

BYLAWS

ASSOCIATION OF KERN COUNTY NURSE LEADERS, INC

(Approved and Adopted October 22, 2015)

Article I

Name

The name shall be Association of Kern County Nurse Leaders, Inc (AKCNL) hereinafter referred to as 'Chapter' of the Association of California Nurse Leaders (ACNL) Corporation ((located in Kern County, P.O. Box 13188 Bakersfield, California 93389).

Article II

Vision Statement

Mission Statement

Vision

Positioning nurse leaders to influence the future of healthcare.

Mission

Develops nurse leaders
Advances professional practice
Influences health policy
Promotes quality and patient safety

Article III

Membership

A. Eligibility

Members must be registered nurses who function in leadership roles that:

- (a) have responsibility for management and /or leadership of the patient care process,
or
- (b) manage financial resources in healthcare, or
- (c) manage and directs appropriate allocation and utilization of human resources in healthcare, or
- (d) provide education and/or consultation to healthcare providers or consumers of healthcare, or
- (e) provide healthcare in advanced and/or independent practice role, or
- (f) design, conducts or evaluates research in healthcare, or
- (g) conduct accreditation/licensing surveys of healthcare institutions, or
- (h) publish, edits, or authors for a healthcare publication, or
- (i) provide leadership in regulatory and other nursing and health care organizations

B. Establishment of Membership

1. General Member

- (a) Membership in Kern County Chapter is required after three (3) meetings.
- (b) Local membership dues will be set by the Kern County Chapter.
- (c) Nurse leaders in the community are eligible for membership.
- (d) Membership in ACNL (state level) is encouraged; ACNL membership is not required for local chapter membership. (See Article III A).
- (e) State membership dues will be set by the corporation (ACNL).
- (f) Local members who are current with annual dues will receive Kern County Chapter communications.
- (g.) Only members who have paid their membership in full are eligible to vote.
- (h) Only members who have paid their dues will be eligible for free CE's.

2. Associate Member:

Associate membership is available to an individual who does not qualify for regular membership.

Associate member is defined as a Registered Nurse who is a:

- (a) Former regular corporation member, ~~retired~~, living or working outside California.
- (b) Student enrolled in an educational program related to a role in nursing.
- (c) Regular member who is in transition after one membership renewal period. (This individual may become an associate member until re-employed.)

Associate members **shall have no voting privileges**. Associate members are not eligible to hold an elected position within the corporation.

3. Emeritus member is a Registered Nurse who (a) works < 25%, (b) has maintained regular membership in AKCNL for the previous 5 years , and (c) is over the age of 62. Emeritus members **shall** have voting privileges.

Article IV Dues

The officers of the chapter will annually evaluate the dues structure and revise as necessary. Currently, annual dues are due in April. Individuals, who desire membership after April, will have their dues pro-rated. Members will be notified and vote on any changes in dues prior to implementation.

Article V Meetings

A. Regular Meetings:

- Regular meetings will be scheduled monthly by the President of the chapter. Other meetings during the year as deemed necessary at such time and place and shall be determined by the officers of the chapter.
- Meetings will be held monthly from August-May.

B. Notice of Meetings

The secretary of the chapter shall notify the membership by email of meetings a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the date of the meeting.

C. Quorum

Those members present shall constitute a quorum. Changes in bylaws must have a majority vote.

Article VI Officers

A. Officers of AKCNL shall be President, President- Elect, immediate past President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

B. Eligibility

Each officer shall be a member of ACNL and AKCNL for a minimum of one year. Officers of the Kern County Chapter must be members of ACNL.

C. Elections

Officers shall be selected as hereinafter provided. A majority of those voting shall constitute an election.

D. Terms of Office

Terms of office shall begin at the first meeting of September.

Officers shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until their successor is elected, and may be eligible for a consecutive term in the respective office. Treasurer shall serve for a term of two (2) years.

E. Duties:

1. The President shall:
 - (a) Preside at all meetings
 - (b) Serve as the chairperson of the chapter
 - (c) Oversee the activities of the chapter

(d) Participate (or assign designee) in quarterly ACNL chapter conference calls

2. The President-elect shall:

- (a) Arrange/coordinate speakers and plan the monthly programs
- (b) Preside at all meetings in the absence of the President
- (c) Assume the office of President at the end of the term.

3. The Secretary shall:

- (a) Arrange for meeting room and refreshments
- (b) Keep and disburse all records of meetings
- (c) Notify members seven (7) days prior to meeting date
- (d) Handle all general correspondence

4. The Treasurer shall:

- (a) Collect annual dues
- (b) Maintain chapter roster
- (c) Record attendance at all meetings
- (d) Submit monthly report at meetings
- (e) Shall issue checks for payment of services
- (f) Treasurer will coordinate the audit of the accounting books and present to the membership.

5. The immediate past President shall:

- (a) Provide continuity and counsel to the Officers.
- (b) Serve as the chair of the Nominating Committee
- (c) Perform other duties as assigned

F. Vacancies

If the office of the President becomes vacant, the President-elect shall succeed to the office of president and serve the unexpired term. He/she also shall continue to serve as president for the subsequent term.

If the office of President-elect shall become vacant, the President shall appoint, from the membership, a President-elect pro tempore to serve for the remaining portion of the unexpired term as President-elect. The appointed President-elect shall not succeed to the presidency unless elected to that office in a regular election.

If the office of the President and the President-elect shall both become vacant, the membership shall appoint a President pro tempore and a President-elect pro tempore to serve for the remaining portion of the unexpired term. At the next regular election of the chapter, both a President and a President-elect shall be elected.

If the office of the Secretary or treasurer shall become vacant, the President shall have the authority to appoint a qualified member and be confirmed by a vote of the Board of Directors to serve for the remaining portion of the unexpired term.

Article VII Nomination and Elections of Officers

Officers shall be elected by the chapter membership each year.

Nominating Committee:

- (a) The immediate past President shall chair the nominating committee and call a committee meeting. This shall be done in March.
- (b) The committee shall consist of two (2) members. The term shall be for one (1) year.
- (c) In March, the nominating committee will request the names of members interested in running for office. All interested persons must indicate their desire to run for office no later than the end of March.
- (d) At the April meeting, the candidates will be presented.
- (e) In May, the voting will take place electronically.
- (f) The new officers will participate in a transitional meeting in August with the assumption of office in September.

Article VIII Committees

AKCNL will establish committees and task forces to meet the goals of the Kern County chapter.

ACNL Regional Task Force and Committee chairs and members are appointed by the President of ACNL and will be given agenda time at each meeting for reports of activities. Regional Task Force members will forward chapter input to task forces.

The nominating committee is to be established annually as indicated in Article VII.

Article IX Affiliations

The chapter has entered into agreements of affiliation with the corporation. Fees will be determined by ACNL and paid per annum. Membership in ACNL is encouraged for all chapter members.

The chapter may work with other organizations for the purpose of unification of efforts on matters facing the nursing profession.