

***HealthImpact* Leads Nurse Shortage Workgroup in Southern California**

HealthImpact, at the request of the Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC), is leading a series of four Specialty RN Shortage Work Group sessions this winter. The first was held with a full house at a kickoff meeting on January 21 in Los Angeles, with three phone-based meetings taking place over February and March.

A total of 32 human resources, workforce development and nursing professionals attended and will continue to work towards regional strategies to address the issue. *HealthImpact* will then present a report with the group's findings — likely by the end of March.

The work group was established in response to concerns raised by hospitals about a shortage of specialty-trained registered nurses over the last year. These concerns are supported by both workforce data and anecdotal reports. The working group will develop a report identifying root-cause findings, the size and definition of the gap and recommended strategies, processes or programs to address the issue.

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