

From the Chair

Dear PRONA Members,

As we embrace the winter season and a new year, I am thrilled to share exciting updates and opportunities within our Pediatric Renal Dietitians of North America (PRONA) community.

- 1. Completion of the Pediatric Renal Pocket Guide:** I am pleased to announce the successful completion of our first major project as a group—the Pediatric Renal Pocket Guide. Our contributing authors are diligently working with the guide, and we are gearing up for the second round of printing in early March. This edition will be sent free of charge to members who did not receive a copy previously and will be available for purchase through our online store. To ensure your copy reaches the appropriate location, please take a moment to complete the address survey included in this newsletter.
- 2. Conference Season Approaching:** As we approach conference season, I'm delighted to share that our annual stipend award application has recently closed and will benefit a member. We are thrilled to continue offering annual funding to support the professional growth of our members.
- 3. Mentorship Applications Open:** Applications for our mentorship program are now open. Whether you're interested in sharing your expertise as a Mentor or seeking professional guidance as a Mentee, we encourage you to consider applying to foster mutual professional growth.
- 4. Pediatric Renal Dietitian of the Year Award Nominations:** In February, we will open nominations for our prestigious annual award—the Pediatric Renal Dietitian of the Year. I encourage you to nominate a colleague who exemplifies exceptional skill and dedication in our field.
- 5. Upcoming March Webinar:** Mark your calendars for our upcoming webinar in March on Carnitine. This promises to be an insightful session, and we look forward to your participation.
- 6. Ongoing Projects:** Our commitment to continuous improvement is reflected in several projects nearing completion. These initiatives aim to enhance our skills and deepen our practice knowledge. Your involvement in our Board and Committees is crucial to our collective growth, and we appreciate your ongoing dedication.

In closing, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the hard work and dedication each of you brings to the lives you touch. Together, let's continue to communicate, volunteer, and grow as a community.

Wishing you a warm and productive winter season.

~Christine Benedetti, Your PRONA Chair

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Upcoming Events

February 15, 2024: Mentorship Program Applications Due

February 29, 2024: Pocket Guide Address Survey Due

March 2024: PRONA Quarterly Membership Meeting - TBD

March 8-10, 2024: Annual Dialysis Conference

March 20, 2024: PRONA Webinar

April 3-5, 2024: Pediatric Renal Nutrition Academy (PRNA) - Introductory Level

May 14-18, 2024: NKF Spring Clinical Meetings



Pictured: Christine Benedetti (L) & Chris Nelms (R), our initial awardees

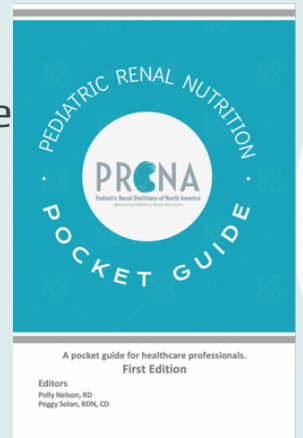
Dietitian of the Year

Let's honor and acknowledge our deserving colleagues! Applications for the 2024 Pediatric Renal Dietitian of the Year open in February 2024. Learn more at <https://www.prona.info/awards>

Pocket Guide Updates

Contributing authors are using the Pocket Guide in practice! We will make minor edits and continue on to our second printing.

We need YOU! Please respond to our **Member Shipping Address Survey by February 29, 2024**. The completed digital guide (PDF) is available on our website for your use now: <https://www.prona.info/members-only-content>



PATIENT RESOURCES

Are you ever looking for fresh, new education materials?

Check out our Patient Resource Folder!

<https://www.prona.info/patient-resource-folder>

Explore this shared repository of patient education materials, collaboratively crafted by our members. As we continue to evolve, we'll rely on your insights for our upcoming updates. Your input is highly valued in shaping the future of this resource.



Follow Us on Social Media

We have a Facebook group too!



Join our PRONA LinkedIn group!



Meet our Board

Christine Benedetti, MS, RDN, CSR, CCTD, LD
Chair

Maggie Murphy, PhD, RD, LD, FAND
Chair Elect

Christina Nelms, MS, RDN, LMT
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Kim Hobson, RD, LD
Member-at-Large

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currently inactive

Promotion & Networking

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Public Policy

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*Members interested in participating may contact our Committee Chairs

Webinar & CEU Event

Marisa Calderon, MPH, RD, CSP, LD will present on
Carnitine and Kidney Disease

March 20, 2024 at 1:00-2:00 PM (EST)

REGISTER HERE

*Free for members & \$20 for non-members.

Members: <https://www.prona.info/webinars>

Non-members: <https://www.prona.info/shop>



Recipes

In our vibrant community, we share a profound belief in the transformative power of food. Let's come together to celebrate the joy of cooking and savoring meals, fostering connections that go beyond the dining table. We invite you to contribute by sharing your most beloved kid and kidney-friendly recipes.

Explore our **NEW Recipes page** and help us make it the go-to resource for parents and practitioners!

Membership

Join & renew easily on our website:
<https://www.prona.info/become-a-member>

Membership is active for a full 12 months for \$40 USD / \$53.65 CAD annually. Payment may be made via PayPal or Credit Card.

PRONA is a 501(c)(3) so all membership fees are tax deductible.

For further inquiries, contact prona.dietitians@gmail.com

Action Alert

Passage of the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act would be a win-win for Dietitians and our communities. You can add your support to this much-needed piece of legislation – learn more and get involved [here](#).



Take Action with Your State

For our US members, join your Academy State affiliate groups for Advocacy Action Days! These dynamic events offer unparalleled opportunities to engage with your local legislators, enlighten them about our patient community, underscore the importance of our work, and even earn free CEUs for Registered Dietitians.

Discover tailored details for your state and more [here](#).

Nephrology Podcast

Are you familiar with the “**Life as a Nephrology Professional**” podcast by NKF? We invite your attention to the latest episode, titled “**Rethinking the Kidney Diet.**” Distinguished experts in the field, Dr. Shivam Joshi, Dr. Holly Kramer, Dr. Blake Shusterman, and Chef Duane Sunwold, engage in a comprehensive exploration of this fascinating topic.



NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH



2024 NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH
A CAMPAIGN BY
THE ACADEMY OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS

National Nutrition Month® is an established annual initiative inaugurated in 1973 by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Throughout the month of March, we extend an invitation to all to delve into the exploration of informed food choices and the cultivation of healthful eating and physical activity habits.

Happy RD Day on March 13, 2024!

National Nutrition Month® Resources