



2026 ANNUAL REPORT & RECOGNITION

CELEBRATING 45 YEARS OF SUPPORTING CRNA EDUCATION & RESEARCH





A Message from the Membership Year 2026 Chair Toyin Orunja-White, DNP, CRNA

Dear AANA Foundation Supporters,

As Chair of the Board of Trustees, it is my pleasure to present the AANA Foundation Annual Report for Membership Year 2026. This year was defined by innovation, growth, and meaningful progress in advancing the science of anesthesia through education and research.

In 2026, the Foundation celebrated its 45th anniversary while achieving several important milestones. We enhanced our digital presence through significant website improvements, implementation of a dedicated grants management system, and a new partner site at aanafnd.com. At the same time, we launched a revitalized grants program to better support investigators and expand research opportunities across the profession. We also introduced high-priority funding opportunities focused on CRNA workforce and reimbursement issues, strengthening the Foundation's ability to invest in research and development for years to come. In February, we proudly hosted our first complimentary donor and leadership event at EDGE, bringing together supporters and advocates to celebrate our shared impact and future vision.

Within this report, you will find highlights of these accomplishments, updates on critical research initiatives, recognition of our outstanding program recipients, and gratitude for the volunteers and donors whose commitment makes our work possible.

It has been my sincere honor to serve as your AANA Foundation Chair alongside our dedicated Board of Trustees and exceptional staff. As I pass the gavel to my colleague and friend, Mike Anderson, DNP, CRNA, ARNP, I do so with great confidence in the Foundation's future. Together, we have built strong momentum, and with your continued partnership, we will reach even greater heights.

The Foundation remains dedicated to its commitment to supporting CRNAs/nurse anesthesiologists and residents through every stage of their career. Thank you for your unwavering support and belief in our mission. Your generosity continues to drive the work that advances our profession!

Sincerely,

Toyin Orunja-White, DNP, CRNA
AANA Foundation Chair





A Message from the Chief Executive Officer Y. John Yauger, PhD, CRNA, FAANA

Dear AANA Foundation Community,

What an extraordinary year it has been. Over the past twelve months, the Foundation has embraced meaningful transformation to modernize our operations and enhance programs that deliver real value to the CRNA community.

This year, the Foundation Board approved a new strategic framework centered on lifecycle modeling. This approach has reinvigorated our efforts and sharpened our focus on serving stakeholders across every stage of professional development. It further reinforces our commitment to advancing philanthropy, research, evidence-based practice (EBP), and scholarships within the CRNA community. Our Board remains firmly committed to positioning the Foundation as the most influential, innovative, and impactful nursing foundation in our profession.

To support this vision, we undertook a comprehensive organizational transformation. Key accomplishments include a corporate restructure, realignment of programming, redistribution and reorganization of the research and EBP portfolio, and the launch of an integrated resource center. We also established a reviewer corps to strengthen the quality of our grant processes and modernized our grants management system. Additionally, we welcomed three highly talented team members in operations, fundraising, and research—each already making a significant impact. Among them, Dr. Tamara Haegerich has brought exceptional expertise as a scientist and transformation leader, helping to elevate our programming and strengthen our community.

Even amid this period of change, the Foundation has remained steadfast in delivering value to our community. We recognize that awareness of the Foundation's independent role and purpose remains an opportunity for growth. As the 501(c)(3) charitable organization serving the CRNA community, we rely on the generosity of CRNAs to fund our mission. Our recent achievement of the Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency reflects our unwavering commitment to fiduciary stewardship and responsible use of donor contributions.

Our mission is clear: to advance the science of anesthesia through education and research. Looking ahead, we are excited for another productive year and are preparing for a strategic plan update in Fall 2026. This plan will define a bold vision and measurable goals to guide the Foundation over the next 5-10 years.

I encourage each member of our community to consider supporting the Foundation. Currently, fewer than 4,000 CRNAs—less than 6% of AANA Members—contribute financially. Every dollar truly makes a difference. I have long believed that research and evidence-based practice are essential to the strength and future of our profession. If you are not directly conducting research, supporting it is as equally vital. Even a modest contribution of \$50 per month can have a meaningful and lasting impact.

Thank you for your continued dedication, trust, and support.

Sincerely,

Y. John Yauger, PhD, CRNA, FAANA, FAAN
AANA Foundation Chief Executive Officer



2026 AANA FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The AANA Foundation's Board of Trustees governs the Foundation, ensures responsible stewardship and upholds its mission. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) and a separate entity from AANA.



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DNP, CRNA
Chair



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PhD, CRNA, FAANA,
FAAN, *CEO*



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The Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) charitable entity that supports CRNAs/nurse anesthesiologists and residents at all stages of their career in several important areas, referred to as our pillars.

AANA FOUNDATION

AANA Foundation supports vital nurse anesthesia education and research programs creating opportunities for more than 69,000 AANA members.

MISSION

To advance the science of anesthesia through education and research.

As the philanthropic arm of the AANA, the Foundation raises funds and invests in projects that directly support the nurse anesthesia profession.

VISION

To serve as the leading resource for assuring safe anesthesia care through education and research.

CORE VALUES

Knowledge | Integrity | Excellence | Scientific Inquiry | Stewardship | Diversity | Equity | Inclusion

For the Foundation's DEI vision & DEI values statements visit www.aanafoundation.com

OUR PILLARS: WHAT WE DO

RESEARCH & EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE	CAPACITY BUILDING	PHILANTHROPY
		
Research Grants	Resource Center	Resident Scholarships
Evidence-Based Practice Grants	State of the Science Poster Sessions	Resident Emergency Education Grants
DEI Education Grants	Research Interest Groups	Awards

Our pillars represent three critical areas that guide the Foundation's programs and initiatives. In 2026, the Foundation revitalized its offerings to better support the evolving needs of the CRNA community, following a lifecycle approach.

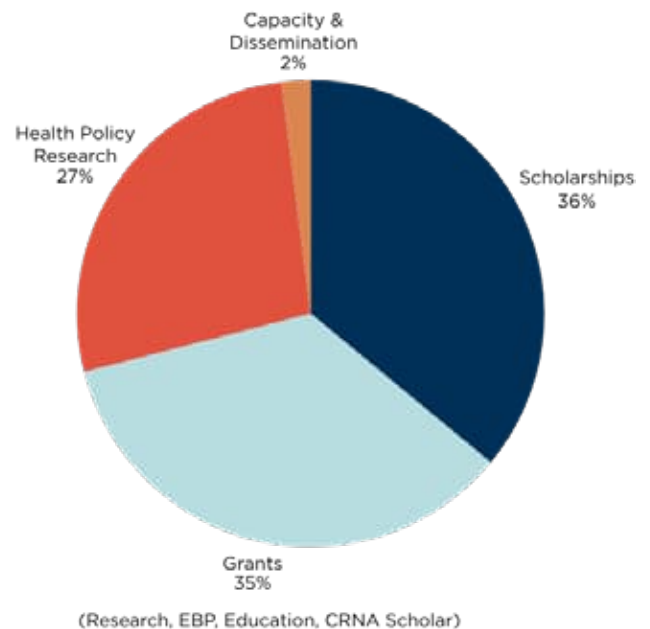


The **Proof is Power Annual Fund** supports all Annual Fund Achievements listed on pages 6 & 7. Proof is Power programs create opportunities for CRNAs and RRNAs nationwide through Grants, Scholarships, Posters, Resource Center, Mentorship and more. These programs are the result of the generosity of donors and volunteers who believe in the power of education and research. Your support is essential. Visit aanafoundation.com to make a donation.

