

FRIDAY MORNING HUDDLE

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

***DATE: February 17, 2023***

**Nursing Workforce:**

**Nurse Investigations.** The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) was curious to know if Huddlers would be interested in a presentation to understand how investigations work. OSBN is beginning to provide outreach to allow the nursing community to know how investigations at the Board work. The hope is to quell anxiousness about the investigative process and provide transparency in how the reported information to OSBN helps facilitate patient and public safety. There is a [tool](https://www.oregon.gov/osbn/Documents/IS_ComplaintEvaluationTool.pdf) available online to help in the reporting process. Organizations interested in having a presentation for their staff may [contact Dave Bowman](https://www.oregon.gov/osbn/Documents/IS_ComplaintEvaluationTool.pdf).

**Nurse Interns.** A few Huddlers are moving forward with hiring nurse interns, and others reported having no plans to hire them due to their capacity to onboard and precept. Other mentioned complexities were navigating how to embed nurse interns into the current workforce, concerns about labor agreements, and scalability. Organizations that have facilities in Washington and Oregon reported shared the difference between Washington’s Nurse Technician role and Oregon’s Nurs Intern role. The main difference is the nurse tech role can scale with the learner skills as they are obtained, whereas the nurse intern is a set scope that does not change with the learner competency. The University of Portland has a small pilot group of nurse interns that are being placed in long-term care. This pilot will help them assess protocols, manageability, and scalability of the new license type.

**Jurisprudence Test**. Huddlers recently renewing their license asked about the OSBN jurisprudence test scheduled to be required beginning this winter. OSBN reported they have delayed the start date of the requirement and will provide more information when a new date is determined.

**Nursing Education:**

**Clinical Experiences.** Huddlers were asked the question ‘what incentives would be needed to get students in for nights and weekend clinicals?’ Educators responded they are ‘begging’ to get night and weekend experiences for students. Finding locations to accept students for the night shift or weekends is difficult. Feedback from faculty, students, and preceptors that have had alternative shift experiences has been extremely positive. Some of the challenges of night shift opportunities are the available staff and the saturation of new hires overwhelming preceptors. A few suggestions were to have float pools take students on a dyad modality, have faculty on-site to support preceptors with cohorts, and provide incentives for nurses to work as part-time ad-hoc faculty.

**Announcements and Resources:**

**Upcoming Conference.** Join OCN at [Nurse Wellness: An Organizational Imperative](https://oregoncenterfornursing.org/nurse-wellness-conference/) on March 21st to discuss ways to impact wellness within your organization.

**CNA Huddle.** With support from the Oregon Department of Human Services, OCN offers a limited-duration [CNA Huddle](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAof-2uqj8oEtEIhTxN4QpMeDePm3s60Pim) to discuss pipeline, education, recruitment, and retention issues specific to the CNA workforce. Join us next Wednesday at 8 a.m.

**OHA Update.** Beginning April 1st, eligibility renewals for Oregon Health Plan members will resume. OHP members are encouraged to make sure their contact information is up-to-date. Get more information on the update [here](https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDHS/bulletins/348979c).

**Legislative Watch.** The House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care will have a public hearing on Monday, February 20, 2023, at 3:00 PM. Four bills are on the [agenda](https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Committees/HBHHC/2023-02-20-15-00/Agenda), all impacting nursing.

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