



# IHA WORKFORCE PROGRESS NOTES

## Small Doses

### Hospitalist & Succession Planning Program Materials Available Online

Materials from the April 2<sup>nd</sup> IHA/ICAHN Workshop "Building a Strong Small and Rural Workforce for Tomorrow" are now available by [clicking here](#).

### Did You Know?

According to the [IBHE Public Agenda Report](#), in 2005, **only 31.8%** of Illinoisans age 25-64 had a bachelor's degree or higher (pg. 12).

### At the same time...

At least **64% of the health care workers likely to be employed by Illinois hospitals require a bachelor's degree or higher** (IHA Staff Analysis).

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### IHA Web Site

[www.ihatoday.org](http://www.ihatoday.org)

## IHA Task Force Targets Physician Supply and Retention

The efforts of IHA's member group on workforce issues will initially focus on physician supply concerns. The Task Force's priority interest is consistent with IHA's recent membership satisfaction survey which found that physician supply was one of the three most challenging issues Illinois hospitals face.

IHA initiatives already underway addressing both allied health and nursing shortages across the state will continue. Information related to the wide range of workforce topics is continually updated on IHA's web site ([click here](#)).

## IBHE Public Agenda: First Task Force Meeting

About 60 stakeholders attended the first meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education's TF on March 20<sup>th</sup> at DePaul University to review a draft study that shows both economic strength and ominous trends in jobs, educational attainment, and population growth. Discussion centered on a major finding that indicates minorities, except for Asian-Americans, while the most rapidly growing segment of the Illinois population, are also significantly underrepresented at each stage of the pipeline, e.g. high school completion, college participation and college completion. In addition to formal meetings scheduled for May, August and September, regional forums are planned for coming months to receive feedback on the study and comment on development of a consensus-based Public Agenda. For additional information, as well as a copy of IBHE's report, please check the web site ([click here](#)).

## National Summit: Nurse Education Capacity

The U.S. Department of Labor, in collaboration with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and others, is encouraging state teams to apply for participation in a two-day event this June to address the critical issue of expanding nursing education capacity. Selected teams will share their innovative strategies and best practices to facilitate action around four key areas: (1) strategic partnerships and resource alignment (2) the role of policy and regulation (3) increasing faculty capacity and diversity and (4) education design. IDFP's Center for Nursing is coordinating the Illinois application, which will highlight the ongoing regional pilots occurring in North-east (MCHC) and Southern Illinois (Connect SI). For more info, please check the IHA web site ([click here](#)).

## Strategy Spotlight: Focusing on OT, PT, and Speech Therapy

**Greenville Regional Hospital**, Greenville, offers two workforce-related programs for Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapy. The first, which is aimed at increasing career awareness, allows students at Greenville College to shadow staff therapists while fulfilling volunteer hours required for graduation. The second program increases educational capacity by offering hospital staff as clinical instructors for students studying therapy at area schools.

## Best Practices: Tell Us Your Workforce Development Story

*Each edition of IHA Workforce Progress Notes will contain an example of Illinois hospitals working to reduce workforce shortages. Please [click here to share your workforce development story](#).*