
ABNS

American Board of Nursing Specialties

Promoting Excellence in Nursing Certification

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***The American Board of Nursing Specialties
Presents First-Ever Janel Parker President's Award***

At its recent Assembly Meeting, held October 2, 2004, the American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) presented the first *Janel Parker President's Award* to Carolyn Potts, BA, Director of Credentialing, Association Management Center and the Rehabilitation Nursing Certification Board (Glenview, IL). Ann Corrigan, Chair of the ABNS Awards and Recognition Committee, presented Ms. Potts with engraved crystal statuary reflecting this honor.

This award, named in memory of Janel Parker, ABNS President from 1991 to 1993, recognizes Parker as an early advocate for nursing certification, who worked tirelessly to create an ABNS structure that promotes nursing certification as a means to recognize quality nursing care. "This award publicly recognizes individuals and organizations within the ABNS membership who have made significant contributions to further ABNS and its mission," noted Corrigan. "Carolyn Potts has brought recognition to nursing certification and ABNS." Upon accepting the award and recognizing Janel Parker's energy, vision, and passion for specialty nursing certification, Potts noted that "Janel continues to be an inspiration to all ABNS members and is sadly missed."

Carolyn Potts, an association executive with 16 years of experience working with nursing certifying organizations, began working with the Rehabilitation Nursing Certification Board in 1988. In addition, she has also worked with the American Legal Nurse Consultant Certification Board. "Both organizations have clearly understood the value of ABNS and have encouraged my involvement," stated Potts. She has been a long-time member of ABNS and serves as a member of the Nominations and Elections Committee as well as the PR Committee.

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President's Award recipients are selected based on their active participation in ABNS as demonstrated by:

- Significantly contributing to advancing the mission and vision of the organization
- Significantly contributing to the promotion, visibility, and value of ABNS
- Promoting the value of specialty nursing certification to individuals, healthcare organizations, and/or the public
- Influencing the process, standards, and legal mandates relevant to specialty nursing certification
- Promoting the accreditation function of ABNS

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Editors Note:

The American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) was incorporated in 1991 to create uniformity in nursing certification and to increase public awareness of the value of certification. ABNS serves as an advocate for consumer protection by establishing and maintaining standards for professional specialty nursing certification. ABNS is a membership organization that maintains a national peer review program for nursing specialty certification. Currently, twenty-four Regular Member Organizations and one Associate Member Organization represent nearly half a million specialty certified registered nurses and the nine Affiliate Members include providers of key certification-related testing products and services. One Public Member represents the consumer's perspectives on issues about specialty nursing certification. All ABNS activities are focused on achieving its vision – Specialty nursing certification is THE standard by which the public recognizes quality nursing care. For further information about ABNS, visit www.nursingcertification.org or email Bonnie Niebuhr, MS, RN, CAE, Chief Executive Officer, at ABNSCEO@aol.com.