

# SE District 2023 FALL Newsletter



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*Note  
from  
Sue*

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## SE District Chair Message

Apples, pumpkins, Indian Corn a plenty this autumn season! With November here, we come into another season...the season of giving thanks...thanks for our basic necessities, our freedom, friends, and family.

Thanks, also, to you, our hospital volunteers, who serve others unselfishly, giving of your time and talents. Your caring smile and compassion brightens the day for those that pass through the hospital doors! **You are special!**

The SE District Fall meeting was held on October 18, hosted by Froedtert Menomonee Falls Hospital Volunteer Services. Following the meeting, a survey was given to the attendees for feedback on the meeting format as some changes were made from past meetings. Thank you to those who completed the survey. Survey comments and suggestions will be considered when planning the 2024 Spring SE District meeting.



\*Annual local reports are due January 31.

\*WHA Advocacy Day is March 20, 2024.

~ Sue Schuelke



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**LOCAL**      **What's New in the SE District!**

**UPDATES**      **Froedtert West Bend Hospital Volunteers**

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Congratulations to the SE District 2022 Honor Point recipients: Partners with Froedtert West Bend Hospital! Representatives from the SE District shared in this recognition at the Partners of WHA State Convention.



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**CORRESPONDENCE**

A “thank you” card to the SE District was received from Darlene Marks who won the Packer raffle basket at the Partners of WHA State Convention. Thank you to the Froedtert Menomonee Falls Hospital Volunteer Services for creating the SE District basket this year!



## Public Policy Report

WHA publishes a weekly newsletter called *The Value Voice*. The publication features articles on subjects impacting healthcare on local, state, and national levels. You can access this newsletter at [wha.org](http://wha.org).

Checkpoint is a state-wide, voluntary reporting mechanism whereby you can look up a specific hospital's quality and patient safety data on certain quality measures. One example is the measure on patient experience. Looking at the current report (2022), Wisconsin's average is higher than the national average. Not surprising as Wisconsin is a leader in providing quality patient care. You can also look at a comparison of WI hospitals reporting. Go to [wicheckpoint.org](http://wicheckpoint.org) for these reports.

## Community Health Education Report

### Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Mental Health

AI is being used in a number of settings, ie phone customer service, visual arts, education, the entertainment industry, and even the judicial system. It is, also, used in a limited capacity in healthcare to help with diagnosing illnesses and determining treatment options. This is accomplished through AI's ability to draw information from many datasets and recognize patterns. According to the National Institutes with Health, AI holds promise in the future delivery of healthcare and making it more cost effective.

With mental health concerns on the rise and lack of needed resources on a global level, the use of AI is being considered to address mental illness. At the present time, AI has shown to be useful in diagnosing some different types of mental illness. AI is able to draw information from sources that human therapists cannot and analyzes the data to help in providing a diagnosis.

Challenges on AI in mental health:

- No FDA approval or FDA clearance to use AI applications in psychiatry.
- World Health Organization (WHO) study 2016-2021 showed flaws in how the AI data was validated and processed.
- How to retain the human emotion component of psychotherapy vital to the patient-therapist relationship.
- Ethical issues to address include bias, privacy, social inequities, and transparency.
- Regulation/oversight of AI technologies.

Will AI technology someday replace human healthcare providers or will the best practice be a collaboration of both? Food for thought.

Submitted by Sue Schuelke

*Resources: Who.int  
Nih.gov  
PubMed*

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