

INA 2023 LEADERSHIP CANDIDATE

INA BOARD NEWLY LICENSED DIRECTOR



Kennedy Andersen, BSN, RN

Iowa Lutheran Hospital | RN Resident
Panora, IA

What activities are you currently involved with or have been in the past related to INA or ANA?

I myself have not been directly involved in activities with INA or ANA, however I wanted to become a vocal part of these organizations because of my college nursing professors. They taught my cohort how important it is to know what is happening in your profession, make and suggest changes when needed, and to be part of the change.

What other professional organizations are you involved with?

Uplift (nonprofit organization who raised money for women and children in crisis), Briar Cliff University (Student Body President - I served on the presidential search committee, was part of strategic planning, headed recruitment for students to join our student government program, and many more things during my time as president)

What other elected, appointed offices or community activities relevant to this position have you been involved with?

The director of my nursing school is currently the Nursing Department Chair for INA and is serving as the Interim Provost. I have gotten to witness what great leadership looks like and how bring apart of INA/ANA makes you a more well rounded nurse - no matter what type of nursing you are in.

Please write a statement that indicates your view on issues facing INA. Indicate why you want to serve in this role and why you are best qualified to carry out the duties of this office? This statement will be shared publicly with the membership.

In order to better the issues facing not only nurses who are in Iowa, but anyone who carries the title, we need to talk about the uncomfortable things that surround each issue. As a team we need to advocate for change, put plans into action, and carry out the items that will leave nurses feeling heard by the advancements that have been made towards bettering the issues that surround us all. Some common issues that need talked about and improved include workplace violence and protecting our hospital staff, staffing issues of being short on shifts or units, and continuing to improve our DEI in all hospitals, clinics, and other places of healthcare. These issues along with all others that accompany nursing need more than to just be talked about - they need improved! I believe that my time in different leadership roles on my college campus and the lessons I have learned not only there, but for a nonprofit organization has taught me how to solve problems, listen and talk with people, and initiate change when change needs to happen. I have found my voice and want to continue to learn how to use it while helping address problems that accompany our great profession.