
HSC4N article



(C4HN) welcomes our Hawai'i Nei to experience the most fragile beginnings of life - Neonates. As this article is being written, we prepare to celebrate the **International Neonatal**

Nurses Day on August 15 and National Neonatal Nurses Day on September 15 with our partnering organizations: Council of International Neonatal Nurses, National Association of Neonatal Nurses, Academy of Neonatal Nurses and Association of Women's Health, Obstetrics and Neonatal Nurses.



C4HN is a 501c3 non profit with a **Mission** to enhance the care for Neonates through direct services and education. To be universally recognized as the premiere, culturally based, organization promoting the highest quality care for neonates in Hawai'i remains our primary **Vision**.

Established in 2008 as *Malama O Na Keiki* Neonatal Nurses Caring for Hawai'i's Babies to enhance the direct services hospitals and community non profits were providing to our littlest patients and their families. NICU nurses are able to build relationships with their babies family and often learn of their critical needs. Working hand in hand with the assigned Social Workers or identify community resources through our organization, we could provide direct resources for the family to reach out to when they were ready. This advocacy eventually lead to enhancing the NICU nurses need for the quality, evidence and culturally based, education on an annual basis. Today, we are committed to monthly or bi-monthly education for the NICU nurse and the teams which support the neonates, especially the micro and late premies.

Ways we've served our community has been to provide an one-way air ticket for a father to return with his wife and NICU daughter to Hilo when insurance didn't cover his flight; overnight hotel stay for a family when Ronald McDonald House was full; partial donation for a triplet stroller for a NICU nurse; a volunteer NICU nurse to visit a family, after being called by a Kahu, to see a micro-premie born in the "bush"; education for breastfeeding mothers and non profit organizations and much more.

NICU nurses and team members have received annual education since 2010 with highly qualified professionals of our community and abroad. In 2010 we were fortunate to bring Dr. Berry Brazelton to Hawai'i who shared his TouchPoints program, which included the Brazelton assessment scoring and importance of compassionate care influencing the brain development. Each year since we've invited key team members, to be presenters, and this year have expanded to create the **Inaugural Global Neonatal Nurses Institute on Thursday, September 28 - Saturday, September 30. The first day includes the global leaders of Neonatal Nursing. The next two days will be a S.T.A.B.L.E. Course taught by the Founder, Kris Karlsen. The location his Wai'ala'e Country Club and University of Phoenix. The Hawai'i Student Nurses Association (HISNA) will be partnering this year to enhance their professional development growth as student nurses and mentorships.**

Monday, August 14, 2017



We have grown because of the tremendous support from our community. Initially, our conference **Exhibitors** helped us to establish the education through the annual conferences and **local donors**. Then with the great support of Mid Pacific Country Club, we were able to establish the **Kimo Kaho'ano Celebration of Aloha golf tournament at Mid Pacific Country Club** on the first Monday of December. This year will be our fifth annual on **Monday, December 4, 2017**. It's a great way to unite our NICU team members who play, desire to volunteer or come enjoy the banquet at nominal fee. It's always lots of fun - the golfers know how to celebrate their day of being together and love learning about our profession through the minutes we share our honoree NICU nurses and NICU family.

We have been extending memberships to NICU nurses, team members and community for a nominal \$40 fee since 1996, when our local San Diego Chapter NANN grew to include community. A NICU nurse returned to Hawai'i to meet other NICU nurses who had started the Hawai'i Chapter a neonatal nurses organization. The two would merge in 2010 leading to unite all NICU nurses and team members who have a part in neonate and newborn healthy babies. The membership fee is nominal compared to the benefits one receives: Complimentary monthly meetings with a meal, reduced conference fees, educational contact hours for workshop and conferences, complimentary end-of-the year banquet, donation of needs for NICU babies and their 'ohana and so much more!

The year 2017 has been an exploding one! We have been blessed with new **NICU nursing partners: Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, University of Hawai'i School of Nursing, Hawai'i Student Nurses Association, National Association of Neonatal Nurses, Academy of Neonatal Nurses and Association of Women's Health, Obstetrics and Neonatal Nurses.** A continued partnership with **Council of International Neonatal Nurses, The Hawai'i Infant Mental Health and Chaminade University School of Nursing.**

We could not be at this point without the tremendous volunteer support of key team members who have made major contributions in growing Malama o Na Keiki to Caring for Hawai'i Neonates - our mahalo will always include these members as part of our foundation.

E komo mai - welcome - as we invite each of you to learn more about our organization at www.malamaonakeiki.org or www.caringforhawaiineonates.org. Each person makes a difference for helping the littlest community members grow into productive, inspring, adults because their first beginnings were supported by Aloha kekahi i kekahi - love one another - in the old Hawaiian way and the new inspirations of community!

