

"BOARD CERTIFICATION: *Engage Excellence*"

THE ABOHN REPORT

The ABOHN Report

Spring 2026

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A Message from the ABOHN Chair by [Angela Smith, MBA, BSN, RN, COHN-S](#)



As occupational health nurses, we continue to stand at the intersection of worker safety, public health, and organizational resilience. Our role has never been more essential or more visible. Every day, we advocate for healthier workplaces, safer practices, and the well-being of the workers who keep our industries moving. That advocacy is the heart-beat of our profession, and it remains the driving force behind ABOHN's mission!

This year, ABOHN has taken bold steps to strengthen the support we provide to our credential holders. One of the most exciting developments is the launch of **accredited continuing education credits designed specifically for occupational health nurses**. For years, our nurses have asked for high-quality, specialty-focused CE options that reflect the realities of our practice. Now, ABOHN is proud to offer education that is not only relevant and evidence-based but also aligned with the competencies that define excellence in our field.

These new CE opportunities are more than coursework, they are a platform for professional growth, a tool for advocacy, and a way to ensure that occupational health nurses remain at the forefront of emerging issues. Whether you're navigating regulatory changes, addressing mental health in the workplace, or leading complex return-to-work programs, ABOHN's accredited CE is designed to elevate your practice and amplify your impact.

As we look ahead, I encourage each of you to continue using your voice, within your organizations, within your communities, and within our profession. Advocacy is not a single action; it is a sustained commitment to elevating the standards of occupational health nursing. ABOHN stands with you in that commitment, providing the tools, resources, and recognition you need to lead with confidence.

Thank you for your dedication, your professionalism, and your unwavering commitment to worker health and safety. Together, we are shaping a stronger, healthier future for the workforce and for our profession!

With appreciation and resolve,

Angela Smith

Chair, Board of Directors American Board for Occupational Health Nurses (ABOHN)



The 2026 AAOHN National Conference
April 26-28, 2026

Stop by the ABOHN Booth!
Join us for the

ABOHN/AAOHN Foundation Reception
April 27, 2026 4:15pm

ABOHN 2025-2026 Board of Directors

ABOHN is governed by a Board of Directors composed of certified occupational health nurses and one public member that are selected to be representative of the community of certified occupational health nurses. The responsibilities of the Board include establishing criteria for certification and setting policies to maintain a valid certification program.



Angela Smith



Karen Wilson

Governing Council

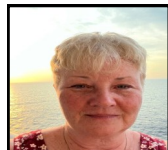
Chair: Angela Smith, MBA, BSN, RN, COHN-S
Secretary: Karen Wilson, BSN, MPH, RN, COHN-S
Treasurer: Lisa Holmes, RN, MSN, NP, COHN-S
COHN-S Chair: Ellen Connolly, RN, BSN, MSN, FNP-BC, COHN
COHN Chair: Rebecca Mischak, MSN, APRN/CNP, COHN-S/CM
CM Chair: Kimberly Newton, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM



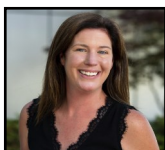
Lori Burke



Nancy Cronenwett



Lisa Holmes



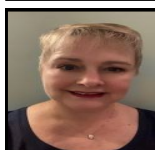
Ellen Connolly

Directors

Lori Burke, RN, MPH, COHN-S/CM, FAAOHN
Nancy Cronenwett, BSN, RN, COHN-S
Susan Williams, BSN, RN, COHN
Alexis Williams, MBA, MS (Public Member)



Rebecca Mischak



Kimberly Newton



Susan Jordan



Alexis Williams

ABOHN Board of Director Activities by Betty Sanisidro, Executive Director

The ABOHN Board of Directors (BOD) convened in Sanibel, FL, in January 2026 for its semiannual meeting. During this session, each committee presented comprehensive reports summarizing their work and accomplishments over the preceding six months. Following thoughtful discussion and review, the BOD formally accepted these reports and their findings, ensuring continued alignment with ABOHN's strategic priorities and long-term objectives.

The Board remains committed to advancing the organization's mission through meaningful initiatives that support growth, strengthen outreach, and enhance engagement with credential holders. Through its ongoing efforts, the BOD continues to prioritize excellence in occupational health nursing certification and uphold the value of professional standards across the field.

