

## **N.H. Nursing Workforce Partnership Project**

*November 2002 - Fact Sheet*

**Goal:** To increase the number of nurses providing care in New Hampshire health care organizations through support to students in NH nursing degree programs that prepare them to be a Registered Nurse (RN) and for specialized non-degree RN training (e.g., critical care, emergency care, pediatrics, etc.), RN re-entry training programs and preceptor training for RNs.

**Resources:** The US Department of Labor awarded \$3 million from H-1B Technical Skills Training Grant Program for this project. All project activities must be completed by September 2004. The funds will be administered by the Workforce Opportunities Council, Inc. in a cooperative agreement with the Foundation for Healthy Communities in Concord, NH. Approximately \$1.9 million will be available through a forgivable loan program for NH residents enrolled in NH nursing degree programs and \$800,000 for RN training programs.

**New Hampshire Focus:** The program seeks to serve NH residents who represent a mix of incumbent workers, dislocated workers (laid-off) and emerging workers or young people. Participants in all programs must be employed in a NH health care organization or be committed to working in a NH health care organization upon completing their education or training. Participants who receive funding must report on their employment following completion of their program.

### **Major Strategies:**

1. **Forgivable Loan Program** – A maximum of \$5,000 per student enrolled in a NH nursing education program leading to an RN degree will be available. Funds may be used for tuition and school fees. All payments will be made to the nursing degree program after successful completion of the student's course(s). The program seeks to leverage additional non-federal funding (e.g., scholarships, tuition assistance, etc.). A series of application deadlines will be established in 2003.
2. **RN Specialty Training** – Non-degree specialty training areas include: critical care; emergency care; peri-operative; pediatric; psychiatric; women's health and intravenous. Training program content will be reviewed in consultation with the NH Board of Nursing. It requires a minimum of 1:1 match in funding by employers. Training programs that involve collaboration among multiple employers will be encouraged. A Request for Proposal (RFP) process will be developed for these funds in 2003.

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3. RN Re-entry Training – Resources for RN Re-entry training programs that meet the requirements of the NH Board of Nursing and are consumer-friendly will be promoted through this project. An RFP will be developed in 2003 for this training effort.
4. RN Preceptor Training – Resources to train currently employed RNs who can precept nursing students will developed in collaboration with the NH Board of Nursing. An RFP will be developed in 2003 for this training.

Organizational participants in the NH Nursing Workforce Partnership include:

- Foundation for Healthy Communities
- Workforce Opportunities Council, Inc.
- N.H. Board of Nursing
- N.H. Commission on Post-Secondary Education
- N.H. Hospital Association
- Home Care Association of New Hampshire
- N.H. Health Care Association
- N.H. Association of Counties' Nursing Home Affiliates
- N.H. Organization of Nurse Executives
- Healthcare Human Resource Association of N.H.
- N.H. Nursing Summit
- N.H. Community Technical College System
- N.H. Area Health Education Center

For the most current information (applications, deadlines, RFPs, etc.) related to the N.H. Nursing Workforce Partnership Project (NH-NWPP) please go to [www.healthynh.com](http://www.healthynh.com). This will be the first place that information and application materials will be made available as we develop this project. Thank you.