

Date: May 3, 2024



Oregon Center for
NURSING

FRIDAY HUDDLE

A gathering of Oregon nursing workforce leaders to offer timely updates and share insights from peers and stakeholders.

Nursing Workforce

Filling Gaps in the Behavioral Health Workforce: Huddlers discussed the ongoing shortage of behavioral health professionals, including behavioral health nurses and PMHNPs. Attendees agreed that Oregon does not produce enough behavioral health professionals, and challenges to finding clinical placement sites often drive nursing professionals to find solutions out-of-state. Facility closures and provider shortages also limit the number of treatment options for clients. Huddlers also suggested that limited information and stereotypes perpetuate misunderstanding about behavioral health nursing roles. One Huddler pointed out the importance of offering training to nurses in these specialties that allow them to work at the top of their license. Finally, Huddlers acknowledged that stress and unhealthy working conditions can contribute to nursing professionals exiting the specialty.

Updates from OSBN: Representatives from [the Oregon State Board of Nursing \(OSBN\)](#) shared about the organization's continued work, including its newly defined vision that "nurse wellness is public protection." OSBN will publish its revised vision statements and strategic goals in the coming weeks.

Long-Term Care Staffing Regulations: Newly issued [federal guidelines mandate staff-to-resident ratios](#) for long-term and skilled nursing facilities. However, [research suggests that most nursing facilities nationwide](#) will not be able to comply with these new mandates due to current staffing levels.

OCNE Clinical Partners Survey: The Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE) seeks input from the nursing community on competency-based learning initiatives and how students or new graduates perform in clinical environments. [Share your insight through the survey.](#)

Events & Happenings

Nurses of Color Collective Listening Session: Join the Nurses of Color Collective for [a new digital conversation series](#) on May 9 from 6-7 p.m. The monthly listening series aims to facilitate conversations amongst senior nursing students and early-career nursing professionals who identify as people of color. [Click here to register for the series.](#)

Mark Your Calendars: May celebrates numerous communities and initiatives, including:

- National Nurses Week (May 6-12) [recognizes nursing professionals](#) across the United States. Governor Tina Kotek [signed a proclamation recognizing Nurses Week](#) statewide.
- Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month celebrates the contributions and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans. Explore special events across the state, including the [2nd annual Asian Night Market](#) and an [Oregon Rises Above Hate gathering](#).
- Mental Health Awareness Month is a national effort to raise awareness of the importance of mental health and emotional wellness. [Learn more through SAMHSA](#). Find additional local resources through the [Oregon Wellness Project](#) and [OCN's Nurse Well-being Project](#).

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, May 10, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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