

Yvette Salas, RN, MSN, CRRN Attends NIWI 2022

Yvette Salas RN, MSN, CRRN attended the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) held by the Nursing Organizations Alliance (NOA) in Washington, DC, March 21 – 23, 2022. Salas joined other conference attendees, including nurses and nursing students from across the country. NIWI provides nurses and nursing students the opportunity to learn how to influence health care through the legislative and regulatory processes. She had the opportunity to attend informative and educational sessions, learn from expert nursing advocates and government officials and network with other nurses. All of these activities culminated with visits to her members of Congress.

“Attending the 2022 Nurse in Washington Internship was a valuable experience. The dynamic setting was ideal for educational activities and networking with nurses from across the nation;” says Salas “I look forward to sharing my newly gained knowledge to enhance my influence on health care legislation.” Furthermore, Salas is a member of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) where she serves on the policy action committee. Mrs. Salas states, “I plan to advocate for South Floridian residents for the improvement of access to care and enhancing Medicare benefits for rehabilitation services.”

Salas is a master prepared nurse in working in Cutler Bay. She serves as an educator and infection preventionist for a rehabilitation hospital. In addition to ARN/FSARN, Salas is a member of the American Nurses Association (ANA/FNA), Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) and the Evangelical Lutheran Parish Nurses Association (ELPNA). She volunteers as a parish nurse at St. Thomas Lutheran Church and is active with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee at Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Miami.

Salas encourages nurses to use their voice to influence change. She urges nurses to believe in the power of a unified voice by join forces with nursing organizations. Making meaningful relationships with other nursing advocates can be encouraging and supportive in one’s efforts to make a difference. The compounding effect and power of multiple voices echoing the same sentiment is the force behind change and legislative action. Salas encourages nurses to request meetings with elected leaders. Salas states, “It was surprising to see that the elected leaders and their staffers were really interested in what we, as nurses, had to say about healthcare issues. After all, we are the authority on healthcare topics.” Salas urges fellow nurses, “Never doubt what your nursing experience can do for you. Try legislative advocacy, we already do this daily at the bedside for our patients. Nurses are natural advocates.”

NOA exists to connect elected and staff leaders of professional nursing organizations to inspire, collaborate, and provide a forum for information exchange and the sharing of resources and best practices. NOA does not have delegated authority to speak for nursing or any member organization. The members of NOA are represented by the chief elected officers and chief staff officers of over 50 national and international nursing organizations.

For more information about The Nursing Organizations Alliance or the Nurse in Washington Internship, please contact NOA headquarters at (859) 514-9157, info@nursing-alliance.org or visit our website at www.nursing-alliance.org.