Lifetime Foundation Program Funding

What programs and initiatives do donations support?

Since 1981, AANA Foundation has provided financial support to CRNAs and residents through a variety of programs. Over the course of its 45-year history, the Foundation has awarded more than **\$10.3 million**.



LIFETIME FOUNDATION SUCCESSES

CELEBRATING 45 YEARS OF CRNAS SUPPORTING CRNAS

During its 45 years of operation, the Foundation has awarded more than **\$7.5 million** to more than **5,000** individuals as detailed below.

483 research, evidence-based practice, and education grants totaling \$3,620,59 with 60% supporting CRNAs & 40% supporting RRNAs.

1,801 scholarships totaling \$3,727,000 to support the future of nurse anesthesiology.

2,906 poster presentations at AANA Annual Congress and EDGE with 22 Resource Center mentor/consultant connections totaling \$193,600.

In addition, since 2017, over **\$2.8 million** has been allocated to **17 Health Policy Research Studies** for total program funding of more than **\$10.3 million**.

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR'S SUCCESSES

The Foundation is grateful for the generous support of every donor and volunteer who contributed their time, talent, and resources throughout the year. We also congratulate our award recipients and all research and EBP participants whose work advances the profession.

Thanks to the unwavering commitment of our supporters, the Foundation achieved the following strategic milestones during membership year 2026.

2026 FOUNDATION ACHIEVEMENTS

IN MEMBERSHIP YEAR 2026, **MORE THAN \$909,950** WAS AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM RECIPIENTS:

7 Research Grants totaling \$562,456



2 Educational Grants totaling \$33,250



1 Resident Research Grant Totaling \$5,000



101 Scholarships totaling \$309,250 to support nurse anesthesia residents



Awarded 87 Poster Presentations at AANA Annual Congress & EDGE

Nationwide representation by 38 State Advocates & 79 Resident Advocates

Honored Susan McMullan, Janet Dewan, Charles Griffis and Eric Kramer for their efforts in the areas of research, philanthropy, advocacy and humanitarianism, respectively.





AANA Foundation's RISE Above Campaign raises funds for large-scale, high-priority research demonstrating the safety and effectiveness of CRNAs. Thanks to the continued generosity of Foundation supporters, donations continue to bolster critical health services and policy research.

2026 RISE ABOVE FUNDED RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

A Veterans Health Administration (VHA) study “Does Anesthesia Provider Type Affect Veteran Satisfaction with Care?” published in *Medical Care* demonstrated that veterans receiving outpatient surgery reported the highest communication ratings when care was delivered by CRNAs providing anesthesia without medical direction (Griffith et al., 2026). Investigators analyzed data from the Survey of Healthcare Experiences of Patients, a survey that assessed satisfaction, careful listening, and respect offered by VHA providers during complex inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures. Veterans receiving outpatient surgeries reported experiencing higher listening and respect when CRNAs provided anesthesia independently, compared with physician anesthesiologist independent practice and anesthesia care teams. Overall satisfaction was equivalent across anesthesia care models for inpatient and outpatient surgeries. These findings provide important empirical evidence to inform anesthesia staffing models and CRNA supervision. Veterans receiving surgeries are highly satisfied with all anesthesia care models across the VHA. Patients feel heard, valued, and respected by CRNAs in solo practice, especially when undergoing outpatient surgery.

“Scope of Practice Laws for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists on the Utilization of Anesthesia Services” published in *Health Services Research* found that state relaxation of CRNA supervision requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic was associated with larger increases in use of anesthesia procedures, improving access to care, including in underserved areas (Ghosh et al., 2025). Access increased more in states where laws were relaxed. The states that removed supervision/direction requirements for CRNAs saw a 17% increase in anesthesia procedures; comparatively, states that kept strict supervision requirements saw a 7% increase in utilization. Allowing CRNAs to practice independently can help increase access to anesthesia services, including during times of service disruptions, such as a pandemic. This flexibility benefits all patients, including those in underserved areas. By removing barriers to CRNA independent practice, states can make anesthesia services more widely available.

“Impact of Reduced Restrictions in Scope of Practice of Nurse Anesthetists on Patient Safety Across States” published in the *Journal of Nursing Regulation* demonstrated that anesthesia complications decreased in states that relaxed CRNA supervision requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic (Tarazi et al., 2026). Researchers analyzed administrative healthcare claims for members enrolled in commercial and Medicare Advantage health plans from 2018-2022. The rate of anesthesia-related complications was compared across states implementing and not implementing reduced restrictions in state scope of practice for CRNAs during the COVID-19 pandemic. The overall rate of anesthesia complications per 10,000 procedures was low across states (around 10 per 10,000 procedures). There was a statistically significant 0.02 percentage point reduction in anesthesia complications (2 per 10,000 procedures) in states that reduced restrictions in scope of practice compared to states with no change in scope of practice, controlling for anesthesia care model, setting, and characteristics of procedure, patient, and geography. Contrary to some concerns, these findings provide evidence of the safety of anesthesia procedures performed in states with relaxed CRNA supervision requirements. CRNAs provide an integral role in providing safe, life-saving care, performing to the full extent of their education and training.

2026 RISE ABOVE RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

COMING SOON!

Additional Foundation-funded studies building on the success of these investigations are underway.

One study is evaluating the association between nurse anesthesia supervision and surgical quality outcomes in the Veterans Health Administration and the other is simulating the total costs of anesthesia service delivery occurring under seven practice models across inpatient, outpatient, and ambulatory surgery center settings. These studies are expected to conclude in 2026 with submission to leading peer-reviewed journals.

Two Funding Opportunity Announcements for High-Priority Health Services & Policy Research were released in early 2026.

These Announcements called for research that examines financing and reimbursement practices for nurse anesthesiology service delivery and better capture the nurse anesthesiology workforce. Applications for funding were due in April; grants are anticipated to be awarded by October 2026.

RESEARCH IN ACTION: CRNA WELLNESS

Saving Lives Through Research: Suicide Prevention for RRNAs

Resident Registered Nurse Anesthesiologists (RRNAs) face intense academic and clinical pressure during their training. Program Directors and clinical instructors became increasingly concerned that this high-stress environment placed students at greater risk for suicide and self-harm. With grant support from the AANA Foundation, researchers from USC, UCLA, and Northeastern University studied how nurse anesthesia wellness programs identify student distress and promote help-seeking. Their findings revealed a critical gap: many educators lack the training and tools needed to recognize warning signs and use evidence-based suicide prevention strategies.

