

Celebrating 25 Years of Impact: AAPACN Opens 2024 Conference, Honors AHCA's Mark Parkinson with Lifetime Award

April 10, 2024 - The American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing ([AAPACN](#)) opened its 2024 conference today in Hollywood Beach, Florida, marking a significant milestone as it celebrates its 25th anniversary. Over the past quarter-century, AAPACN has been unwavering in its commitment to excellence in post-acute and long-term care nursing, with notable achievements including defining the role of the nurse assessment coordinator within the nursing home in 1999, launching an education foundation, and developing four standard-setting nurse certification programs.

Since 2018, under the leadership of CEO and President, Tracey Moorhead, AAPACN has been at the forefront of regulatory issues affecting post-acute nurses. The association regularly participates on Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Technical Expert Panels (TEP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) task forces, and post-acute care coalitions. Recently, AAPACN has collaborated with other industry stakeholders, such as American Health Care Association (AHCA), in developing educational programming.

In her opening remarks to more than 800 healthcare professionals in attendance, Moorhead reflected on the association's past accomplishments and its ongoing role in the field. "We're proud of the historical impact AAPACN has made in the post-acute and long-term care field and continues to make," stated Moorhead. "In the last year, AAPACN has seen our membership grow to more than 19,000 members, working in more than 7,000 facilities. The leadership in these facilities understand that investing in nurse education and certification can drive improvement in quality metrics, which result in accurate reimbursement and bolstered community reputation."

The opening session concluded with a special presentation of the AAPACN LTPAC Lifetime Impact Award given to AHCA President and CEO, Mark Parkinson, who was also the opening keynote speaker. "As nurses, you're in the most in-demand profession," stated Parkinson. "You could work anywhere you want, but AAPACN members have chosen the most challenging setting – post-acute and long-term care. God bless you and thank you."

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KEY TAKEAWAYS

The American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing (AAPACN) is celebrating its 25th anniversary at its 2024 Conference, marking a significant milestone in its commitment to excellence in post-acute care nursing.

AAPACN has grown to more than 19,000 members across 7,000+ facilities and has been influential in regulatory issues affecting post-acute nurses, including serving on CMS Technical Expert Panels and collaborating with LTPAC stakeholders.

The AAPACN LTPAC Lifetime Impact Award was given to American Health Care Association (AHCA) President and CEO, Mark Parkinson.

MEDIA GALLERY



Parkinson, AAPACN Board of Directors, Chair, Elizabeth Florczak, and Moorhead

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