

### **Report from District 3 Southern District**

The District 3 chapter of the NNA focused on legislative issues this year. Last October we held a legislative round table discussion with several candidates that were running for election in Southern Nevada. A number of members attended the Nurses Legislative Day in Carson City, including students from the University of Southern Nevada. Three issues: safe staffing, safe patient handling, and the “Whistle Blower” regulations were the issues we put our energy toward getting passed with language that was pro-nursing. The Whistle Blower regulation was passed after testimony was given to the healthcare committee from a study written and conducted by Dr. Lisa Black of UNR.

A clothing swap was a fun activity that was well attended in June. This was held at Tracy Singh’s home and was the beginning of our fundraiser for the upcoming visit in October of the ANA national president Becky Patton. The Planning Committee for the upcoming Nursing Student Contest was started in May. The Committee has met several times since May to plan a contest that will entail student teams from various nursing programs presenting innovative solutions to current healthcare topics.

Lastly, as our nation grapples with how we will lower healthcare costs, cover the uninsured and the underinsured, and ensure individual choice, nurses must always be “at the table.” On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, I was asked to attend a discussion group at Senator Ensign’s office in Las Vegas. He wants to include Advanced Practice Nurses in the discussion on the national healthcare legislation. We will continue to work with the Senator and other national representatives on this issue.

This upcoming year, we will remain committed to issues that impact the profession of nursing and the health of Nevadans.