In response, AANA Foundation funded a follow-up study (PI: Charles Griffis) focused on creating practical solutions. The researchers are now developing and evaluating high-quality, easy-to-access wellness resources for nurse anesthesia programs, including an online training video designed to help educators better support students.

While the study is still underway, the impact could be far-reaching. Once finalized, this free educational resource has the potential to be integrated into wellness programs to help identify warning signs, manage the stress of training, reduce the risk of self-harm, and ultimately save RRNA lives. AANA Foundation-funded research does more than advance education—it protects the wellbeing of future nurse anesthesiologists and strengthens the profession as a whole.

1. Griffis CA, Bamgbose E, Van Pelt M, DeVon H, Wilhalme H, Choi MS K. Preliminary investigation: Pilot study of program directors' perceptions of wellness and suicide prevention for Student Registered Nurse Anesthetists. AANA Journal 2024;92:17-26.
2. Pilot study of Suicide Prevention Video for Resident Registered Nurse Anesthetists. Principal Investigator: Charles Griffis, PhD, CRNA, FAANA, University of California, Los Angeles.



"Fifteen years and seven Foundation grants have transformed my research trajectory. This sustained investment has allowed my program of research to evolve and mature. Each grant was built upon the last to break down barriers, decrease stigma associated with seeking mental health support, and prevent clinician suicide. This would not have been possible without the Foundation's willingness to support research on lived experiences that are undeniably essential to our profession's future. Through its grants, the Foundation sends a powerful message: CRNA-led research matters, our unique perspectives strengthen the evidence, and investigating the human dimensions of our practice is necessary for the health of our profession."

**- Maria van Pelt, PhD, DNP, FAAN
AANA Foundation Grant Recipient**

2026 AANA FOUNDATION AWARD WINNERS

JOHN F. GARDE RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Susan McMullan, PhD, CRNA, CNE, FAANA, FAAN

Established in 1999, this award is named in honor of former AANA Executive Director John Garde and is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the practice of nurse anesthesiology through clinical research. **The AANA Foundation presented the prestigious 2026 John F. Garde Researcher of the Year Award to Susan McMullan, PhD, CRNA, CNE, FAANA, FAAN.**

Dr. Susan McMullan is a CRNA, accomplished clinician, educator, nurse scientist, and nationally recognized leader in nurse anesthesia education and research. Renowned for her scholarship, clinical expertise, and leadership, McMullan has dedicated her career to advancing patient safety, evidence-based practice, clinician well-being, and excellence in nurse anesthesia education. Throughout her career, McMullan has secured more than \$1 million in federal and foundation funding to support research and educational initiatives. Her work continues to inform national conversations on healthcare workforce sustainability, patient outcomes, certification assessment, and the future of nurse anesthesia education and practice. Her research has significantly expanded the profession's understanding of CRNA workload, safety culture, adverse anesthesia events, educational outcomes, and certification assessment. Through her research, mentorship, clinical expertise, and commitment to academic excellence, McMullan continues to shape the future of nurse anesthesia practice, education, and research nationwide.

RYTA L. LEBLANC PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR AWARD



Janet A. Dewan, PhD, MS, CRNA

The Rita L. LeBlanc Philanthropist of the Year Award is presented to an individual who has gone beyond the call of duty as a supporter of AANA Foundation and other philanthropic organizations. The recipient of this award demonstrates a strong philanthropic spirit, and through their charitable actions motivates others to give of themselves. **The recipient of the 2026 Rita L. LeBlanc Philanthropist of the Year Award is Janet A. Dewan, PhD, MS, CRNA.**

Recognized as an activist, humanitarian, scholar, and educator, Dr. Janet A. Dewan has dedicated her career to advancing nurse anesthesia education and expanding access to high-quality care around the world. Nearly 50 years ago, while working as a volunteer nurse in Niger, West Africa, Dewan witnessed preventable tragic outcomes due to the absence of skilled anesthesia providers. This experience ignited a lifetime personal mission to enhance patient safety and access to surgery. Since then, she returns frequently to East and West Africa, contributing clinical expertise, advancing education initiatives and global practice standards. Through her philanthropic support of the AANA Foundation and a range of trusted global charitable organizations, she has helped strengthen education, research, and professional development for nurse anesthetists. A passionate mentor, Dewan has worked to elevate the quality and availability of nurse anesthesia education while preparing students and faculty to advance global standards in advanced nursing practice. Dr. Dewan is an AANA Foundation Friend for Life, Gertrude Fife Society member and Diamond level annual donor.

LORRAINE M. JORDAN ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD



Charles Griffis, PhD, CRNA, FAANA

The Advocate of the Year Award is named in honor of Dr. Lorraine M. Jordan, Foundation CEO from 1987 to 2024. Dr. Jordan is a passionate advocate of the profession and was instrumental in creating this award to recognize those that go above and beyond to promote the CRNA profession and the Foundation's mission of advancing the science of anesthesia through education and research. **The 2026 Lorraine M. Jordan Advocate of the Year Award is presented to Charles Griffis, PhD, CRNA, FAANA.**

Dr. Griffis has been a CRNA for more than 45 years, graduating from the UCLA Program of Nurse Anesthesia in Los Angeles, California where he is an educator, a former program director and current faculty, training hundreds of nurse anesthetists and supervising hundreds of innovative scholarly research projects, including pain, wellness and suicide prevention for CRNAs and residents. He is a published researcher with a PhD in nursing pain physiology from UCLA School of Nursing. Griffis has been an active volunteer and leader at AANA and AANA Foundation. He is a former Chair of the AANA Foundation Board, and continues to serve on the Foundation's Reviewer Corps, and is an AANA Foundation Friend for Life. He currently serves as a guest editor and reviewer for the AANA Journal. He served as the Chair of the AANA Infection Control Advisory Panel (ICAP) and has authored numerous publications, podcasts and presentations.

JANICE DRAKE CRNA HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD



Eric Kramer, DNAP, CRNA, FNP-C

The Janice Drake CRNA Humanitarian Award is presented to a CRNA who volunteers and provides anesthesia, education, and training in areas of need in the United States and overseas. **The recipient of the 2026 Janice Drake CRNA Humanitarian Award is Eric Kramer, DNAP, CRNA, FNP-C.**

Dr. Kramer's international work spans long-term service in Mexico and multiple shorter deployments worldwide. He worked in Mosul, Iraq, during the campaign against ISIS; treated patients during the 2019 Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and served with Frontline Medics in Ukraine in 2025, providing Role 1 trauma stabilization on the Donbas front lines. Additional missions have taken him to countries including Ghana, the Dominican Republic, Kenya and Guatemala. Kramer earned his MSN and CRNA designation from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio in 2010. Shortly after passing the National Certification Examination, he traveled to Mexico to provide his first solo anesthetics, initiating a decades-long interest and commitment to austere mission medicine. Returning to Ohio in 2019, Kramer completed his Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) degree at Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri. In 2020 he was hired as faculty at National University's DNAP program, where he teaches doctoral nurse anesthesia residents.