Key agenda items included the presentation of nominees for upcoming BOD positions, updates from the Governing Council, and progress in examination development. The Board also conducted a thorough review of the organization's bylaws and policies and procedures, evaluated examination performance metrics including passing rates, and reviewed preparations for the annual exam development cycle. In addition, the annual budget was reviewed and approved, and updates to the five-year strategic plan were discussed to ensure continued responsiveness to the evolving needs of the profession.

New Business

A significant area of focus for the Board is the role of Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses (LPNs/LVNs) within occupational and environmental health settings. These professionals play an integral role in supporting workplace health programs and contributing to the delivery of quality care. Recognizing their impact and the evolving nature of their responsibilities, the BOD is developing a survey to better understand current roles, responsibilities, and professional needs.

The purpose of this survey is to gather meaningful input that will help determine whether there is interest in establishing a specialty certification tailored to LPNs/LVNs in occupational health. This initiative reflects the Board's commitment to inclusivity, professional development, and ensuring that certification pathways appropriately recognize the contributions of all members of the occupational health team.

Consistent with the principles advanced by American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, the Board acknowledges that LPN/LVN practice is guided by individual state nurse practice acts and regulations. Within occupational and environmental health settings, and with appropriate supervision and additional training, LPNs/LVNs provide valuable support to registered nurses and physicians. Their contributions are essential to the effective delivery of occupational health services, and this initiative aims to further recognize and support their role within the profession.

Cohort Class of 2025

CONGRATULATIONS ABOHN NEWLY BOARD CERTIFIED

BOARD CERTIFICATION: ENGAGE EXCELLENCE

Join us in congratulating these occupational health nurses for their accomplishments and for their right to use the COHN, COHN-S, and CM credentials which they gained last year by passing stringent examinations for certification.

Certified Occupational Health Nurse - (COHN)

Aguillon, Ana
Bingham, Gregory
Blackstone, Traci
Brawner, April
Bruce, Michelle
Busby, Andrea
Cain, Alecia
Camp, Cindy
Cantrell, Katherine
Caudle, Ginny
Crossley, Keyana
Cummings, Ann
Darst, Keeli
Davis, Mallory
Delk, Felicia

Dewberry, Brandon
Di Cesare, Colleen
Dixon, Erin
Dunn, Deirdre
Dwyer, Lorelei
Espy, Kimberly
Gregory, Heidi
Harris, Ann
Helgeland, Kelli
Hendricks, Alda
Hoglund, Barbara
Jackson, Valerie
Jones, Melissa
Kang, Min Kyung
Kerwin, Kristin

Lambio, Jr., Antonio
Lewis-Thompson, Davetta
Maminta, Loida Mae
Manning Trayci
Manzanares, Gloria
Marcotte, Kristy
Marshall, Karen
Mearim, Brittany
Money, Renee
Perry-Miller, Angela
Piehl, Breanne
Rae, Ashley
Sandoval, Nancy
Schmitz, Sandra
Sciulli, Rose

Seidman, Kate
Sheffield, Vanessa
Shivel, Chrsinta
Shuck, Devin
Sommerer, Megan
Stedam, Travis
Steinhart, Aaron
Sternner, Gina
Strawn, Heather
Sutherland, Tyler
Trott, Francine
Whitman, Ashley

Certified Occupational Health Nurse - Specialist (COHN-S)

Adams, Juliet
Affarano, Elizabeth
Agar, Jennifer
Atchley, Ashley
Austin, Kristina Staff
Bash, Jennifer
Bennett-Rizzo, Carin
Blaak, Sara
Brackett, Brianne
Brennan, Melissa
Bronikowski, Jennifer
Brown, Jessica
Bruno, Francesca
Camana, Debbie
Cameron, Katie
Cline, Rebecca
Crouch, Gretchen
Delaney, Vicky
Delvalle, Krystle
Dibblee, Alex
Dombeck, Katherine
Dumandal, Darleane Mae
Dyer, Nicole
Eskes, Nicole

Fink, Jennifer
Fitzgerald, Brenda
Forbes, Rebecca
Frieden, Joann
Fugate, Mary
Gadaire, Krystle
Gagnon, Megan
Gauthier, Angela
Gleeson, Tiffany
Gluckman, Sonia
Green Pitterson, Saniese
Gritzmacher, Hannah
Gunter, Jaron
Gushulak, Erika
Haggith, Kyla
Hamilton, Hannah
Hedrick, Lisa
Herrera, Kimberly
Hewit, John
Hoover, Angeline
Horner, Steven
Hyche, Colleen
Imhoff, Rachel
Jackson, John

