

Date: May 24, 2024



Oregon Center for
N U R S I N G

FRIDAY HUDDLE

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

Nursing Workforce

Financial Literacy and Support for Nurses: Huddlers explored the value of financial literacy and advising amongst nursing professionals. These services are often available through Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) or in employee benefits packages. Huddlers agreed that while money management might be a struggle for some individuals, it is not a consistent conversation across the profession. The issue could be more prominent amongst nursing students, as well as LPNs, RNs with families and single incomes, and those paying for their children's education. In addition, those graduating or returning to school face student loan repayment stress. Finally, Huddlers shared their experiences using public student loan forgiveness, AmeriCorps, and Peace Corps.

Risk of H5N1 in Raw Milk: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) issued [a public reminder of the risk associated with raw \(unpasteurized\) milk](#) consumption amid the current H5N1 “bird flu” outbreak in dairy cattle. Recent U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) testing found that about 20 percent of the samples tested positive for H5N1 viral fragments. The most current information is available from OHA.

Outstanding Nurse Preceptor Awards: Mark your calendars! Nominations for [the 2024 Outstanding Nurse Preceptor Awards](#) will open on Monday, June 3. The annual award cycle is a special opportunity to recognize and celebrate the critical role these professionals play in advancing the nursing workforce. Stay tuned for more information coming soon, which is available on the OCN website and through our email newsletter. Questions can be directed to callie.gisler@oregoncenterfornursing.org.

Volunteers Needed for OHWI Summer Camp: Interested in inspiring the next generation of nursing professionals? [The Synapse: Health Career Explorations program](#) is seeking current nurses to speak with attending junior and senior high school students about the nursing profession. The event happens on Tuesday, June 18th, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Pacific University's Hillsboro Campus. Anyone interested can reach out to Martha Robertson, Synapse Camp Coordinator, by phone (503-352-6505) or email martha.robertson@pacificu.edu.

Events & Happenings

Nursing Wellness is Public Protection Webinar: Join the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN), along with the Oregon Center for Nursing (OCN) and the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA), for a webinar on Thursday, May 30, at noon. [Navigating Mental Health, Addiction, and Recovery in the Nursing Profession](#) is an hour-long event that delves into the challenges nursing professionals face regarding mental health and substance use disorders, featuring real-life recovery stories and highlighting available resources for nurses in Oregon. A replay will be available, so please register even if you cannot attend the live webinar.

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, May 31, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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