



**New Jersey Society for Respiratory Care
C/O New Jersey Hospital Association
760 Alexander Road
Princeton, New Jersey 085640**

**August 5, 2026, at 6:20 p.m.
BOARD MEETING OF NJSRC**

NJSRC Board of Directors Meeting:

Key Outcomes: Bylaws voting is underway, with 24 unanimous votes recorded, closing August 10th.

Steve Vinton resigned as Home Care Committee Chair; Laurie Barone was approved as replacement.

Conference planning is advancing with speaker schedule set and registration open. Board approved a \$1,000 AARC Disaster Relief donation and a new society podcast initiative.

Decisions Made

1. Nathan Puri (Cooper Medical Center) confirmed as Medical Director/Advisor effective January, pending bylaw approval.
2. \$1,000 donation approved for AARC Disaster Relief Fund (up from budgeted \$500).
3. Podcast/TikTok channel approved for NJSRC; no budget required — Randi's husband producing pro bono.
4. Board business cards approved; Bill Jackson to produce 100 cards for all board members.
5. Conference hotel policy clarified: board members receive 2 comp nights (historical standard); speakers receive 1 comp night on the day of the presentation.
6. Ad hoc sponsorship committee forming; Mitch + Bill Jackson leading, seeking 1–2 additional board members.
7. Pending Confirmation:
 - a. Ribbons for conference (executive board/committee labels): Solutions no longer covering; Mitch checking if AARC provides free.
 - b. Bylaws: post-August 10th, verify all 24 voters are confirmed AARC members before formalizing.
 - c. Farleigh Dickinson University baccalaureate respiratory program — letter of intent status still pending.
 - d. Widner University (Delaware) program underway; letter of intent submitted, working through initial accreditation process.
 - e. Caesars' contract for future conference years under review by Ms. Lori Ligon.
 - f. Astral ventilators recall impacting home care pediatric patients; VOCSN compatibility/billing issue (no HCPCS code) unresolved — to revisit next meeting.
 - g. **Key Reports Summary :**



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Finance Committee: Mr. William (Bill) Oliver: All billing current, no debt; BOD travel may slightly exceed \$5,200 budget (~\$6,000–\$6,500 projected).

Membership: Mr. Robert (Bob) Guardabasco.: Retention flat; LAPS at 10.1%, below AARC's 90% goal; social media reminder post in progress.

Advocacy/PACT: AIR Act (Access to Improved Respiratory Care) introduced — targets RT reimbursement for pulmonary rehab as Medicare entry vehicle; RCIC compact licensure push planned Sept–Oct.

Education: Mr. Barry Ransom: Programs strong — Brookdale granted 10-year continuing accreditation; Rowan DA program growing nationally with 20 active students; new RTE exam launches Jan 1, 2027 (replaces TMC + CSE, \$360 first attempt, 185 questions, 4-hour limit).

HOSA: Mr. Fernando Echerrveria: Grassroots high school outreach proving more effective than formal HOSA events in NJ; shared approach with national HOD ad hoc committee.

Disaster: Ms. Nancy D'Ambrosio: No hospitals/RTs impacted by recent weather events in NJ.

Action Items:

- i) Mitch O'Shea: Organize separate conference planning meeting with Solutions before the conference.
- ii) Bob Gardabasco.: Send AARC member email list (~1,200) to Bill Jackson for bulk outreach.
- iii) Bob G.: Build RCIC legislative toolkit (3 letters + mock legislation).
- iv) Bill Jackson to add toolkit to website.
- v) Bill Jackson: Send POY/VOY/T-shirt contest materials to board for voting;
- vi) Follow up with Bergen County College (Amy) for SOY nominee.
- vii) Bill Oliver: Prepare \$1,000 AARC Disaster Relief donation.
- viii) Mitch O'Shea + Bill Jackson: Launch Ad Hoc sponsorship committee; circulate email to board.
- ix) Randi Rubin: Reach out to lapsed members from her team identified on membership list.



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- x) All board members: Complete Google Form for conference arrival/availability schedule.
- xi) All: Click "like" on AARC Connect posts to improve engagement metrics; remember to refresh website browser to see updates. 31 Next Meeting October 15th, 11:00 AM — in-person at Harrah's during the Shore Conference, 2026.