Kaluzne, Lindsay
Kossoudji, Andrea
Lamb, Cathy
Lauer, Gayle
Leshchinsky, Ariel
Lewis, Eric
Lidin, Paulina
Loftus, Amanda
Logan, Maerie
Maffei, Suzanna
Martin, Jennifer
Martin, Julie
Martin-Lucey, Stephanie
McCunn, Jordan
McKay, Clara
McLain, Barbet
McNeil, Amy
Miller, Robin
Monton, Karen
Morton, Jason
Mullins, Malena
Naylor, Jennifer
Naylor-Cannon, Angela
Odimma, Nkechinyere

Okello, Godfrey
Phelan, Caitlin
Radeschi, Eileen
Ramon, Jeremy
Reed, Julia
Riley, Joseph
Romero, Amanda
Rooney, Heather
Scaff, Katherin
Scott, Alicia
Sheppard, Michelle
Skene, Julie
Sukonnikova, Tetyana
Wagner, Kristen
Ward, Marissa
Weaver, Stephen
Weeks, Brenda
Whitfield, Rondy
Whitman, Kirsten
Woods, Janella
Woolhouse, Kelly
Wright, Cherie

Case Management - (CM)

Asherbraner, Liza
Betts, Dana
Chapman, Valerie
Cordero, Maria

Fulton, Jeannette
Fusco, Leslie
Harris, Nennan
Heft, David

Kern, Beverly
Marion, Suzanne
MrGraw, Ronda
Quan, Salena

Zavodny, Jessica

Credentialing Statistics—Pass Rate Percentage

Table 1 (right)

Reflects the number of candidates and pass rates. The COHN and the COHN-S pass rates were significantly higher in 2025. CM remained stable. This data includes results of the examinees that were awarded their certification in 2025.

Exam Year	COHN			COHN-S			CM		
	Candidates	Number Passed	Percentage Passed	Candidates	Number Passed	Percentage Passed	Candidates	Number Passed	Percentage Passed
2020	61	27	44.3%	77	38	49.3%	16	12	75%
2021	62	28	45.2%	80	38	47.5%	3	2	66.7%
2022	52	25	48.1%	80	39	48.8%	5	4	80.0%
2023	84	42	50.0%	97	61	62.9%	15	11	80.0%
2024	72	39	55%	109	52	48%	12	10	84%
2025	85	57	65%	113	94	83%	15	13	87%

Credentialing Statistics—Year End

The ABOHN Board of Directors are faced with many challenges in sustaining a specialty credentialing program. Table 2 shows the official ABOHN Active, Inactive, and Retired certification holders in the ABOHN database system as of 12/31/2025. We had a good number of certified OHNs take the Retirement status in 2025.

CREDENTIAL	ACTIVE	INACTIVE	RETIRED
COHN	582	9	112
COHN/CM	101	0	29
COHN-S	1069	17	583
COHN-S/CM	200	4	162
Total 12/31/2024	1952	30	886
Total 12/31/2025	1982	21	920

ACTIVE:

Credential holders who have met the criteria to hold certification.

INACTIVE:

Credential holders who have not met one or more requirements for active status and have opted to take inactive status until they are compliant with the requirements.

RETIRED:

Credential holders no longer in practice and maintain their retirement status with ABOHN.

Table 2- Year End Statistics

OHN WEEK!

We celebrate all occupational health nurses
and salute the
ABOHN Board Certified OHNs!



All ABOHN active and retired credential holders will receive a
digital *Starbuck's gift card to the email address on file to enjoy a sweet treat during
National OHN Week 2026!

*Please note that emails have not been sold and will not be distributed by Starbuck's; no promotional communications will be sent.

Thank you to all of our Volunteers!



The ABOHN NCCA accredited examinations continue to meet industry standards of excellence due to the hard work, commitment, and dedication of OHN volunteers who work with the BOD and Staff on a continuous basis annually. These subject matter experts write new tests items, review current items in the test banks, confirm reference and content accuracy, and assist in assembling of new test forms every year! ABOHN extends heartfelt gratitude to these ABOHN Certified OHNs for selflessly sharing their time and expertise!