A YEAR IN PHOTOS:
AANA FOUNDATION PROGRAMS, VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION & EVENTS
AANA 2025 ANNUAL CONGRESS & EDGE 2026



CAPACITY BUILDING: RESOURCE CENTER & GRANT REVITALIZATION

Resource Center Success at a Glance

22 CRNAs accessed the Foundation Resource Center resulting in:

4 Mentor Connections

13 Consultant Connections

5 Research Interest Group Connections

100% of investigators who have sought assistance from a mentor or consultant for a Foundation grant application received funding for their projects.

Foundation Resource Center

In 2025, the Foundation established the Resource Center. This Center increases capacity for CRNAs to conduct rigorous research and evidence-based practice by equipping them with essential tools to enhance scholarship and disseminate high-impact research findings.

By investing in CRNA development, the Foundation aims to enhance funding success for grant proposals submitted to AANA Foundation, generate insightful abstract submissions to AANA-sponsored conferences, and foster impactful manuscript submissions to AANA Journal and beyond. The Resource Center supports mentorship and consultation and offers online resources, including a new Investigators Manual and IRB Screening Tool to enhance understanding of requirements for human subjects research.

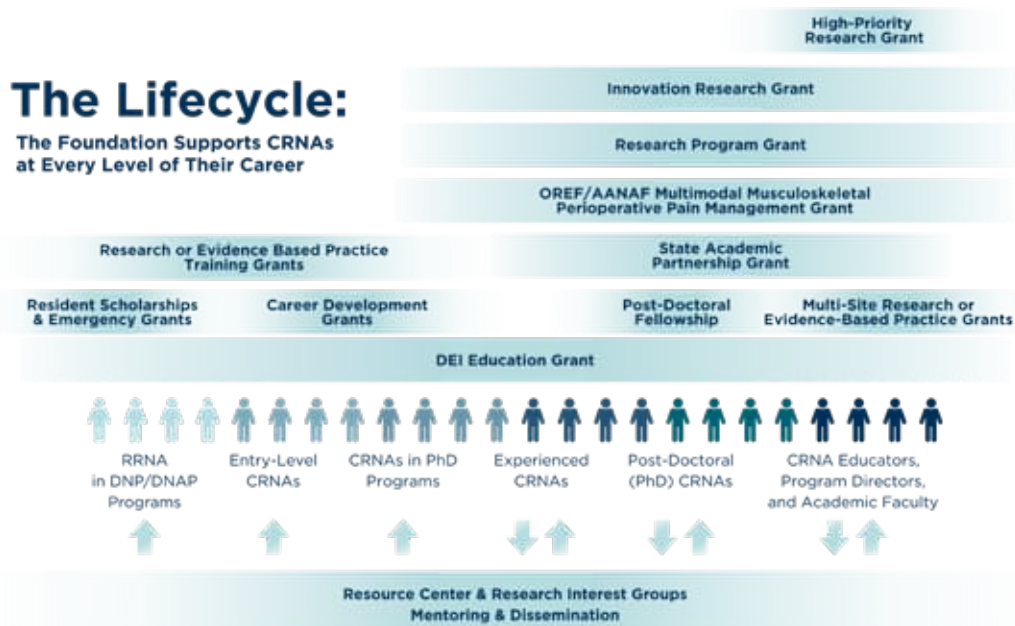
In the past year, the Resource Center has made 4 mentor connections, 13 consultant connections, and 5 Research Interest Group connections, serving a total of 22 CRNAs. Those receiving mentorship and consultation support have obtained guidance in the areas of grant writing, project design, and statistical analysis. To date, all of the investigators who have sought assistance from a mentor or consultant for development of a specific grant application have received grant funding for their projects.

2026 Grant Revitalization

Our revitalized grant programs reflect our commitment to supporting CRNAs and RRNAs at all stages of their careers. With streamlined processes, expanded funding opportunities, and clearer pathways for applicants, we're opening the door for bold ideas that advance our mission and support the needs of the CRNA community.

The Lifecycle:

The Foundation Supports CRNAs at Every Level of Their Career



CYCLE OF SUCCESS & APPLICATION DEADLINES

The Cycle of Success



The Foundation fosters a dynamic, symbiotic relationship between research and evidence-based practice, advancing the science of anesthesia.

By supporting innovative studies and translating findings into clinical application, the Foundation ensures that research informs practice—and practice inspires new research—creating a continuous cycle of success.



AANA
FOUNDATION

MEMBERSHIP YEAR 2027 APPLICATION DEADLINES

September 15

State of the Science General Poster Presentation (EDGE)

October 30

Innovation Research Grant
Multi-Site Research or Evidence-Based Practice Grant
State-Academic Partnership Research Grant
Research or Evidence-Based Practice Training Grant
Research Program Grant
DEI Education Grant
Career Development Research or Evidence-Based Practice Grant
Post-Doctoral Fellowship

October 31

Resident Advocate Program

December 1

Resident Scholarship Sponsorship

January 30

Innovation Research Grant
Multi-Site Research or Evidence-Based Practice Grant
State-Academic Partnership Research Grant
Research or Evidence-Based Practice Training Grant
Research Program Grant
DEI Education Grant
Career Development Research or Evidence-Based Practice Grant
Post-Doctoral Fellowship

Open Submission

Program Administrator's Outstanding Resident Research Project Award & Resident Scholarly Project Award | Resident Emergency Educational Grant | State Advocate Program

March 1

Resident Scholarships

March 31

Resident Advocate Program

April 1

John F. Garde Researcher of the Year Award
Rita L. LeBlanc Philanthropist of the Year Award
Lorraine M. Jordan Advocate of the Year Award
Janice Drake CRNA Humanitarian Award
"State of the Science" Oral & General Poster Presentation (Annual Congress)

June 15

Friends for Life

June 30

Innovation Research Grant
Multi-Site Research or Evidence-Based Practice Grant
State-Academic Partnership Research Grant
Research or Evidence-Based Practice Training Grant
Research Program Grant
DEI Education Grant
Career Development Research or Evidence-Based Practice Grant
Post-Doctoral Fellowship
High-Priority Health Services & Policy Research Grant

RESEARCH & EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

RESEARCH GRANTS

In MY26, the AANA Foundation Board of Trustees awarded seven research grants totaling \$562,456.

