



# FutureThink News

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## **Nursing 2015 © - Racing to the Future Receives Rave Reviews**

On Sept. 26, the collaboration between Ohio Nurses Association (ONA), the Ohio Hospital Association (OHA) and the Ohio Organization for Nurse Executives (OONE) culminated in a kick-off event with almost 250 registered nurses, doctors, hospital executives, administrators, human resource representatives, Ohio policy advisors, health care facility designers and membership organizations in attendance.

Four goals lead this effort, each with a different set of measurable objectives discussed during the event:

- ▮ Highly educated nurses are prepared to fulfill evolving roles in dynamic health care system and nursing resources meet increasing health care demands.
- ▮ Worksite standards support quality nursing care in an ergonomically safe environment with the end result being better consumer outcomes.
- ▮ Nurses are independently and collectively recognized for the leadership and value they bring to achieving high quality care and positive outcomes.
- ▮ Practice culture conditions and benefits provide a win-win for nurses, consumers and organizations.

Additional participants are needed to work on efforts and are encouraged to contact Jean Scholz at the OHA at 614-221-7614 or [jeans@ohanet.org](mailto:jeans@ohanet.org).

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## **Healthcare Task Force Makes Recommendations**

The Healthcare Task Force, chaired by Governors Workforce Policy Board member Dr. Ron Abrams, presented its work and made recommendations to the Executive Committee Sept. 6. The team identified the phase-one and priority-one recommendations as presented to the Governor's Jobs Cabinet, which contained nine recommendations. Utilizing the board's funding guideline requirements that speak to performance outcomes and acceptable levels of return, the team worked hard to identify and make recommendations to implement those items that could achieve the greatest impact in the shortest amount of time.

Hospitals were represented on the task force by Bill Ruse, president emeritus of Blanchard Valley Health Association, and Molly Seals, senior vice president of human resources & organizational development for St. Elizabeth Health Center.

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## **HISPC Scenario Comments Requested**

The Health Policy Institute of Ohio (HPIO), on behalf of the Governor of Ohio, received a federal contract for the Health Information Security and Privacy Collaboration (HISPC). The contract requires the identification of business practice and legal barriers that affect health information exchange in Ohio and the development of solutions and implementation strategies to improve Ohio's health information exchange. HPIO serves as the convener to create a strategic road map for policy recommendations to enhance the adoption of health information technology and health information exchange in Ohio.

To fulfill the contract, HPIO seeks input from stakeholders including health plans, providers, employers, government, and consumers. Initial meetings were held in August on 19 topical areas and participants provided their comments on benefits, and barriers of health information technology and health information exchange in Ohio as it related to their focus areas. The comments from the meeting are posted at [www.hispc.pbwiki.com/TopicalEventMeetings](http://www.hispc.pbwiki.com/TopicalEventMeetings). Additional comments are encouraged and can be made by

following the instructions at the top of the Web page.

When health care teams develop an integrated plan of care with their clients through the use of interactive technology and information systems, Ohio moves closer to the FutureThink vision for the preferred future for the delivery of patient care. HPIO has taken a significant leadership role in reaching that vision and your support and suggestions are encouraged to help them continue in its efforts.

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### **Report Touts Hospitals as Vital to Dayton Economy**

According to a report prepared by the University of Cincinnati Economics Center for Education & Research, hospitals in the Dayton region contributed at least \$5.68 billion and 58,541 jobs to the economy in 2005. This includes \$2.98 billion in spending for labor, goods and services, which in turn generated \$2.7 billion in spending by others. Together, these direct and indirect expenditures accounted for nearly \$118 million in state and local tax revenues.

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### **Hiram College Creates Nursing Program to Boost Enrollment**

Hiram College in Portage County is working to launch a new nurse training program to stem the region's nursing shortage and boost the college's enrollment. Officials expect to enroll the first class of 40 nursing students in fall 2007 once Hiram secures approval for the program from the State Board of Nursing and the Board of Regents. The new program would offer students several unusual features, including the opportunity to apply for admission to the nursing program during their first year rather than using the second-year application process common at other nursing schools. The program also would follow a non-traditional schedule, allowing nursing students to study abroad with faculty for three weeks after taking three 12-week courses. In addition, the college plans to construct a basic skills lab and to station nursing students at area medical centers to complete clinical requirements. The new program director says that Hiram may be able to overcome challenges presented by the national faculty shortage by offering nursing instructors the chance to help create a program from the ground up. Akron Beacon Journal, 8/8/06, RWJF News Digest)

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### **New Council Set to Bolster Ohio Workforce Training**

A new advisory council charged with finding ways to streamline Ohio's workforce education system – including the state's community colleges, career technical centers, and regional branch campuses – aims to help adult workers more easily get the training and skills they need to compete in a technology-driven knowledge economy.

