

Philippine Nurses Association-North Houston (PNA-NH)

2016 Succession and Strategic Planning

Written by: Ira L. Martin, RN

You hear “everything is bigger in Texas” tossed around a lot. It was no different the way Philippine Nurses Association-North Houston (PNA-NH) held their Succession and Strategic Planning last August 20, 2016 organized and facilitated under the leadership of Jennilyn Lano, RN-BC (President) and yours truly, Ira L. Martin, RN (President-elect). It was bigger and bolder in the way the Executive Board (EB) has showed up with their engagement and commitment. “We all are here for a reason, to be transformational leaders” began the President. Jennilyn shared how inspiring it was for her when she attended the PNA Conference which was held in Washington, DC this summer and encouraged everyone to attend if possible.



1 L-R Eillen Luster, Ma. Ann Trinidad-Dioneda, Delia Bell, Gay Mabida, Charina Sarmiento, Ira Martin, Aileen Corros, Jennilyn Lano, Carl Silva, Rosie Marquez, and Myrah Ubas

One of the highlights of our whole day program was the Straw Tower Challenge teambuilding activity which I led. The EBs were group into two and was presented with a challenge to work together to build

the tallest free-standing tower possible out of a limited supply of drinking straws and tape.



“It sure brought out the team’s competitive spirit, teamwork, creativity, and ingenuity among other things. “This was truly a fun way of teaching teamwork and working together” says one of the members of the Advisory Council, Jaime Puspos, RN.

JUST WHEN THE EBS STARTED TO LOOSEN UP AND HAD SOME FUN WITH THE TEAMBUILDING ACTIVITY, I THREW IN THE MOST SOBERING QUESTION: WHY ARE WE HERE? NEEDLESS TO SAY, THERE WERE A MYRIAD OF EXCELLENT REASONS CITED THAT MADE EILLEN LUSTER, RN (ADVISORY COUNCIL) EXCLAIMED “I HAVE NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT PNA-NH WILL CONTINUE TO SUCCEED”.

Nothing is wasted

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” -Aesop



Additionally, the ‘Called to lead’, which I presented, concluded with a strong statement that nothing is wasted! “We are here for various reasons, may it be to give back to our profession or to serve the community in the many outreach activities that the organization does or simply to network, PNA-NH has so many benefits it can offer its members” reiterated Carl Silva, RN (Advisory Council).

Everyone showed enthusiasm when the President presented her 2-year goal plan for 2016-2018. Top on the list is to increase membership by 50% and to improve the organization’s visibility in the community by partnering and collaborating with other institutions. In addition, there were key issues addressed and some were parking lot such as the PNA official letterhead, publicity committee, welcome kit,

teleconference meeting, and assigning supply custodian. Overall, it was a very productive and successful planning. I thought we covered a whole lot and established clear expectations amongst each other. The members of the EB felt a renewed sense of commitment and it is just the beginning. Stay tuned ☺



Each of the Chair and/or Co-Chair from Finance, Ways and Means, Education, Membership, and Outreach committees presented their reports and proposals for the term. Cecilia Mendoza, RN (Asst. Treasurer) expressed how important transparency is in reporting finances. Moving forward, both she and Emily Linang, RN (Treasurer) will continue to have spreadsheet financial report update in the upcoming meetings. Education Chair, Ludy De Leon, RN discussed how their gearing up for the upcoming fall seminar in October, which drew over a 100 attendees last year. The educational offering of PNA-NH has drew support and admiration from different leaders in different hospitals including CNOs such as Shelia Fata, RN; Nancy Keenan, RN and Valerie Howell, RN to name a few. Our Outreach Chair, Rosie Marquez, RN reminded everyone of PNA-NH consistency in serving the community through health fairs, food bank volunteering, and adopt-a-beach clean-up drive for the last 5 years. The outreach activity is a huge part of our membership drive. Charina Sarmiento, RN (Membership Chair) along with Co-Chair, Ma. Ann Trinidad-Dioneda, RN is organizing and spearheading a membership drive in the coming weeks. Lastly, Myrah Ubas, RN (Co-Chair of Ways and Means) mentioned exciting income-generating activities lined-up for 2016-2018.