

Vizient/AACN NRP Conference Highlights

A summary of the key takeaways and insights from the 2025 Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program Conference, March 24-27, 2025.

Conference summary

The 2025 Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program (NRP) conference welcomed attendees from healthcare organizations focusing on highlighting NRP best practices.

500+ nurse resident and nurse residency leader attendees from across the United States

280+ sites represented

39 States in the United States represented

28 podium presentations

73 poster presentations

Nurse Residency Program resources

The NRP offers tools and resources to address the topics presented during the conference. Log in to visit our newly redesigned, enhanced [NRP website](#) to access:

- Conference posters and presentations
- Advancing Clinical Excellence (ACE) initiative updates
- Return on investment calculator
- Seminar engagement strategies
- Coordinator connections

...and check out the latest NRP blog [Perspectives of tomorrow's nursing leaders: Eight trends for newly licensed nurses](#).

Conference takeaways

Lake Buena Vista, Florida was a magical location to host the 2025 Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program™ (NRP) Conference!

After three busy days, we *sprinkled some pixie dust* while making new connections, learning innovative seminar engagement strategies and discovering new ways to successfully transition newly licensed nurses to practice. Conference highlights are listed below.

Pre-conference sessions

This year, conference attendees had the option to attend one of two pre-conference sessions: *NRP Coordinator Training* or *Just Keep Swimming: Reimagining Nurse Residency Initiatives*.

Nurse resident podium presentations

Eight teams of nurse residents took the stage to present topics focusing on improving nursing sensitive indicators, reducing cost and impacting patient out

Title	Organization
<i>Purposeful Sitting: A Strategy to Improve Patient Communication</i>	Emory
<i>Meeting Nutritional Goals in the ICU</i>	Jefferson Health
<i>Suicide Screening in Pediatric Populations</i>	Bryan Medical Center
<i>The Power of Scent on Neonate Outcomes</i>	Penn Medicine, Pennsylvania Hospital
<i>Oxygen Saturation in Patients with Diverse Skin Pigmentation</i>	Harborview Medical Center
<i>Going Green in the Operation Room</i>	Houston Methodist Health System
<i>Sleep and Bedtime Stories in Rehabilitation Hospital's Adults</i>	Main Line Health
<i>Increasing Inpatient Satisfaction Through Setting Micro Goals</i>	The University of Kansas Health System

Congratulations to our nurse residents – and their leadership teams – for your hard work and dedication accelerating nursing's future.

Keynote speakers

Inspiration was provided by keynote speakers:

- Jennifer Mason – *Disney's Approach to Leadership Excellence*
- Dr. Cynda Hylton Rushton – *What Sustains You as a Nurse?*

Awards

The second annual Vizient/AACN NRP Awards was an amazing conference highlight. We were proud to honor four deserving and inspiring recipients:

- Ian Griffiths from Cooper University Hospital in New Jersey – Nurse Resident of the Year Award.
- Elizabeth Holbert from Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center in Pennsylvania – NRP Coordinator of the Year Award.
- Mary Lynn from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – NRP Legacy Award.
- Robyn Setter retired from The University of Kansas Health System – Impact Award (new for 2025)!

Thank you for your incredible contributions and the countless lives you have impacted.

SPARK session

This year, SPARK focused on Advancing Clinical Excellence (ACE) – encouraging discussion, collaboration...and SPARKING great ideas. Thanks to the five presenting teams.

Nurse resident poster presentations

35 nurse resident teams displayed their creative initiatives impacting nursing practice. Congratulations to this year's poster winners:

- 1st place: *Improving RN-CNA Communication Strategies* – MedStar Union Memorial
- 2nd place: *Take-Home Naloxone: Empowering Nurses to Increase Distribution* – Lankenau Medical Center
- 3rd place: *Before You Leave the Room: Bridging the Spanish Language Gap* – Baylor, Scott & White Medical Center Round Rock

NRP coordinator poster presentations

38 NRP leaders displayed their innovative NRP solutions during Wednesday's poster reception! A great opportunity to network and engage in best practice discussions.

NRP podium sessions

This year, there were 20 NRP coordinator podium presentations sessions. These sessions focused on seminar engagement activities, accreditation journeys, coordinator transition to practice, lessons learned and so much more. Special thanks to all podium presenters!

Nurse resident breakouts

Dedicated breakout time for nurse residents to professionally develop and network with peers! Topics included crafting your nursing portfolio, shining on social media and thriving through teamwork.

Vizient/AACN NRP data and state of the program

Evy Olson, VP of Nursing Programs, Kaile Crawford, Director and Mary Lynn, Consultant, shared relevant NRP updates including data dashboard enhancements, nurse leader transition to practice and preceptor program.

Vizient's first year retention rate for 2025 is **90.0%** compared to the NSI benchmark of 77.7%.

Community impact

Conference attendees created beautiful cards for *Give Kids The World Village* guests, a magical 89-acre nonprofit resort in Central Florida, providing weeklong, cost-free vacations for children with critical illnesses and their families.

Special thank you to our exhibitors!

Thank you to our generous sponsors: American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing (AAACN), American Nurses Credentialing Center, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, kurin, Resilient Nurses Initiative (R3), UbiSim by Labster and Wolters Kluwer.

Save the date!

Join us for the 2026 Vizient/AACN NRP at Sheraton Phoenix Downtown from **March 23-26, 2026**. Call for abstracts and awards will open this summer.



To learn more, please contact
NRPIInfo@vizientinc.com.

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