The advisory council, established in July by Governor Bob Taft, has been asked to develop a package of proposals for the General Assembly to consider in the next biennium budget plan. The council includes representatives of adult career centers, community and technical colleges, university regional campuses, adult literacy education programs and the business community, as well as the Governor's Workforce Policy Board and the General Assembly. The chair of the council is Alan Jones, director of human resources at the Christ Hospital.

According to the executive order creating the council, the group will explore and make recommendations to the legislature for a new coordinating structure for the state's postsecondary adult workforce education and training. It is to study models in other states as well as local-level successes and submit recommendations to the governor by Nov. 1.

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### **Ohio Faces Shortage of Drug and Alcohol Counselors**

If Ohio does not start training drug-and alcohol dependency counselors, to the state soon will face a shortage. The average counselor in Ohio is about 50 years old and nearly half of the existing workforce is expected to retire in the next 10 years. That could mean longer waiting lists for treatment and less care for those who need it. According to John Lisy, director of the Shaker Heights Youth and Family Counseling Center in suburban Cleveland, three-quarters of Ohio's approximately 6,000 professional counselors are at least 40, and about 44 percent are 50 or older. A shortage of counselors could make it harder to fight crime and other related social problems.

Counselors are hard to attract because of the field's low pay – salaries can be as low as \$20,000 a year. Students often opt for better-paying jobs in other health-care fields. The expected shortage of counselors is being felt nationally as the country ages. (Columbus Dispatch 7/18/06)

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## Hospitals Lead the Way

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce and Society for Human Resource Management released their rankings for 2006 Best Employers in Ohio, including Southern Ohio Medical Center, Portsmouth; The MetroHealth System, Cleveland; and Catholic Healthcare Partners, Cincinnati.

Lake Hospital System, Painesville, was named a finalist in the large hospital category in HealthLeaders Media's 2005 Top Leadership Teams in Health Care awards program.

TriHealth was just named by *Working Mother* magazine as one of the 100 best companies for women employed outside of the home.

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## Growth in Nursing School Admissions Slows in 2005

U.S. nursing school enrollment and graduation continued to rise in 2004-05 with baccalaureate, associate degree and diploma programs, contributing an estimated 84,878 additional prospective registered nurses to the labor supply according to a new report from the National League of Nursing. However, annual growth in admissions slowed to 5 percent from 9.4 percent in 2003-04, signaling a possible slowdown in the recent upward trend. The percentage of racial-ethnic minorities enrolling in basic RN programs declined by nearly 2 percent in 2004-05 after increasing by more than 6 percentage points from 1994-2002. Pamela Thompson, CEO of the American Organization of Nurse Executives, stated the study sheds some interesting light on the profession and shows that while schools of nursing are attracting highly qualified candidates, much more needs to be done to expand minority recruitment in the profession. (AHA NewsNow)

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## Response from Previous Newsletter

A reader of the last issue of *FutureThink News* responded to the article *Federal Immigration Bill Addresses Caregiver Shortages*. She wrote:

"To bring in nurses from other countries does not solve the problem, it is a rob Peter to pay Paul principal. You end up with a language barrier and many people who cannot pass state boards; they can work as techs usually until they pass state boards. They have an entirely different type of culture and different training.

If the people sponsoring these laws would talk with managers who have hired and trained these people after they came to America, they would learn how hard it is at times to convey in English what needs to be done.

Please ask for the input of managers and administrators before bringing in foreign nurses who do not have command of the English language. One of JCAHO's initiatives is safety and now they have added to the problem with a language barrier. I cannot tell you how disappointed I am with the senators who sponsored this bill. I do realize this was at the federal legislative level.

I did find the nurses from other countries very hard working and with great ethics, but one should never assume they could come to America and fill the vacancy of an RN immediately and solve our nursing shortage.

How fair is it to the other countries to rob their precious nurses that they have trained? Enough of this bringing in a commodity from out of the country.

Sponsoring nursing bills to assist our own Americans to go to nurses training is a much better idea. Train our own and get some of these people off welfare rolls. Please assist the bright students and give them an opportunity to become a nurse. Try assisting them in being productive member of America, help grow our own. There are many men and women who could do well give the chance.

Johnson and Johnson ads have brought the need to American public and I am thankful for their initiative in trying to assist with this nursing shortage problem.”

Signed Billie Anne Massie RN, C BS, Nurse Manager Short Term Care MedCentral Health System.

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***The FutureThink Institute** is an initiative of the Ohio Hospital Association, working toward creating long-term solutions for Ohio's health care system. The FutureThink Institute takes a multidimensional approach to designing better ways to deliver care and changing the demand for health care professionals in order to achieve better results for our communities. Learn more about the FutureThink Institute, and view the FutureThink News archives at [www.futurethink.org](http://www.futurethink.org).*

**Editor's note:** Please share news or comments with Jean Scholz, [jeans@ohanet.org](mailto:jeans@ohanet.org), or call 614.221.7614. To be removed from this mailing list, please reply to this e-mail with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.