Title: The LABOR Study: Leveraging Anesthesia-Based Obstetric Risk Assessment for Maternal Safety

Recipient: Sheena Warner, MSN, CRNA, APN
Primary Affiliation: Emory University
Amount: \$93,484

Title: Intramuscular Pressure and Nociceptive Pain in Fibromyalgia

Recipient: Brian Jacobs, MS, CRNA, NSPM-C
Primary Affiliation: The University of Iowa
Amount: \$60,041

Title: Hemodynamic Mechanisms of Prone Versus Supine CPR: A Cadaver-Based Pilot Study

Recipient: Zachary Smith, DNP, CRNA, CHSE
Primary Affiliation: East Carolina University
Amount: \$26,007

Title: Toward Equitable Birthing Experience: Exploring Provider Communication and Trust Among Laboring Black Women

Recipient: Hideyo Tsumura, PhD, DNP, RN, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: Duke University
Amount: \$232,723

Title: Second Victim Phenomenon Revisited: A National Study of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesiologists and Nurse Anesthesia Residents Using the Revised Second Victim Experience and Support Tool

Recipient: Maria van Pelt, PhD, CRNA, CNE, CPPS, FAAN, FAANA
Primary Affiliation: Northeastern University
Amount: \$20,201

Title: Development and Evaluation of a Self-Regulated, Rapid Cycle, Deliberate Practice Bot for Remedial Action & Clinical Reasoning of Nurse Anesthesia Students: DARA (Deliberate Autonomous Response Agent)

Recipient: Yasmine Campbell, DNP, CRNA, APRN, CNE, CHSE, FAANA
Primary Affiliation: Florida International University
Amount: \$38,500

Title: The Impact of Interactive Modules on Opioid Consumption and Pain Management

Recipient: Brendan Patterson, MD
Primary Affiliation: The University of Iowa
Amount: \$92,500

*Funded in collaboration with the Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF)

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

In MY26, the AANA Foundation Board of Trustees awarded two educational grants totaling \$33,250.

Title: Arizona High School Outreach Program

Recipient: Vincent Ford, DNAP, CRNA; Morgan Morrow, DNAP, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: Arizona Association of Nurse Anesthesiology
Amount: \$7,250

Title: Improving the Diversity of Educational Experiences in Regional Anesthesia

Recipient: Michael Agbor, DNP, MSN.Ed, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: Association of Cameroonian Nurse Anesthetists in America
Amount: \$26,000

RESIDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

One resident research grant was awarded this year for a total of \$5,000.

Dean and Fred Hayden Resident Research Grant | \$5,000

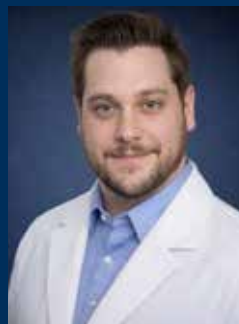
Title: Revolutionizing and Transforming Difficult Airway Management Modalities through Sustainable, Cost-Effective and Reusable 3D-Printed Video Laryngoscope Blades & Stylets

Recipient: Marc Petrykowski, BSN, RN
Primary Affiliation: Webster University
Amount: \$5,000



"I am deeply grateful to the AANA Foundation for supporting The LABOR Study, which aims to advance maternal safety through anesthesia-informed risk assessment. This funding is instrumental in elevating CRNA-led innovation in machine learning and maternal health."

-Sheena Warner, MS, CRNA, APN, AANA Foundation Research Grant Recipient



"The support of the AANA Foundation has been instrumental in advancing my research on the hemodynamic mechanisms of prone cardiopulmonary resuscitation. This grant enables rigorous, CRNA-led investigation into a clinically relevant problem that directly affects patient safety in our perioperative and critical care environments. By

providing resources for this project, the Foundation empowers CRNAs to move beyond observational reports and contribute meaningful, mechanistic evidence that can inform practice, education, and future resuscitation guidelines.

The AANA Foundation's investment in research represents advocacy for the profession itself. CRNAs are uniquely positioned at the intersection of clinical expertise, patient safety, and systems-level decision-making, yet continued growth of our profession depends on increasing the number of CRNAs engaged in scholarly inquiry. The Foundation's support creates a pathway for CRNAs to lead research that further demonstrates our value, advances evidence-based practice, and strengthens the profession for future generations. By fostering CRNA researchers, the Foundation not only advances science, but also elevates the voice of CRNAs in shaping the future of anesthesia care."

-Zachary Smith, DNP, CRNA, CHSE
AANA Foundation Research Grant Recipient

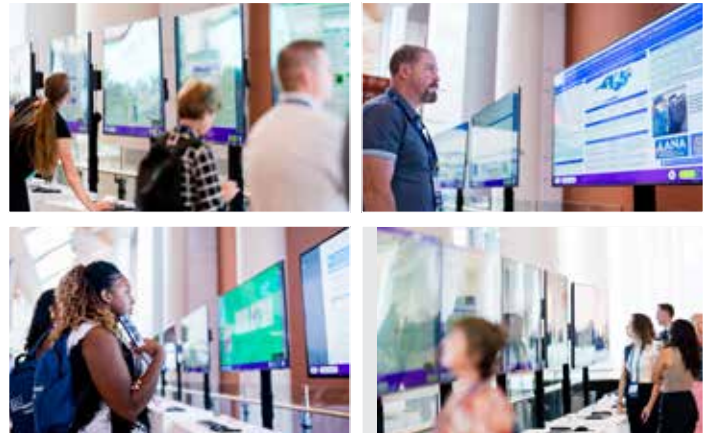
DISSEMINATION: SCIENTIFIC POSTER PRESENTATIONS

'STATE OF THE SCIENCE' TOP ABSTRACTS/ORAL POSTERS

For 21 consecutive years, AANA Foundation has awarded members the opportunity to present at the 'State of the Science' Oral Poster Session during the Nurse Anesthesia Annual Congress.

Sixteen presenters were selected to present at the Top Abstract/Oral Poster Session. For the first time, these authors will have the option to have their abstracts published in *AANA Journal*.

A complete list of over 70 'State of the Science' General Poster Session presenters can be found on the Foundation website at www.aanafoundation.com.



Research Title: Eliminating Intravenous Fluid During Colonoscopies Results in Statistically but Not Clinically Significant Hypotension

Presenter: Megan Clancy, DNP, CRNA
Co-Authors: Melissa Rogers, BSN, RN, CCRN; Yan Liu, BSN, RN, CCRN; Jacquelyn Bentley, BSN, RN, CCRN; Sarah Given, DNP, ANP-BC; Liana Zucco, MBBS, FRCA, MHQS
Primary Affiliation: Boston College Nurse Anesthesia Program

Research Title: Educating Anesthesia Providers on Gastric Ultrasound to Reduce Perioperative Aspiration Risk

Presenter: Christopher Lay, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Nicole Gonzaga Gomez, DNP, CRNA, APRN, CHSE, FAANA
Primary Affiliation: University of Miami

Research Title: Anesthetic Implications of the DSP Gene Mutation in the Delaware Amish

Presenter: Mary Troyer, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Jessica Hessel, DNP, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: Drexel University

Research Title: The Battle Buddy System: Enhancing Peer-to-Peer Support Throughout Nurse Anesthesia Training

Presenter: Charles Park, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Alexa Rubino, MSN, RN; Maribeth L. Massie, Ph.D., MS, CRNA, FAAN, FAANA
Primary Affiliation: Columbia University

Research Title: Active Shooter Education for the Perioperative Environment

Presenter: Kaycie Harmon, RN, BSN
Co-Authors: Rebecca Brand, RN, BSN; Thomas Minges, DNP, CRNA, CDCA, FAANA; Meghan McDonald, DNP, CRNA; Dana Sticca, MSN, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: University of Cincinnati

Research Title: Using the Pediatric Anesthesia Emergence Delirium Scale to Improve Nurses' Knowledge and Confidence

