the highest in the nation for most of the last two decades.

New Mexico deaths due to prescription drugs (particularly opioid pain relievers) have increased dramatically. In addition to the high death rates, drug

abuse is one of the most costly health problems in the U. S. In 2007, it was estimated that prescription opioid abuse, dependence, and misuse cost New Mexico \$890 million.

Last year, overdose deaths rose to 536; making New Mexico the second highest death rate per capita at 26.4 per 100,000, compared to the national rate at 12.4 per 100,000 population. During 2010-2014, 53% of drug overdose deaths were caused by prescription drugs. Medical examiner data indicate that the most common drugs causing unintentional overdose deaths were prescription opioids (e.g., methadone, oxycodone, morphine 48%). In New Mexico and nationally, overdose death from prescription opioids has become an issue of enormous concern.

As of July 2013, New Mexico implemented an active Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). All providers who carry a DEA and CSR License must register with this program. This program tracks prescribing practices in an effort to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse. It allows providers access to monitor their own prescribing and also to track their patients access to prescriptions. It is a restricted access online database created to reduce the diversion of these controlled substances while serving as a valuable tool for medical practice and patient care.

If you have not registered with the PMP please refer to the following link and do so. This is MANDATORY. <http://www.nmpmp.org/>

The second big announcement is that this year NMANA will host it's first annual CE conference. This conference is 100% organized by NMANA and 100% of proceeds will go into our state association to support efforts in advocating for our profession here in New Mexico. Please come and join us October 7th to 9th at the Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa! Details will be provided on our new website.

Thank you for all you do to represent CRNAs and the great reputation you help us build as safe, patient-focused providers. It's an honor to serve you in your state association.

Andrew Passey, NMANA President

# Meet Our New Board Members



**Ira Saunders** is an Albuquerque native, having graduated from TVI with his ADN and UNM with his BSN. Having obtained his MSNA from Newman University in Wichita KS in 2012, he returned to New Mexico and began practicing with AANM. He has been a board member of NMANA since 2015.

**Allen Mandeen** was born and raised in Wichita, Kansas. He earned his ADN in 1999, BSN in 2003 and MSNA from Texas Wesleyan University in 2008. He is a father of three, Ashly, Taylor and Victoria and a grandfather to two, Sam and Cambria



In 2014 he accepted a position as the sole provider at Sierra Vista Hospital in T or C. He lives with his two dogs, Henry and Brutus in T or C. In his free time, he enjoys restoring classic muscle cars and riding his motorcycle in the mountains.



**Jackie Kaiser**, a native New Mexican, graduated from Central Connecticut University with a Masters of Science in Anesthesia in 2009. She is an active member on the Advanced Practice Committee at the BON. She currently works in Albuquerque.

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