



April 8, 2010

## 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](http://www.nursing.illinois.gov)

Recent activities include: written testimony presented to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Initiative on the Future of Nursing at the Institute of Medicine <http://www.iom.edu/Activities/Workforce/Nursing/2010-FEB-22.aspx>. The December 2009, RWJF meeting focused on Community Health, Public Health, Primary Care, and Long-Term Care. ICN presented testimony on the IL initiative designed to improve the current situation in home healthcare, through a series of meetings, with multiple state agencies, unions, employers and advocacy groups. In February 2010, RWJF meeting focused on the Future of Nursing Education. The IL Center for Nursing presented testimony at this meeting on IL efforts to increase both the number of nurses and nursing faculty to ease the nursing shortage while working closely with regional partners, RWJF PIN recipients and stakeholders.

ICN continues to partner nationally with the RWJF/AARP Center to Champion Nursing in America <http://championnursing.org/>, other 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.

Projects include simulation lab asset mapping; curriculum review and comparison for pre-licensure nursing and post-licensure nursing education programs; use of iCRSP (on-line clinical rotation scheduling program) for nursing student clinical placement; Clinical Faculty Academy – a two day orientation for new nursing faculty; and data collection activities re: nursing supply/demand.

Pursuant to Section 60-40 of the Nurse Practice Act, RNs are required to complete 20 hours of CE per pre-renewal period. The pre-renewal period is the twenty-four (24) month's preceding the expiration date of the license. This requirement will go into effect for the upcoming 2010 – 2012 pre-renewal cycle. Beginning June 1, 2010, registered nurses must complete 20 hours of CE between June 1, 2010 and May 31, 2012. CE taken before June 1, 2010 cannot be used to satisfy this requirement. RNs that renew their licenses for the 2010 – 2012 renewal cycle will receive written notice of the CE requirement with their new licenses. Licensees may also consult the resource guide available at the Illinois Center for Nursing website: <http://nursing.illinois.gov/NursingCE.asp>

*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](http://www.nursing.illinois.gov).*

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