Presenter: Elise Breunig, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Katie Fawcett, BSN, RN; Robyn Finney, DNAP, CRNA, FAANA; Molly Herr, MD
Primary Affiliation: Mayo Clinic

Research Title: Evaluating the effectiveness of the noninvasive finger cuff in preventing intraoperative hypotension among adult surgical patients

Presenter: Amy Yerdon, DNP, CRNA, CNE, CHSE, FAANA
Co-Authors: Darby Courtad, BSN, RN; Meredith Miller, BSN, RN; Morgan Steelreath, BSN, RN; Morgan Swaim, BSN, RN; Olivia Vice, BSN, RN; Kesha Thurston, DNP, CRNA, MSHQS, MSHA, FAANA
Primary Affiliation: University of Alabama at Birmingham

Research Title: Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) Perioperative Anesthesia Protocol and Education

Presenter: Nicholas Goldfuss, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Andrea Merkel, DNP, CRNA; Kevin Bridewell, DNP, CRNA; Lisa Mueller, MSN, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: University of Cincinnati, College of Nursing

Research Title: Virtual Reality Simulation to Improve Early Procedural Competency in Nurse Anesthesia Education

Presenter: Katie Cole, DNP, CRNA
Co-Authors: Kelly Winter, DNP, CRNA; Valencia King, BA, LPN; Russ Branch, DNP, CRNA; Jennice Gist, DNP, CRNA; Ciara Farward, MSIT, BSBM; Kelly L. Wiltse Nicely, PhD, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing Emory University

Research Title: Ohio CRNA Workforce Evaluation: Critical Understanding for Future Planning

Presenter: Elizabeth Root, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Joseph Carroll, BSN, RN; Beth Clayton, DNP, CRNA, FAANA, FAAN; Mandi Cafasso, DNP, APRN, CPNP
Primary Affiliation: University of Cincinnati

Research Title: Objective Measurement of Endotracheal Tube Cuff Pressures Improves Patient Outcomes: Expert-Reviewed Practice Considerations

Presenter: Janice Tso, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Janet Dewan, PhD, MS, CRNA; Kisha Thompson, PhD, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: Northeastern University

Research Title: Preoperative Management of Renin Angiotensin System Inhibitors and the Incidence of Postoperative Myocardial Injury

Presenter: Maddie Leimbach, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Margaret Roseann Diehl, PhD, DNP, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: Texas Christian University

Research Title: Enhancing Perioperative Outcomes in Parturients with Opioid Use Disorder Undergoing Cesarean Section

Presenter: Yasmin Greene, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Casey Toohey, BSN, RN; Kristale Privette, DNP, CRNA; Peter Ferszt, DNP, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: Rosalind Franklin University

Research Title: From OR to Office: A Qualitative Study on the CRNA Transition to Academia

Presenter: Denise Stuit, DNP, CRNA
Co-Authors: Susan McMullan, PhD, CRNA
Primary Affiliation: University Health Truman Medical Center School of Nurse Anesthesia

Research Title: Remimazolam vs. Propofol for Cardioversion: A Pragmatic Multicenter Retrospective Cohort Study

Presenter: Kaitlin Hendricks, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Nichole Corbel, BSN, RN; Jenna Steege, DNP, CRNA, APRN; Miguel Teixeira, MD
Primary Affiliation: Mayo Clinic

Research Title: Reducing Operating Room Emissions and Cost with Low-Flow Anesthesia Education

Presenter: Jodi Klink, BSN, RN
Co-Authors: Paul Dahlen, BSN, RN; Cory Groves, DNAP, CRNA; Samantha Schultz, DNAP, CRNA; Molly Herr, MD
Primary Affiliation: Mayo Clinic

RESIDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

**AANA FOUNDATION RECEIVED 558 COMPETITIVE RESIDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS THIS YEAR,
AND 101 SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AWARDED TOTALING \$309,250.**

AANA Diamond Club Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: AANA Diamond Club (Funded by the former Presidents of the AANA. This year's scholarship is in memory of Betty Horton)
Recipient(s): Elizabeth Malfaro, University of Puerto Rico School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, PR

AANA Diversity Scholarships—Three \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: AANA
Recipient(s): Andre Angelia, Kaiser Permanente School of Anesthesia California State University Fullerton, CA; Otunuga Ayodeji, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, TN; Alexis Martinez, West Virginia University, WV

AANA Foundation DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Scholarships—Three \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: AANA Foundation
Recipient(s): Faith Koroma-Coker, Northeastern University Bouve College of Health Sciences School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, MA; Dustyn Cruz, Midwestern University Nurse Anesthesia Program, AZ; Bukola Shokunbi, University of North Dakota, ND

AANA Foundation Scholarships—Ten \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: AANA Foundation
Recipient(s): Nicole Grasso, Rhode Island College Zvart Onanian School of Nursing/St. Joseph Hospital School of Nurse Anesthesia, RI; Kate Hirsch, Duke University Nurse Anesthesia Program, NC; Alexa Rubino, Columbia University, NY; Soo Jung Ha, Duke University Nurse Anesthesia Program, NC; Caroline Rodgers, The University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Nursing Nurse Anesthesiology Concentration, TN; Octavia McFarlane, Barry University, FL; Sodiq Amifowoshe, Cedar Crest College, PA; Ana Laureano, Arkansas State University College of Nursing and Health Professions School of Nursing, AR; Wells Dhionis, Samford University Department of Nurse Anesthesia Moffett and Sanders School of Nursing, AL; Hayden Hmiel, UNC Greensboro, School of Nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice, Nurse Anesthesia Concentration, NC

Adriel G. Cansino, DNP, CRNA Memorial Scholarship—Two \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: Christian Cansino, DNP, CRNA (In memory of Adriel G. Cansino, DNP, CRNA, and his contributions to medically underserved patients abroad through medical missions.)
Recipient(s): Jodelle Ingram, Columbia University School of Nursing Program in Nurse Anesthesia, NY; Sierra Barnette, The Millikin University and Decatur Memorial Hospital Nurse Anesthesia Program, IL

ALANA Scholarships—Three \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: Alabama Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Darby Clymer, University of Mobile Nurse Anesthesia Program, AL; Christin Ecklerle, Samford University Department of Nurse Anesthesia Moffett and Sanders School of Nursing, AL; Jacob Knighton, The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing Post-BSN to DNP Pathway for Nurse Anesthesia, AL

Art Zwerling Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In memory of Art Zwerling, CRNA)
Recipient(s): Abigail Manchester, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, PA

Barry Anthony Cranfill Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Sentry Anesthesia Mgt. (in memory of Barry A. Cranfill, CRNA)
Recipient(s): Samantha Kodak, Medical University of South Carolina Anesthesia for Nurses Program, SC

Birgitta Johansson Scholarship Fund—\$3,000

Sponsor: Birgitta Johansson (In honor of Mary "Betty" Ramey)
Recipient(s): Kayla Wright, Charleston Area Medical Center/University of Charleston Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice Program, WV

