



FRIDAY MORNING HUDDLE

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

DATE: November 20, 2020

Solidarity of a group provides the strongest protection against terror and despair, and the strongest antidote to traumatic experience.

-- Judith Herman, MD., 1997

Nursing Workforce:

Staffing. Kaiser Permanente, Asante Health and Providence shared they are currently looking at ways to postpone elective procedures so that staff can be trained and moved to care for patients in acute care settings. Kaiser is looking at staff who have previous inpatient care experience and what skill refreshing they may need to care for COVID patients, or patients hospitalized for other issues. Having enough nurse educators on staff to help with training/orienting staff to new assignments is an ongoing issue. Organizations continue to experience callout due to sickness and childcare issues.

Contract Labor/Travel Nurses. Organizations are reporting that contract labor/travel nurses are not extending contracts and it is difficult to find additional staff to fill requests. In Southern Oregon, an additional wrinkle is a lack of housing available for contract labor as housing was lost in the wildfires.

Regulation Updates:

CNA Rule Changes. The board has approved changes to Division 63, which relate to CNA 1 duties. The changes are meant to assist rural hospital facilities who many not have access to CNA2 personnel.

Clinical Placements. The Board of Nursing continues to discuss the pandemic's impact on clinical placement capacity. The provision of direct patient care hours is a condition of nursing program approval. The Board is working on an interpretive statement related to explaining what activities can be included in clinical practicum hours and how direct patient care hours should be calculated. For the Winter Term (beginning January 2021) school should continue to try and locate clinical placements but can provide alternative ways to provide clinical hours if placements are denied/postponed.

Resources:

Oregon Health Forum Webinar. The first OHF "all nurse" panel, [Nurses Out Front: The Future of Nurse-Driven Health Reform](#) takes place on December 11, 2020.

Oregon OSHA Guidelines. New guidelines from OSHA related to COVID-19 are available [online](#). A Facebook Live event will happen today around 12 p.m. Look for the event or recording at <https://www.facebook.com/oregonosha>

SERV-OR. A registry of volunteer medical professionals. Learn more and sign up to volunteer at <https://serv-or.org/>

**NEXT HUDDLE:
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 8 A.M.**

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