



# FRIDAY MORNING HUDDLE

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

**DATE: August 21, 2020**

## Workforce Concerns:

**Constant Change and Flux.** Facilities across Oregon are reporting a big stressor these days continues to be responding to constantly changing procedures, policies and employee concerns. Facilities are trying to provide time and resources for staff to focus on resiliency exercises, self-care and mindfulness.

**Recruitment and Onboarding.** Some facilities are starting to see the effects of delaying residency programs and new hires. They are evaluating ways to fast-track recruitment, onboarding and training processes to hire new staff to relieve some of the burden on employees. Asante Health just onboarded 83 new graduates through their residency program. They are working closely with their preceptors to make sure they are not feeling overwhelmed by additional responsibilities.

## Nursing Education:

**Clinical Placement Availability.** Schools continue to struggle with clinical placement availability for the Fall term. One school reported to the board that their administration has directed them to suspend all in-person instruction and clinical placements for students. University of Portland shared their continued struggle to identify clinical placements for students at the prelicensure and graduate level. Placements confirmed earlier in the year are being cancelled and staff are working to create new opportunities. Once placements are confirmed there are additional challenges related to securing COVID tests prior to placement. To meet these challenges, UP is prioritizing placements for senior students and utilizing simulation for first-year students. They are also considering clinical placements in more remote locations. The Board of Nursing continues to connect with educators to understand the hurdles they are facing. They are working to structure the November Board meeting to allow more input from educators on the current education climate.

**COVID Testing for Students.** This continues to be an issue for students at all levels of nursing education (NA -> graduate). OCN's brief summary of the issue is [available online](#). *Schools, clinical placement providers and employers are encouraged to reach out to their administrations, OHA and/or legislators to voice concern over this issue before students return to clinicals in the Fall.*

## Resources:

**Simulation Q&A Webinar.** If you missed last week's Simulation Q&A, you can find the recording [online](#).

**Issues Facing the Post-Pandemic Workforce in Oregon.** Our latest issue brief is [available now](#).

**Child Care Resource and Referral Organizations.** Employees still looking to identify child care resources for the fall? Have you connected them with your local child care resource and referral organization? [Contact List By Region/County](#)

**NEXT HUDDLE:  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 8 A.M.**

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