Carolyn Newton Martin & Alton Lamar Martin Sr. Memorial Scholarship—\$7,000

Sponsor: Kay M. Argroves, DNP, CRNA, FAANA (In memory of Carolyn Newton Martin & Alton Lamar Martin Sr.)
Recipient(s): Ansley Paulk, Augusta University, GA

CRNA Financial Success Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: CRNA Financial Planning®
Recipient(s): Amanda Kabealo, Wake Forest University School of Medicine Nurse Anesthesia Program, NC

Cynthia McNerney Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Cynthia McNerney Estate
Recipient(s): Youngjun Choi, Duke University Nurse Anesthesia Program, NC

Dean M. Cox Memorial Scholarships—Ten \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: David R. Javaheri, in memory of Dean M. Cox, CRNA
Recipient(s): Derek Clear, The Ohio State University College of Nursing DNP Program—Nurse Anesthesia Track, OH; Hillary Melton, Samford University Department of Nurse Anesthesia Moffett and Sanders School of Nursing, AL; Mackenzie Lane, Florida State University Nurse Anesthesia Program, FL; Ashley Ivey, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, TN; Hailey Stevens, University of South Florida College of Nursing Nurse Anesthesiology Program, FL; Jillian Conley, Rutgers School of Nursing Anesthesia Program, NJ; Eric Pladsen, University of North Dakota Nurse Anesthesia Program, ND; Ashley Parent, Fairfield University Nurse Anesthesia Program, CT; Hannah Holt, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga/Erlanger Health System Nurse Anesthesia Concentration, TN; Payton Romano, Cleveland Clinic Foundation Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing Case Western Reserve University School of Nurse Anesthesia, OH

Dean and Fred Hayden Memorial National Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Fred Hayden Estate (In memory of Dean Hayden)
Recipient(s): Mitchell Child, The University of Iowa College of Nursing Anesthesia Nursing Program, IA

Diana U. Davidson Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In honor of Diana U. Davidson)
Recipient(s): Jacqueline Vonglis, Drexel University Nurse Anesthesia Program, PA

Dr. Maureen Reilly, PhD, CRNA Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Association of Veteran's Affairs Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Vanessa LaDoris Nickles, Union University College of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Track, TN

Dr. Sandra K. Tunajek Scholarship for Nurse Anesthesia Education—\$3,000

Sponsor: Kentucky Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In honor of Dr. Sandra K. Tunajek)
Recipient(s): Emma Bell, University of Louisville Nurse Anesthesia Program, KY

Edward Hyland, CRNA Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Delaware Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In memory of Edward Hyland, CRNA)
Recipient(s): Lorayne Wilmer, Thomas Jefferson University Jefferson College of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, PA

Elizabeth Burt Jeter Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Leslie Jeter, DNP, MSNA, CRNA (In memory of Elizabeth Burt Jeter)
Recipient(s): Matthew Brown, Augusta University Nursing Anesthesia Program, GA

Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists Resident Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In honor of all Florida's Nurse Anesthetists)
Recipient(s): Geneva Ford Miller, University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies Nurse Anesthesia Program, FL

Frank T. Maziarski, MS, CRNA Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Frank T. Maziarski, MS, CRNA Estate
Recipient(s): Brice Dukuzimana, National University Fresno Nurse Anesthesia Program, CA

George DeVane Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Kansas Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In memory of George DeVane)
Recipient(s): Brent Nelson, University of Kansas Nurse Anesthesia Program, KS

George William Jeter Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Leslie Jeter, DNP, MSNA, CRNA (In memory of George William Jeter)
Recipient(s): Alexandra Hogg, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga/Erlanger Health System Nurse Anesthesia Concentration, TN

Georgia Resident Registered Nurse Anesthesiologist Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Leslie Jeter, DNP, MSNA, CRNA
Recipient(s): Sophia Ahn, Emory University Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesia Program, GA

The Grace and Daniel Connelly Family Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Grace and Daniel Connelly
Recipient(s): Gaeun Ahn, Columbia University School of Nursing Program in Nurse Anesthesia, NY

Hagan Insurance and New York Life Veteran's Scholarship—Three \$3,250 Scholarships

Sponsor: Hagan Insurance Group and New York Life Insurance Co.
Recipient(s): Jacob Duben, Mount Marty University Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesiology, SD; James Warren, Samford University Department of Nurse Anesthesia Moffett and Sanders School of Nursing, AL; Ashley Sullivan, Columbia University School of Nursing, NY

Hazel P. Currier Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Hazel Currier Estate
Recipient(s): Kha Tran, University of South Florida, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Nurse Anesthesiology Program, FL

Jack Neary Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Vermont Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Kylie Hutchins, Northeastern University Bouve College of Health Sciences School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, MA

Jean E. Gamble Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Jean E. Gamble Estate
Recipient(s): Lindsay O'Toole, Medical University of South Carolina Anesthesia for Nurses Program, SC

John F. Garde Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (In memory of John F. Garde)
Recipient(s): Cheyenne Brooks, University of South Florida, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Nurse Anesthesiology Program, FL

John J. Nagelhout Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Kaiser Permanente School of Anesthesia (In memory of John J. Nagelhout)
Recipient(s): Caroline Keller, Webster University Nurse Anesthesia Program, MO

Kathryn Waud White, Resident Leadership Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Minnesota Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In memory of Kathryn Waud White)
Recipient(s): Joseph Keane, Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice Program, MN

Kristine Goryanec Willingham Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Paul Willingham (In memory of Kristine Goryanec Willingham, CRNA, USAF (Ret.)
Recipient(s): Andrew Warzinski, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, PA

Lakeview Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: James and Margot Hinchliff, CRNA
Recipient(s): Kathleen Eviza-Ford, Medical University of South Carolina Anesthesia for Nurses Program, SC

Larry Lysne Leadership Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Washington Association of Nurse Anesthetists
(In memory of Larry Lysne)
Recipient(s): Lidya Bekele, Rush University College of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, IL

Maine Association of Nurse Anesthetists Resident Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Maine Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Brianna Johnson, University of New England School of Nurse Anesthesia, ME

Maria Roach, CRNA Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Maria Roach, CRNA Estate
Recipient(s): Justin Melendez, Northwestern State University of Louisiana Nurse Anesthesia Program, LA

Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Inc.
Recipient(s): Ivie Alohan, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing DNP Nurse Anesthesia Program, MD

Michael Kelly Smith, CRNA Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Parents and Spouse of Michael Kelly Smith, CRNA
Recipient(s): Elizabeth Erlandson, University of South Dakota Nurse Anesthesia Program, SD

Michigan Association of Nurse Anesthetists Scholarships—Five \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: Michigan Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Jessica Duggan, Wayne State University Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, MI; Amber Todd, University of Michigan-Flint Nurse Anesthesia Program, MI; Max Serra, Michigan State University Nurse Anesthesiology Program, MI; Nicole Ortiz, University of Detroit Mercy Graduate Program of Nurse Anesthesiology, MI; Abigail Kurian, Oakland University Beaumont Graduate Program of Nurse Anesthesia, MI

Minnesota Association of Nurse Anesthetists Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Minnesota Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Bailey Fey, Minneapolis School of Anesthesia, MN

