

California Nursing Education Plan and White Paper – Planning Phase Completed

The research and planning phase of the project to update the 2008 California White Paper on Nursing Education Redesign was completed in December. Supported with grant funding from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the project aim is to identify innovative strategies for change and new priorities for action, positioning the future nursing workforce to advance health in a changing healthcare environment.

Generative dialogue with over 320 education, nursing and healthcare leaders participating in six regional convenings across the state this summer helped to further focus on key drivers of health care change while recognizing the escalating pace and sense of urgency in preparing the future workforce now. The opportunity to significantly impact and improve health outcomes through nursing will necessitate fundamental changes in education, with new types and levels of academic service partnerships preparing nurses together, while also positioning the current nursing workforce for new roles.

A special project team on the Value of Nursing emerged from these regional and statewide discussions in the fall. Demonstrating evidence-based nurse-driven outcomes with reduced health care costs is essential to meeting the strategic challenges and changes required of education and practice in this dynamic environment. Recommendations and strategies resulting from this work are foundational, and will have far-reaching impact related to the current and future work of nurses.

The planning phase culminated with Action Team recommendations and strategies discussed and adopted by the statewide Thought Leader Team in these areas: academic service partnerships; advancing education-academic progression; faculty recruitment and development; transition and residency programs; preparing future nurses; and nursing value. The updated White Paper will be shared with national and statewide leaders and organizations this spring to invite expert commentary for consideration. Final adoption, public release and dissemination is anticipated for May 2016.

Those interested in learning more about the project may contact Carolyn Orłowski, MSN, RN, Project Director, at Carolyn@healthimpact.org