



September 8, 2010

ICN Nursing Initiative Status Update:

The IDFPR Illinois Center for Nursing (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

Marsha A. Prater, PhD, RN, was recently appointed by the Governor to the IL Center for Nursing Advisory Board of Directors. She is the Senior Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer of Memorial Health System in Springfield IL, and brings over 30 years of nursing and leadership experience in acute care nursing to the Board. She holds an adjunct faculty position at more than one local nursing education facility and is a member of several professional nursing and healthcare leadership organizations.

Team IL is the statewide partnership amongst IL Center for Nursing, state regional partners and with Center to Champion Nursing in America (CCNA) www.championnursing.org. ICN Chairperson, Michele Bromberg, is the Team IL Co-chairperson. The Team IL focus is promoting nursing and addressing healthcare workforce shortages. Members strive to share collaborative goals, successful efforts including not duplicating initiatives. One initiative example is youth service programs targeting teens either through summer internship programs (Connect SI) or job shadowing programs (Springfield RWJF PIN). Initial Team IL membership was determined by CCNA however, current members are seeking to broaden both IL geographic and organizational representation. Meetings remain quarterly, supported by monthly leadership conference calls.

The IL Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Nurse Educator Fellowship Program is currently accepting applications until October 8, 2010 (<http://www.ibhe.org/Grants/grantPrg/NEFP.htm>). The purpose of the Nurse Educator Fellowship Program is to ensure the retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at institutions of higher learning that award degrees in nursing. Awards will be used to supplement the salaries of the nursing faculty selected for the Fellowship. Participation in this program is open to Illinois institutions of higher learning with a nursing program approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). Nominations must be certified by the institution's Chief Nursing Administrator.

ICN Website – www.nursing.illinois.gov –has added information regarding Illinois nursing education programs. The post licensure graduate nursing education programs are separated as to whether they are public or private universities or nurse anesthesia programs. After each institution's name, the types of graduate degrees granted are listed. The end of the alphabetical list of schools has a grid containing the type of graduate degrees offered and the school's accreditation status. The pre-licensure nursing education programs have a section containing the past five years annual NCLEX pass rates for first time test takers. Annual admission and graduation rates are for a 3 year period.

The Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN) was established in 2006 to advocate for 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.

Members of the ICN Board of Directors:

Chairperson Michele Bromberg, Skokie, IL; Susan Campbell, Peoria, IL; Kathryn Christiansen, Park Ridge, IL; Nancy Cutler, Lockport, IL; Donna Hartweg, Bloomington, IL; Mary Lebold, Chicago, IL; Marcia Maurer, Troy, IL; Donna Meyer, Edwardsville, IL; Marsha Prater, Springfield, IL; James Renneker, Highland Park, IL; Maureen Shekleton, Glen Ellyn, IL; Deborah Terrell, Chicago, IL.

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