

## **Texas Team Report: Robert Wood Johnson Nursing Education Capacity Expansion Plan**

### **Historical Perspective**

As reported in July, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Center to Champion Nursing in America (a subsidiary of AARP) recently held a Summit in Arlington, Virginia. The purpose of the Summit was to share successes and ideas for improving capacity in nursing education programs toward the goal of addressing the nursing shortage. Applications were invited and 48 were received. The Governor's Office was responsible for gathering a team and submitting an application on behalf of the State of Texas. Tony Gilman was the Governor's staff responsible for this effort. Texas was one of fourteen state teams that were ultimately invited to the conference. The Summit took place June 26-27th in Arlington, Virginia.

The Summit provided our team with the opportunity to consult with experts, share best practices with other state teams and learn about innovative strategies. In addition, the Summit allowed our team to discuss our current activities to continue expanding nursing education capacity as well as elements that may need refinement or further development. To support our success the sponsoring organizations will track the implementation of the plan developed by Team Texas at the Summit over the next year.

The Summit was a stimulating conference and Team Texas has continued to meet this summer to discuss strategies and Legislative initiatives to implement a plan to increase nursing education capacity in Texas.

The Team has worked on the following goals and strategies to expand nursing education capacity.

#### **Draft Goals:**

- Support Growth – By 2012, double the number of graduates from Texas schools to 14,593.
- Promote Efficiencies and Innovations – Create new efficiencies and innovations which support doubling the number of graduates by 2012.
- Partnerships – Establish new community based relationships and partnerships to support development of nursing workforce.
- Faculty Salaries – Support advocacy of Nursing Workforce Shortage Coalition to address faculty salaries at Texas schools of nursing.

### **Draft Concepts/Strategies Under Consideration:**

- Link accountability for retention and growth at Texas schools to receipt of additional funding sources created by impending legislation.
- Create and implement faculty development plans.
- Calculate retention rates and promote best practices.
- Support new curricula model for RN Nursing Education in Texas (based on Institute of Medicine and QSEN competencies).
- Assess and evaluate regional partnerships which support doubling of graduates by 2010. Evaluate potential for:
  - Asset mapping;
  - Alignment of regional faculty resources;
  - Regional clinical placement of students;
  - Regional pathway education systems;
  - Regional clinical simulation centers.
- Support new producers/programs.
- Support for enhanced faculty salaries and/or augmentation.

### **Future Activities**

- One year commitment to state and Center to Champion Nursing
- Adoption and dissemination of Strategic Plan prior to beginning of legislative session (requiring frequent team meetings in Austin and across the state).
- Advocating for the plan during the legislative session and oversight of implementation plan post session.
- Attendance at future Center webinars, activities, and national conferences.
- Coordinating State Nursing Education Capacity issues across agencies and entities.

**This is an information item only.**