




DDNA Chapter of Maryland

**Information presented by:
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Maryland DDNA Officers

- Sharan Koza (President)
 - Kristine Mauldin (President-Elect)
 - Jennifer Lawell (Vice President)
 - Tihesha Simmons (Secretary)
 - B. Michelle Howell (Treasurer)
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Next Chapter Meeting

- **DDNA Chapter of Maryland Meeting**

- Date: 10/30/14
 - Time: 10am-1pm
 - Place: 7931 Fernham Lane Forestville, MD 20747
 - Formal invite to be sent out to our mailing list and put on <http://www.ddna.org/chapter/maryland> once speakers confirmed
 - If you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive emails from our Maryland Chapter please contact Kristine Mauldin at mauldin@kennedykrieger.org
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Upcoming Events

- **22nd Annual DDNA National Education Conference**
 - Date: May 1-4, 2015
 - Place: Atlanta, Georgia
 - More details to be provided on www.ddna.org as the conference approaches
 - **Virginia DDNA Education Conference**
 - Date: October 17, 2014
 - Place: Williamsburg, VA
 - More details at <https://www.ddna.org/chapter/virginia>
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Upcoming Events

- **MNA's 111th Annual Convention**
 - Date: October 16-17th, 2014
 - Time: 8-5pm both days
 - Place: Anne Arundel Medical Center
 - More details and registration on <http://www.marylandrn.org>

What is DDNA?

- Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association
- Goal of DDNA: foster the growth of nursing knowledge and expertise about optimal care of persons with I/DD (Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities), thereby improving their care, services, and quality of life.
- www.ddna.org
- Becoming a member
 - Regular membership open to any RN or LPN/LVN who supports the goals and objectives of DDNA
 - Cost- \$80 per year to the national organization (if you belong to a chapter, local dues are \$20/year)
 - Other memberships include student, associate (non-nurse), and retired members at different costs



National Member Benefits

- Recognition of specialty by your colleagues, employer and other professionals
- Pathway to networking with DD nurses locally and nationally
- Annual educational conference
- Opportunity for certification in DD Nursing
- Professional development; CEUs; Current DD News
- Access to free online courses in I/DD nursing
- Access to more than 1,300 valuable I/DD resources
- Access to current and archived issues of “International Journal in Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities” and the DDNA Newsletter
- “Nurses organized for a common purpose effect change and enhance the level of I/DD nursing practice nationwide”

Thinking of becoming certified?

● Why become certified in DD nursing?

- Exemplifies competence, knowledge, & achievement in your specialized area of nursing practice
- Sets an example of excellence
- Benefits the nurse as well as the employer and our patients

● Eligibility

- A minimum of 4,000 hours of active DD nursing practice as an RN or LPN/LVN (~2 years full time)
- Maintain membership in DDNA

● Cost

- Application fee \$60
- Group Testing fee \$250
- Local testing \$150 + sitting fee charge by local agency (~\$175)
- Renewal fee every 2 years- \$100

Certification (CDDN)

● Testing sites

- http://php.ddna.org/downloads/testing_sites.pdf
- If we get enough local interest we can provide a testing site in Maryland
- Testing is offered every year at the annual DDNA National Conference


● Studying for the exam

- As a DDNA member you have access to a wealth of resources, CEUs, a list of recommended study materials, and practice test questions
- DDNA is offering free certification study sessions for national DDNA members on the following dates: 10/20 and 11/10 from 7-9 PM ET. The sessions are being provided by HRS, Inc. and are being taught by Karen Green McGowan, RN, CDDN. Each session will be two hours long and **registration is mandatory 3 weeks in advance**. The sessions will be offered online on a Go-To-Meeting platform provided by Karen Green McGowan. Contact karengreen1959@aol.com to register. All the study sessions are the same.
- The test covers the lifespan



Certification (CDDN)

● Taking the exam

- Takes 45-90 minutes to complete (2 hour limit)
 - Computerized
 - Once you skip a question you can not go back
 - Results take 6 weeks or more
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Which States have DDNA Chapters?

Chapters

○ MARYLAND*

- Arizona
- DC
- Mid-Florida
- Central Illinois & Northern Illinois
- Kansas
- Louisiana
- Massachusetts
- Minnesota
- Western Missouri
- Southern New Jersey
- New Mexico
- Rhode Island
- East Tennessee
- Southwest Texas
- Northern Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Kentucky
- Utah Mountain West
- Northeast Ohio & West Ohio
- Indiana

***Note: You must belong to the National DDNA organization in order to be an official Maryland Chapter Member.**


****You can no longer form DDNA networks, only chapters. Some current networks are in the process of transitioning to chapters.**

Networks**

- Inland Empire of Southern California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Southern Indiana
- Iowa
- Southeast Michigan
- New Hampshire Network
- Northern New Jersey
- New York State
- Pennsylvania Network
- West Tennessee
- North Texas Central Virginia
- Maine Network




What is a DDNA Chapter?

- By definition, it is a group of DDNA members who meet on a regular basis to address the needs of their specialty while furthering the goals of DDNA. It is an extension of DDNA and it addresses its needs through discussion, education, advocacy, and expansion of membership.
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Maryland is on the map!!

- More than 244,000 individuals age birth to 21 in Maryland have special needs *Data from 2005-06 National Survey of CSHCN
 - This would fill Raven's Stadium 3.5 times
 - Over 95,000 people in Maryland specifically have a developmental disability *Data from the Maryland DD Council Fact Sheet
 - Maryland is home to a wealth of DD specific organizations and nurses specializing in this population: DDA, Kennedy Krieger Institute, Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, Gallagher Services, MCDD, MACS, DD Council, Service Coordination Inc, Chimes, The ARC, etc.
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Benefits of a local Chapter?

- Exchange I/DD expertise with other members both locally and nationally
 - Share our I/DD expertise with the community particularly the places where our clients/patients are served
 - Network with other I/DD nurses and see what they are doing in their profession and in their communities
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Benefits of a local Chapter?

- Work together to address the needs and concerns of Maryland DDNA members and the issues specific to our communities and bring them to the National DDNA Organization
 - Helps to give its members a sense of belonging to the national DDNA organization thereby strengthening it as a whole
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Chapter Features

- Plan quarterly meetings in the months of January, April, October, and July.
 - Would like to rotate sites between Central Maryland, Eastern Shore, Western Maryland, & Southern Maryland.
 - Working on offering teleconference capabilities so that more nurses from across the state can attend.
 - Boost Membership in order to enhance networking and resources available to the members
 - Serve as a forum outside of your agencies to discuss your concerns for our special patient population
 - Provide valuable speakers on topics of interest as identified by our members
 - Identify valuable resources in the community
 - Host a Maryland DDNA conference in the future
 - Support Maryland Nurses to achieve CDDN certification
 - Offer scholarships to members in the future to attend the yearly National DDNA conference
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We are very excited to have an official DDNA Chapter in Maryland and to work with other nurses in our state, and beyond, to enrich the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. Please check our chapter website frequently through ddna.org for updates. We are also in the process of getting an official website.

Maryland Chapter of

DDNA

Developmental Disabilities
Nurses Association





“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”
-Henry Ford

