



**CIRCLE
OF EXCELLENCE 2026**



Greater Rochester Area Finger Lakes Chapter
Excellence in Chapter Leadership Development

The Greater Rochester Area Finger Lakes (GRAFL) Chapter prioritizes leadership development and succession planning to ensure sustainability while advancing AACN's mission. Leadership transitions are supported through a structured annual transition meeting where incoming and outgoing officers review expectations, share lessons learned, and transfer resources such as leadership handbooks and digital archives. Succession planning occurs year-round through mentorship, volunteer engagement, and leadership opportunities on committees and at chapter events. Strategic planning meetings guide chapter priorities and align initiatives with AACN values. Clear role descriptions and expectations provide consistency and accountability across board positions. Past leaders remain actively engaged as mentors and advisors, supporting continuity and knowledge transfer. These strategies have produced measurable outcomes, including full board role coverage for three consecutive years, record engagement at chapter events, and a growing pipeline of emerging leaders contributing locally and nationally at AACN.