

Hello everyone,

For our first quarterly update we have decided to write a very brief biography. Please see below for each member's biography. We will have more information about public policies that impact our patients in the next quarterly newsletter.

Thanks,

Kathleen

**Maggie Mae Baenziger BSN RN CWOCN**

University of Chicago

Graduated Full Scope for WebWOC 2017

Worked in Wound/Ostomy/Continence field since 2014

Passionate about public policy and advocating rights to our patients we serve.

**Martha Branstiter BSN, RN, COCCN**

Employer: University of Chicago Medicine

WOC nurse since: 2018 graduate of WebWOC full scope program

Why I am interested in public policy: I want to impact my patients' quality of life by being an impact of change through public policy.

**Kathleen Hudson BSN, RN, CWOCN**

I have been a wound, ostomy, continence nurse since 2012. I currently work at University of Chicago. I have a passion for assisting patients with wounds and ostomies. I believe that we can increase patients' quality of life with the proper healthcare policies in place. I recently took a healthcare policy and advocacy course which spiked an interest. I'm excited to be chair of the Public Policy/Advocacy Committee.

**Susan Solmos MSN, RN, CWCN**

Employer: University of Chicago Medicine

WOC nurse since: 2001 graduate of WICK's full scope program

Why I am interested in public policy: public policy impacts the care and reimbursement of the patient's we care for; I'd like to be a part of shaping future policies.

**Kathleen Speck MSN, RN, APRN, FNP-BC, CWOCN**

BSN from Lewis University in 1996

Wicks Educational Program 2005

Wound Ostomy Continence Certification 2005

MSN Governor State University 2013 Family Nurse Practitioner capstone project focus on Urinary incontinence

Certification as FNP-BC 2014

Nurse Practitioner at Edwards's Hospital Wound Care Center

Worked in the inpatient and outpatient as CWOCN.

Presently work in an outpatient setting in the western suburbs.

Nursing career in outpatient surgery. Strong advocate for patient emotional and physical health promoted through education and advocacy of their rights. I enjoy lifelong learning, collaboration and new experiences.

**Laura Williamson BSN,RN,CWON**

Inpatient Wound/Ostomy Nurse at University of Chicago Medical Center

WebWOC Graduate since 2017

Passionate about patient advocacy and public policy to be able to speak for those patients who cannot speak, and to leave a footprint.

**Ebonie Wright, BSN, RN, CWON.** Ebonie is a Central Illinois native and has been a nurse for 15 years, specializing in wound care in both the acute and home care settings. Observing the viscous cycle between hospital and home, Ebonie wanted to help improve her community's health. She is a second year DNP (Doctor of Nursing Practice) student in the Advance Population Health Nursing program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She recently has relocated to the Chicagoland area and joined the NIAWOCN Chapter. She balances school and work with being an active member of the Central Illinois Black Nurses Association, which aligns with her passion to care for the minority and underrepresented populations. She believes that the ability to provide care starts with having patient centered policies in place and looks forward to working with the health and policy committee.