2025 Exam Development Committee

Burke, Lori
Cautilli, Carolyn
Ferri, Brenda
Fox, Mary
Hale, Jennifer
Hale, Matthew

Hegman, Christina
Holodnick, Cherie
Hopcia, Karen
Jones, Michelle
Jordan, Susan
Lockhart, Tammy

Luessen, Donna
Magnussen, June
Matthews, Denise
Raizes, Tammy
Stewart, Nancy
Tuel, Emily

Turley, Shari
Wegener, Lisa
Willisa Michele
Wongus, Angela

Thank you

OHN Essential: Monthly CE Series!

Beginning in January 2026, the organization introduced a new monthly educational series for ABOHN credentialed OHNs and the response has been overwhelmingly positive. Each session is held live via Zoom once per month (on the 3rd Wednesday of the month), with a recording available for 30 days afterward. To receive a CE certificate, attendees must complete and submit an evaluation through SurveyMonkey. Each session is approved by NCCAP for one credit hour.

January 21, 2026

OHN Masterclass: Case Management Made Simple: Build a strong foundation in OHN-driven case management. Learn how to streamline communication, coordinate care, and guide employees from initial report to safe return-to-work with confidence and clarity.

February 18, 2026

Injury to MMI: The OHN Roadmap: Follow the full path of work-related injuries—from onset through Maximum Medical Improvement. Gain practical tools to assess, document, and support injured employees while collaborating effectively with providers and employers.

March 18, 2026

Own Your Oxygen Mask: Self-Care Strategies for OHNs: In a role centered on caring for others, OHNs often come last. Explore evidence-based techniques to protect your energy, prevent burnout, and build resilience so you can thrive both on and off the job.

April 15, 2026

Surveillance Smarts: The OHN's Medical Monitoring Blueprint: Strengthen your surveillance program know-how. This session breaks down requirements, best practices, and real-world workflows to help OHNs track risks, ensure compliance, and promote early detection.

May 20, 2026

Mind Matters: Mental Health Risk Assessments for OHNs: Elevate your ability to identify and manage workplace mental health risks. Learn practical assessment tools, intervention strategies, and communication approaches tailored to the OH environment.

June 17, 2026

Heat Happens: Thermal Risks & Worker Safety: As temperatures—and risks—rise, OHNs play a critical role in prevention. Understand heat illness mechanisms, monitoring strategies, and controls that protect workers in high-heat environments.

July 15, 2026

Team Science: OHN Collaboration with EHS & IH: Discover how collaboration with EHS and IH teams enhances overall workplace health outcomes. Learn the language, roles, and strategies that help OHNs build powerful, cross-functional partnerships.

August 19, 2026

Write it Right: OHN Documentation for Quality & Defense: Improve the clarity, defensibility, and quality of your occupational health documentation. This session focuses on what to write, what to avoid, and how to meet legal and professional standards.

September 16, 2026

Breath of Fresh Air: OHN Respiratory Program Mastery: From fit testing to compliance, this session equips OHNs with the essentials for managing effective respiratory protection programs and safeguarding employee lung health.

October 21, 2026

Wellness That Works: OHN-Led Health Promotion Programs: Go beyond the basics of workplace wellness. Learn how to design, implement, and measure meaningful wellness initiatives that drive healthier, more engaged workforces.

November 18, 2026

Cannabis & Compliance: What OHNs Need to Know: Stay ahead of evolving cannabis laws and workplace expectations. Understand impairment concerns, policy considerations, testing complexities, and the OHN's role in ensuring a safe, compliant environment.

December 16, 2026

The Persuasive OHN: Stakeholder Engagement Essentials: Master the art of influence. Explore practical strategies for securing leadership support, building credibility, and driving participation in occupational health initiatives.

Individual classes are \$25.00 each.

There is still time to purchase the 6 month package for July through December for \$125.00

For more information, [please follow this link.](#)

Milestones!

