Experience the power of collective advocacy with fellow RNs and nursing students from across Michigan. Throughout the day, you will learn about the Safe Patient Care Act and the statewide effort to pass this critical piece of legislation to ensure safe RN staffing in hospitals.

Join us for a day of learning at the Lansing Center followed by a rally at the Capitol. You’ll take home the skills you need to be an effective legislative advocate for yourself, your coworkers and your patients.

The last day to register for this event is March 12th. Please contact the UMPNC office if you are interested in carpooling opportunities. The local will also cover the cost of this event upon completion of the day.

Keynote Speaker Sean P. Clarke, RN, PhD, FAAN will discuss his research on staffing levels and their effect on patient health and safety. His interest in patient safety and nursing ratios began as a collaborator on projects with nurse researcher Linda Aiken, including the landmark study on staffing levels, nursing burnout, job dissatisfaction and patient mortality. Clarke is the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Professor at the Connell School of Nursing at Boston College.

**Safe Patient Care: Nurses Count.**

Objectives:
1. Discuss how adequate patient ratios are associated with lower rates of nurses’ burnout and job dissatisfaction.
2. Explain the link between fewer registered nurses and poor patient outcomes and danger to patient safety.
3. Recognize how the lack of adequate qualified nurses is a public safety issue.

2.0 contact hours will be awarded to RNs who are in attendance for the entire event and complete the evaluation.

Michigan Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

**Online Registration is now open at:**

[www.minurses.org/legislation/nursesmarch](http://www.minurses.org/legislation/nursesmarch)
UMPNC nurses are outraged over the man-made public health disaster jeopardizing the people of Flint—especially the children. It’s despicable that a whole community was put at risk of lead poisoning, Legionnaire’s disease and other hazards while the governor and his hand-picked emergency manager turned their backs.

UMPNC members and RNs from across the state are helping by:

- Sharing information about the crisis, about the effects of lead poisoning and about resources such as safe water, water filters and testing.
- Adding nurses’ voices to the effort to hold public officials, especially Gov. Snyder, accountable for creating this crisis.
- Partnering with Flint residents to make sure their voices are heard and they have control over their community’s recovery.

If you are interested in volunteering, please visit the Michigan AFL-CIO’s Help Flint website: [http://miaflcio.org/2016/01/how-you-can-help-flint/](http://miaflcio.org/2016/01/how-you-can-help-flint/)

One of the best options for financial contributions is a new fund set up in part by Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, the Flint pediatrician who helped blow the whistle on the scandal. The Flint Child Health & Development Fund will target children exposed to lead, providing interventions now and in the future. You can donate at: [http://flintkids.org](http://flintkids.org)

Flint residents will face lifelong health consequences from this completely preventable disaster. As the full effects become clearer over time, your union is committed to standing with the people of Flint to provide care and advocate for patients.
PTO and Article 29 FAQ’s

PTO selection begins in February. We are all excited to plan the next year’s vacations, and there is no better time to answer a few commonly asked questions about the PTO sign up process.

This topic is also covered in Article 29 of our contract. Please read Article 29 and refer to Pars. 333J, 333K, 333L.

If you have questions beyond what is listed below, please contact your area nurse representative. Also, if you would like to request a copy of our contract please visit the UMPNC website: http://umpnc.org

When does PTO sign up begin?

During the month of February, each employee will initially sign up for a maximum of two (2) weeks of PTO in seniority order, highest to lowest. After the first round, a second round will allow members to sign up for up to 70% of their annual PTO accrual.

How many rounds of sign up are there?

There are two rounds of PTO selection. After all employees have had their initial opportunities, the remaining time will be requested and granted in seniority order, highest to lowest (round two).

On second round of PTO sign up, what if the Friday is “closed” but I wanted the whole week off?

During round one, preference will be given to those whose request results in seven (7) or more consecutive days of time off, over individual days.

Time to Care: Paid Sick Leave for Michigan Workers

Did you know that in Michigan, 1.6 million hard working individuals do not earn paid sick time? That means that on any given day, they could be forced to either go to work ill or take time off without pay. Both of these options are significant detriments to our communities and families. This also creates unnecessary public health risks. Every working person deserves the right to take a sick day without worrying about losing their income or their job.

The Time to Care campaign will allow people to earn one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked. Workers could earn up to nine days of paid sick time, depending on the size of the business.

Please help us support this campaign. You can do this by either sharing your personal story, donating to the cause or committing to gathering signatures in your communities. It is Time to Care, nurses.

For more information, visit mitimetocare.org. To help gather signatures, please contact Organizer Kelly Anthony at 517-515-3768.
The MNA Political Action Committee

Our Voice at the Capitol

The MNA Political Action Committee (PAC) is a board of MNA members from across the state who are appointed by other members. The committee has three main goals: evaluating candidates for endorsement; raising and allocating designated funds to support endorsed candidates’ campaigns; and educating fellow members about political action.

Why do nurses need a PAC?

Elected leaders in Lansing and D.C. make the laws that affect our daily lives. Nurses need a voice in this process so we can protect our practice, our profession and our patients.

While MNA members work hard to lobby legislators and educate them on our issues, the reality is that in politics, money talks. Candidates need funds to run successful campaigns.

It’s important for nurses to endorse and support pro-nurse, pro-patient candidates so we can (a) get them into office and (b) counterbalance the hospital industry’s influence over legislators.

Doesn’t MNA take money out of my dues for the PAC?

No. MNA does not use any dues money for PAC activities. All money in the PAC fund — every single dollar — comes from voluntary donations. By law, only MNA members and staff can contribute. You can make a recurring or one-time donation using your credit or debit card or give monthly via your checking account.

Why should I contribute?

Just as a union is only as strong as its members, a PAC is only as strong as its contributions. Every dollar makes the voice of nurses louder at the Capitol. Your contributions are allocated with great care by fellow MNA members who are committed to advocating for nurses and patients.

Doesn’t MNA only endorse Democrats?

No. The PAC is nonpartisan and has supported candidates from both parties. MNA strives to work with legislators on both sides of the aisle so we can accomplish legislative goals. To receive the MNA endorsement and be eligible for PAC funds, candidates must be committed to the Safe Patient Care Act (ratios) and collective bargaining.

Make an MNA PAC donation online at:

www.minursespac.org