



February 25, 2011

ICN Nursing Initiative Status Update:

The Mission of the Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN) is to advocate and ensure appropriate nursing resources necessary to meet the healthcare needs of the citizens of Illinois.

ICN was established by legislation in 2006, Section 75-10, the Nurse Practice Act. The ICN Advisory Board meets six times per fiscal year between September and June. The meeting dates and minutes are posted on the website: www.nursing.illinois.gov

In July 2010 Governor Quinn issued Executive Order 2010-12 establishing the Health Reform Implementation Council: www2.illinois.gov/healthcarereform. The purpose of this council is to recommend steps needed to improve the health of IL residents. The IL Center for Nursing testified on the present supply and demand of the Illinois RN workforce. Licensed nurses are the cornerstone of health promotion and disease prevention in all settings: acute, long-term and in the home. Although the number of licensed nurses in Illinois is growing, and the number of nursing students enrolled in approved nursing education programs is growing, there is still a nursing shortage in Illinois. (<http://nursing.illinois.gov/news.asp>)

In January 2011, Illinois was one of three states selected by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN®) to participate in an innovative, multi-state study to evaluate safety and quality outcomes in nurse transition to practice programs. This groundbreaking study of a standardized transition to practice program for newly licensed nurses will determine how well the preceptor training module prepares preceptors for their role; identify the challenges and potential solutions of implementing the NCSBN transition model; and determine cost/benefit analysis. This is the first study of a transition program to compare patient outcomes in sites that use a standardized transition model to those that don't. Each site will be randomized to either the study group or the control group. The control group will use its usual practice of transitioning new nurses to practice. Additional information is available on the NCSBN website: www.ncsbn.org/2403.htm

In February 2011, ICN with IL DCEO as the co-chair, convened the IL State Regional Action Coalition (RAC). RACs are the driving force of the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action (CFA), a broad, national effort to drive implementation of the Institute of Medicine's blueprint for ensuring that all Americans have access to high quality, patient-centered care in a health care system where nurses contribute as essential partners in achieving success. IL RAC short-term first year goal is to create a leadership structure at the state and regional levels including Team IL partners along with strategic partners. Team IL regional partners: Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Corporation (MCHC), Chicagoland Area; Connect SI/Man-tra-con Corporation, southern 20 counties; CIRCLE= Central IL Regional Collaborative Effort, Bloomington-Normal EDC and Chamber of Commerce; along with the RWJF PIN recipients in Springfield, IL and in the Quad cities area. The Illinois State Regional Action Coalition was convened to advance *The Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action™*, a collaboration created by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the AARP Foundation <http://championnursing.org/>.

The Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN) was established in 2006 to advocate and ensure appropriate nursing resources necessary to meet the healthcare needs of the citizens of Illinois. ICN is working with industry professionals and educational institutions to ensure that Illinois has a nursing workforce necessary to meet the demands of a growing and aging population. For more information, visit the ICN website, www.nursing.illinois.gov.

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