



**NCSBN**  
Leading Regulatory Excellence

## ***2021 NCSBN Awards Ceremony - 2020 Award Recipient – Elizabeth “Libby” Lund Video Transcript***

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### **Event**

2021 NCSBN Awards Ceremony

More info: <https://www.ncsbn.org/16100.htm>

### **Presenter**

NCSBN Awards Committee

♪ [music] ♪ - [Woman] 2020 Founders Award- [Announcer] Founders Award. Recipients of the Founders Award are an elite group of honorees. And now, Elizabeth Lund, or as most know her, Libby joins this distinguished group. At 35 years of service to the Tennessee Board of Nursing, Libby has the distinction of being the longest-serving executive officer at NCSBN's history.

A recipient of the Meritorious Service Award and the prestigious R. Louise McManus Award, her long history in nursing regulation is marked by sustained and significant contributions to NCSBN and her Board of Nursing. Libby held the position of director-at-large on the NCSBN board of directors for two terms. She was active with NCSBN committees and chaired the Nursing Regulation Subcommittee, the 25th Anniversary Advisory Panel, the Executive Officer's Succession Resource Committee, and the Bylaws Committee.

Her ability to look beyond what is and imagine what could be manifested during her time as chair of the Nursing Regulation Subcommittee in 1995 and the Multi-state Regulation Task Force in 1996. Here, she became an early explorer of nursing regulation across state borders. Under her leadership, the Nursing Regulation Subcommittee proposed the mutual recognition model of regulation, which the NCSBN delegate assembly endorsed in 1997.

This achievement was the foundation of the Nurse Licensure Compact. In 1998, when NCSBN's Board of Directors implemented the performance measurement system, now known as CORE, Libby in the Tennessee Board was one of 12 pilot states to test the system's data collection instruments.

Throughout her tenure as an executive officer, Libby demonstrated active leadership and commitment to nursing regulatory excellence. She spearheaded the movement to transition the State Nursing Associations Volunteer Peer Assistance Program to a board contracted alternative-to-discipline program.

Under her leadership, the program has expanded to provide services to seven health-related boards. When evidence showed that more licensees passed the NCLEX exam when taken soon after graduation,

Libby took action to waive initial licensure fees to eliminate the barrier of cost for new nurses. Now, each year, more than 7,000 applicants benefit from this savings.

This action brought statewide recognition and interest, prompting NCSBN to invite Libby to present the concept at its 2019 mid-year meeting. Libby has demonstrated the highest regard for the ideals and beliefs upon which NCSBN was founded. Her ethics, integrity, and accomplishments as well as her long-standing commitment and dedication to the mission and vision of NCSBN are why she was chosen to receive the Founders Award.

- [Elizabeth] I am completely shocked and so honored. This is a complete surprise. I'm so thankful that you asked me to join you at this meeting, come...bring me out of retirement and well, I'm just...

Wow, goodness. I'm overwhelmed. Thank you. Okay, well, remarks... At my first delegate assembly in August of 1985, I've been in my position six weeks. Many of you are new to your positions at your regulatory board and others have been involved with nursing regulation for many years.

What would you say about your experiences 10, 20, or more years from now? What stands out to me at my first NCSBN meeting in...with more than the issues of the day, of which I have no independent memory, was the wonderful sense of place, the welcome. As a new executive director, I learned our board's purpose, to protect the public.

And with time and experience, that's where it's become internalized, a frame of reference guiding every decision. What would the public expect in this situation? Would I be proud or ashamed to see the action taken on the front page of the newspaper? As nursing regulators, what we seek to do at NCSBN, the mission is to empower and support nursing regulators in their mandate to protect the public.

With time and experience, that mission became encoded into my DNA. The audacious vision to lead regulatory excellence worldwide sets a lofty challenge. It's striking that the vision has evolved from building regulatory excellence to advancing and now leading regulatory excellence, not just stateside, but worldwide.

Early on, my thoughts centered primarily on what NCSBN could do for me. Later, like many of you, I've felt a desire to share the knowledge and experience gained and support and encourage new members who have so much to contribute. Why did I stay for 35 years?

How can a person sustain herself in a position for that long? These are legitimate questions. I can't say that I've pondered them very long. Actually, the time flew by when a job needs to be done. It's challenging, it's fun, and there's a sense of accomplishment. It's not extraordinary at all.

Honestly, there have been ups and downs. I can still make myself sick when I dwell on the screw-ups that I've made over the years. Unfortunately, some on the public record. I hope that I've learned empathy for others when they mess up and I'm working on more kindness for myself. I hope also that I've learned and encourage you too to not let fear keep you from speaking up from...if you're afraid of feeling stupid or uninformed, continue to question and volunteer.

Your fresh suggestions, along with the seasoned wisdom of others, fuel the NCSBN engine. I didn't have the privilege to be involved with NCSBN at its inception in 1978. I won't reiterate our organization's history but suffice it to say that we have a long history of risk-taking, of innovation, difficult decisions, and remarkable achievements.

Being an executive director is by its nature lonely. You may have followed someone awesome or you may have come to your position after a crisis of leadership. The learning curve is steep.

I encourage you to take every opportunity NCSBN offers, and they are many, to increase your knowledge and become empowered. You'll gain more than you ever give. As a person of faith, I've been blessed beyond measure. I believe it wasn't just serendipity that brought me to this place 36 years ago. My hope for you is that you feel welcomed, that your contributions are valued, and you always believe you are in the right place.

Thank you.