IL Healthcare Action Coalition History

In February 2011, IL Center for Nursing (ICN) with the IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (IL DCEO) as the co-chair, convened the IL State Healthcare Action Coalition (formerly known as the Regional Action Coalition - RAC). State Action Coalitions 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 (IOM) 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.

Strengths of IL Healthcare Action Coalition (IL HAC)

Team IL – in June 2008 the US Department of Labor, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, AARP Foundation = Center to Champion Nursing in America chose IL along with 17 other states in the first phase of increasing education capacity. This state initiative leadership became known as “Team IL”. Team IL targeted four Action Plans: 1) Build business case for increasing education capacity; 2) Asset mapping; 3) Enhance communication within regions and across the state; 4) Evaluate strategies to expand simulation capacity. Each action plan had a different Team IL member organization as a lead organization. Each action plan was implemented and completed to one degree or another. The result, based on the IL Department of Professional Regulation’s Board of Nursing’s Annual Schools of Nursing Report, is that nursing education capacity has increased in Illinois by approximately 20%.

RWJF Partners in Nursing (PIN) recipients – IL in the past 3-5 years has received three RWJF PIN awards in three separate regions of IL. The regional initiatives have participated in the Team IL leadership to move nursing’s agenda forward.

National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Transition to Practice (T2P) – IL was chosen in January 2011 as one of three states to participate in this longitudinal, multi-institutional, randomized study to evaluate the effect of the NCSBN’s T2P model on patient safety and quality outcomes.

Short-term Goal – Asset Identification

IL Healthcare Action Coalition Short term (6-12 month) goals include asset mapping. Asset identification determines how a region will define success. Asset mapping supports data-driven strategic planning and can be a critical first step in identifying and prioritizing valuable community resources. Asset mapping was used with Team IL to communicate successful programs, potential resources and to understand the environment. From Team IL we have built a successful network of communication, yet each region or PIN has maintained individualized nursing initiatives. The IL HAC, with the first step of asset mapping, is intent on growing nursing initiatives, to expand the focus to the nursing workforce to continue to ease the nursing shortage.

IL HAC Goals (from application submitted to RWJF February 2011):

1) Short-term (6-12 month):
   a. Establish the organization between ICN and ILDCEO to articulate and coordinate the IOM health care reform goals
   b. Create a state leadership structure to implement IOM recommendations
   c. Survey organizations to determine current activity in support of IOM recommendations
   d. 

Organizations that Provided Support for IL Action Coalition Application in February 2011:

CBNC - Chicago Bilingual Nurse Consortium
IACN - IL Association of Colleges of Nursing
ICNR – IL Coalition of Nursing Resources
Institute of Medicine 8 Recommendations:
1) Remove scope of practice barriers
2) Expand Opportunities for nurses to lead and diffuse collaborative improvement efforts
3) Implement Nurse residency programs (includes Advance Practice Nurses-APNs)
4) Increase the proportion of nurses with a baccalaureate degree to 80% by 2020
5) Double the number of nurses with a doctorate by 2020
6) Ensure that nurse engage in lifelong learning
7) Prepare and enable nurses to lead change to advance health
8) Build an infrastructure for the collection and analysis of inter-professional health care workforce data

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.

Members of the ICN Board of Directors: Chairperson Michele Bromberg, Skokie, IL; Susan Campbell, Peoria, IL; Kathryn Christiansen, Park Ridge, IL; Nancy Cutler, Freeport, IL; Donna Hartweg, Bloomington, IL; Mary Lebold, Chicago, IL; Marcia Maurer, Troy, IL; Donna Meyer, Edwardsville, IL; Marsha Prater, Springfield, IL; Jim Renneker, Chicago, IL; Maureen Shekleton, Glen Ellyn, IL; Deborah Terrell, Chicago, IL.

The Illinois State 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/.