Missouri Assn. of Nurse Anesthetists Resident Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Missouri Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Abigail O'Leary, University Health Truman Medical Center School of Nurse Anesthesia, MO

NAPF Scholarships—Five \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: Nurse Anesthesia Pride Foundation (In honor of Brian Thorson, MS, APRN, CRNA)
Recipient(s): Dalton Poe, University of South Florida, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Nurse Anesthesiology Program, FL; Miatz Saint-Fleur, Rosalind Franklin University, IL; Nicholas Havens, The Millikin University and Decatur Memorial Hospital Nurse Anesthesia Program, IL; Raymond Joseph, Charleston Area Medical Center/University of Charleston Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice Program, WV; Samuel Hartnett, University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL

NCANA Deb Flaherty LEAD Scholarships (Leadership Education & Development)—Two \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: North Carolina Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In memory of Deb Flaherty)
Recipient(s): Alysha Johnson, Duke University Nurse Anesthesia Program, NC; Patrick O'Grady, Wake Forest University School of Medicine Nurse Anesthesia Program, NC

Nebraska Resident Nurse Anesthetists Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Reagan Terry, Bryan College of Health Sciences School of Nurse Anesthesia, NE

New England Assembly of Nurse Anesthetists Scholarship (NEANA)—\$3,000

Sponsor: New England Assembly of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Samantha Herlihy, Fairfield University Nurse Anesthesia Program, CT

New Mexico Association of Nurse Anesthetists Lorrie Bennett Scholarship—\$2,500

Sponsor: New Mexico Association of Nurse Anesthetists (This scholarship is in memory of Lorrie Bennett)
Recipient(s): Elise Huston, New Mexico State University Nurse Anesthesiology DNP Program, NM

OSANA Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Ohio State Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Gregory Gardner, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing Program of Nurse Anesthesia Case Western Reserve University, OH

Palmer Carrier Resident Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Palmer Carrier Estate
Recipient(s): Kimberly Boit, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science Nurse Anesthesia Program, IL

Patty Cornwell Stewardship and Advocacy Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Tennessee Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Helen Tellez, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, TN

Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists—Three \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists (in honor of Mary Depaolis Lutzo, CRNA, ARNP; Sister Mary Bernard and the PANA Past Presidents)
Recipient(s): Riley Noga, York College of Pennsylvania/WellSpan Health Nurse Anesthetist Program, PA; Amanda El-Chaar, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, PA; Dana Morris, Drexel University Nurse Anesthesia Program, PA

Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists Dignitary Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists (in memory of the PANA member(s) who passed away this past year, Alice Lamb, CRNA and Arlene Loeffler, CRNA)
Recipient(s): John Leinhauser, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, PA

Richard Ouellette Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Richard Ouellette
Recipient(s): Brooke Peacock, Northeastern University Bouve College of Health Sciences School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program, MA

Ronald Lenninger Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Bobbi Lenninger (In memory of Ronald Lenninger)
Recipient(s): Rachel Zehner, Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College Nurse Anesthesia Program, MO

Russell Lynn Memorial Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Pennsylvania and New Jersey Association of Nurse Anesthetists (In memory of Russell Lynn)
Recipient(s): Ayla Burda, Independence Health System School of Anesthesia at St Vincent College, PA

Sandra J. Kilde, EdD, CRNA Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Minneapolis School of Anesthesia (In memory of Sandra J. Kilde, EdD, CRNA)
Recipient(s): Alexandra Herrmann, Minneapolis School of Anesthesia, MN

Steve Mund Veteran's Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Angie Mund (In memory of Steve Mund)
Recipient(s): Gabrielle Miranda, Medical University of South Carolina Anesthesia for Nurses, SC

Susan P. McMullan Single Parent Scholarship—\$5,000

Sponsor: Susan P. McMullan
Recipient(s): Khiry Smith, The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing Post-BSN to DNP Pathway for Nurse Anesthesia, AL

TANA Education District #4 Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Texas Association of Nurse Anesthetists Education District #4
Recipient(s): Victor Gerard De Vera, Texas Christian University School of Nurse Anesthesia, TX

Unbridled Anesthesia Leadership Scholarship—Two \$3,000 Scholarships

Sponsor: Debra Barber, DNP, CRNA
Recipient(s): Cody Dillow, Northern Kentucky University Nurse Anesthesia Program, KY; Germaine Daming, Northern Kentucky University Nurse Anesthesia Program, KY

Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists Scholarship—\$3,000

Sponsor: Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Recipient(s): Elizabeth Long, Mary Baldwin University Nurse Anesthesiology Program, VA

Virginia A. Gaffey Scholarship—\$3,000

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Recipient(s): Madeleine Lee, Duke University Nurse Anesthesia Program, NC



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The Friends for Life program supports the future of the nurse anesthesiology profession through meaningful and lasting gifts. Contributions through Friends for Life help fund and sustain programs that further research and education in nurse anesthesiology. This year, the Foundation welcomed 19 new Friends for Life.

The minimum gift commitment to join Friends for Life is \$25,000 for cash gifts and \$35,000 for deferred gifts. Members may fulfill this commitment through a cash gift, but there are many other ways to meet the commitment through planned gifts like bequests as well as beneficiary designations on life insurance and retirement plans. For further information on the Friends for Life program, please contact Nat Carmichael at (847) 655-1175 or by email at ncarmichael@aana.com.

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Julie Steele
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**-Lashonda McCollum
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"I am deeply grateful to the AANA Foundation for its generous support of this important work. The Foundation's commitment to advancing equity in anesthesia and obstetric care affirms the urgency of addressing communication and trust in childbirth, and I am truly honored by the confidence placed in our team. I also sincerely thank the donors whose generosity makes this research possible and whose investment helps move both patient care and science forward."

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The Program Administrator's Outstanding Resident Research Project Award and Scholarly Project Award are given to residents who have conducted noteworthy research and evidence-based projects. This year, the following residents were honored:

Scholarly Project Title: Brugada Syndrome Workshop and the Impact on Current Anesthesia Practice

Author: Abdullah Bholat, BSN, RN; Sid Harville, BSN, RN
Program: Northern Kentucky University

Research Project Title: Evidence-Based Oxygen Stewardship for the Hamilton T1 in an Austere Environment

Author: MAJ Zane Amrein, BSN, RN, CCRN; CPT William Liebhard, MSN, RN, CCRN, TCRN
Program: US Army Graduate Program in Anesthesia Nursing

Research Project Title: The Effect of a Ketamine Infusion on Postoperative Opioid Consumption in Pediatric Patients Undergoing Posterior Spinal Fusion Surgery

Author: Jakob Owens, BSN, RN; Michael Robinson, BSN, RN; Jacob Thomas BSN, RN
Program: Webster University Nurse Anesthesia Program

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79 Resident Advocates participated in the program in MY2026:

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The Foundation is grateful for the time and expertise that reviewers contributed to critiquing EDGE and Annual Congress poster submissions and scholarships. Thank you!

In addition, thank you to the following reviewers that dedicated significant time and effort to review Foundation grant applications.

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