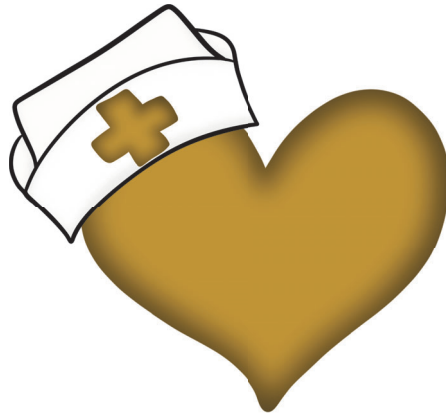


Legacy of Empowerment: 50 Years Strong



Berta Mejia, MSN, RN*
Past President (1980-1982)

Key Initiatives/Achievements

- Co-Founder
- Served as Assistant Professor of Child Psychiatric Nursing @ Yale School of Nursing (1976-1982) as well as Child Psychiatric Nursing Track Coordinator (NASSSN Brief Bio and Campaign Statements, 1979, Burst, H.V. (2013). Yale School of Nursing Celebrating 90 years of Excellence. Retrieved from <https://core.ac.uk/download/232765997.pdf>).

Final Thoughts

It is my firm belief that both consumers and health professionals should be involved in identifying health care needs and services; in defining quality of care and in deciding how best these services can be delivered. In the case of Hispanics, there are obvious bilingual and bicultural considerations which must be addressed in order to plan effectively. I am convinced that Hispanic nurses are in a unique position to help articulate needs and to creatively design health care systems with Hispanics in the now underserved, growing population. However, an effective impact on a large scale can also be made at the decision-making level by those with political clout and savvy. It therefore behooves us to set up our organizational priorities. The organization must first serve its members (NASSSN Brief Bio and Campaign Statements, (1979). Retrieved from NAHN Archived material @ Barbara Bates Center for the History of Nursing @ UPENN).