

14 August 2023

Hello Chicago SGNA members,

I hope this email finds you well. Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Valerie Ricken and I am your Chicago SGNA regional President and Treasurer. It is hard to believe that summer is quickly coming to an end and the children are getting ready to go back to school. That means that it is time to mark your calendars for our [Fall into GI Conference](#) which is scheduled for October 21, 2023. We have some great speakers lined up and you will earn 6.25 educational hours. It is your turn to grow and expand your GI knowledge. We hope to see you at the conference and would also encourage you to bring a co-worker with you. The past several years have been difficult for all of us in the healthcare profession. Our Chicago SGNA region has felt the impact as well. Like most healthcare facilities, we are short-staffed and fatigued and trying to find new ways to get our members engaged. We desperately need more volunteers to help with our organization. Our Board of Directors would like to hear from you about what you feel the needs of our region are. We would also like to grow our social network and engage more of our members in posts and conversations throughout the year. We have valuable knowledge and resources within our region that can be tapped into. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or if you would like to become more active within our region. You can contact us at [chicagosgnaregion20@gmail.com](mailto:chicagosgnaregion20@gmail.com).

Best Regards,

Valerie Ricken MSN, RN, CGRN

President/Treasurer Chicago SGNA