10 Years ABOHN Certified!

Addis, Stacy
Atalig-Smith, Amelia
Beavers, Deborah
Bioni, Laura
Boyce, Terry
Bullock, Ashely
Campbell, Kimberly
Costa, Maria
D'Angelo, Stephanie
Deeves, Lisa
Earley, Yvette
Edelen, Donna
Evans, Shannan
Fallon, Pamela
Farris, Sharon

Flores, Amy
Franklin, Bryant
French, Micci
Garvey, Dawn
Gibson, Charlynn
Giles, Melanie
Harris, Charity
Henderson, Christina
Hewitt, Jeremy
Hockenberry, Penny
Hooper, Sarah
Howell, Jessica
Hutson, Diane
Inghram, Rebecca
Jones, Carman

Katz, Alisa
Kerney, Toni
Killings, Jacquelyn
Lawon, Brian
Lepiane, Kathleen
Macdonald, Kaitlin
Massaro, Marie
Mattingly-Taylor, Jessie
Michael, Dawne
Monaghan, Mary
Morrison, LaQuinta
Mullins, Timothy
Overbeck, Michelle
Penman, Jessica
Persad, Vijay

Petrillo, Laura
Pletcher, Michelle
Powell, Rachel
Reed, Vanessa
Sanisidro, Betty
Schaeffer, Scott
Shoffner, Renita
Skaggs, Tiffany
Smith, DeAnna
Thames, Cathy
Thompson, Jessica
Williamson, Wade
Wilson, Allena
Young, Norman Jean
Young Brenda



20 Years ABOHN Certified!

Baker, Sherry
Bork, Debra
Brown, Ralph
Callais, Kelley
Cassel, Rhonda
Chouinard, Cynthia
Collins, Everdean
Conner, Sheila
Corr, Wendy
DeBroux, Patricia
Ellis, Lisa
Finniss, Cyndy
Fragoso, Jill

Franke, Nanette
Fulton, Jeannette
Gall, Bryan
Godfrey, Gary
Hannah, Emily
Johnson, Carolyn
Johnson, Lori
Jurgens-meyer, Renee
Kim, Christine
Kosky, Laura
Kresge, Kevin
Lanza, Janet

LaPosa, Tamala
Lindsey, Mary
Maxwell, Carol
McDowell, Tonya
Morgan, Jennifer
Mullins, Denise
Nixon, Melissa
Pambrun, Vivianne
Pedersen, Kimberly
Sheldon, Constance
Snyder, Stephen
Stanger, Robin

Steffens, Karen
Strange IV, Frank
Streder, Monica
Sudol-Kearns, Jennifer
Thomas, Pamela
Treinen, Tami
Vargo, Melinda
Vomish, Patricia
Weaver, Mary
Weber, Sarah
Wolf, Lisa
Zavodny, Jessica

Recruit a Colleague for Certification

Did you know?

ABOHN relies on our credential holders to encourage certification and on average they are responsible for referring approximately 1/3 of ABOHN's yearly applicants?

Thank you!

All Certified Occupational Health Nurses (COHN) and Certified Occupational Health Nurse—Specialists (COHN-S) in good standing, can recruit a fellow nurse working in occupational health.

Prospective candidates can indicate on their application a particular COHN/COHN-S holder who has recruited them to initiate the process for certification. The ABOHN office keeps track of these individuals and a random drawing is conducted to pick the winner each year. The 2025 Winner will awarded a \$300.00 check and be announced at the ABOHN Reception on April 27, 2026 held during the [2026 AAOHN National Conference!](#)

ABOHN's Vision

"ABOHN Certification is recognized and valued as the standard to maximize the health, safety and well-being of workers worldwide.



ABOHN's Mission

to promote a standard of excellence in occupational health nursing through credentialing.

Principles and Values

To accomplish its mission and vision, ABOHN commits its resources to achieving the following principles and values:

- *Develop and promote credentialing standards for professional occupational health nurses.*
- *Establish a standard for occupational health nursing programs.*
- *Empower occupational health nurses to continue professional education.*
- *Create value for employers, workers and occupational health professionals through certification.*
- *Publicly recognize individuals who have met credentialing standards.*
- *Optimize partnerships with organizations that share the ABOHN mission and values.*
- *Perform the above unrestricted by consideration of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status, marital status, or other legally protected category.*

ABOHN STAFF

Executive Director

Betty Sanisidro, DNP, MSN, COHN-S, APHN-BC

Managing Director

Carole M. Cusack, MBA, ICE-CCP

PT Administrative Staff Support

Reine Salibi

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/92958216/admin/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089780753276>

X:

<https://twitter.com/ABOHN72>

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