Resolution # 3

**TOPIC: In support of raising awareness of trauma informed care**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Mercy College Association of Nursing Students

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WHEREAS, trauma-informed care is a strengths-based service delivery approach “that is grounded in an understanding of and responsiveness to the impact of trauma, that emphasizes physical, psychological, and emotional safety for both providers and survivors, and that creates opportunities for survivors to rebuild a sense of control and empowerment” (Hopper, Bassuk, & Olivet, 2010, p. 82); and

WHEREAS, trauma Informed Care is an organizational structure and treatment framework that involves understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma (http://www.traumainformedcareproject.org); and

WHEREAS, the economic burden of trauma is more than $585 billion annually, each year, trauma accounts for 41 million emergency room visits and 2 million hospital admissions, and trauma is the #1 cause of death for Americans between 1 and 46 years old (http://www.nationaltraumainstitute.org); and

WHEREAS, each year, approximately 2.5 million individuals in the United States incur traumatic physical injuries so severe that they require inpatient hospitalization. Mental health researchers and trauma surgeons document high levels of post traumatic distress syndrome symptoms develop in 10%–40% of Americans over the course of the year after traumatic physical injury (http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org); and

WHEREAS, the more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) a person has the more likely they are to have poor health outcomes including developmental delays, heart disease, diabetes, substance abuse and depression (http://www.traumainformedcareproject.org); and

WHEREAS, trauma-informed emergency department services can empower victims with skills, support, and resources so that they can return to their communities, reject or stand strong in the face of violence, strengthen others who have been affected by violence, and contribute to building safer and healthier communities (http://www.traumainformedcareproject.org); and

WHEREAS, as of 2012, however, the majority of professionals and paraprofessionals who provide services to children and families have never received any preparation on how to provide trauma-informed care, trauma-specific treatments, or trauma-focused services (http://www.traumainformedcareproject.org); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Iowa Association of Nursing Students (IANS) increase awareness and support education of student nurses on the significance of providing trauma informed care and the positive impact on health outcomes; and be it further

RESOLVED, that IANS hold a breakout session at a future convention on this topic, if feasible; and be it further

RESOLVED, that IANS promote the use of evidence-based practice to strengthen nursing education in regards to the benefits and impact of trauma informed care; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the IANS send a copy of this resolution to the American Medical Association, the Association of Public Health Nurses, the Iowa Nurses Association, the National Student Nursing Association (NSNA), the American Nursing Association, the National League for Nursing, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, , the American Hospital Association, the Emergency Nurses Association, the Association of Community Health Nursing Educators, the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, the National Association of School Nurses, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and all others as deemed appropriate by the IANS Board of Directors.