



IHA WORKFORCE PROGRESS NOTES

Small Doses

April 2, 2008

IHA/ICAHN Collaborative Workforce Program:
“Building a Strong Small and Rural Workforce for Tomorrow”

Contact: [Abby Radcliffe](#)
 at (217) 541-1178 for
 program information or to
 register.

Did You Know?

Within five years, 33% of
 the federal workforce will
 be eligible for retirement.
 (AARP Bulletin, 3/08)

Legislative Update

HB392, Rep. Flower's
 nurse-patient ratio
 remains on second
 reading on House Floor.

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IHA Web Site

www.ihatoday.org

IHA Workforce Task Force Holds First Meeting

The IHA Workforce Task Force held its first meeting on Feb. 14, 2008. The group reviewed current and projected workforce trends; identified resources expended on workforce issues; and discussed its charge to identify the priority focus areas for IHA during 2008.

The Task Force is chaired by Kevin Poorten, President and CEO of **KishHealth System**, and includes a broad cross-representation of 22 IHA members, including 8 small and rural hospitals and a representative from the Post Acute Care Constituency.

IHA Workforce Survey Piloted

The 2008 IHA Workforce Survey is now being piloted with members of the IHA Workforce Task Force. New sections focus on hospital contributions and efforts related to workforce development along with the operational challenges of an aging workforce. The electronic survey will be distributed to all members in April, and the results will guide the efforts of IHA's task force.

Illinois Board of Higher Education: Public Agenda

Last Spring, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was charged by HJR69 to develop a Public Agenda for higher education through a broad-based task force “to study the challenges and opportunities facing higher education, the State's workforce needs, demographic trends, and higher education funding and student financial aid.” In order to facilitate broad-based consensus, IBHE is conducting statewide briefings to share their initial Public Needs report. IHA attended the March 11 forum and is an invited representative on the statewide Task Force that will have its inaugural meeting on March 20 at DePaul University. For more information and a copy of IBHE's report, check the IHA web site by [clicking here](#).

Best Practices: Tell Us Your Workforce Development Story

Each edition of *IHA Workforce Progress Notes* will include examples of Illinois hospitals working to reduce workforce shortages. [Click here](#) to share your workforce development stories with us!

Strategy Spotlight: Easing Transition from Student to Nurse

Edward Hospital, Naperville, has expended more than \$1 million per year to ease the transition from student experience to licensed professional nurse employee. The mentoring program supports roughly 250 new graduates as they assume patient care responsibilities. [Click here to view IHA's Workforce Strategy Spotlight](#).

Working For You:

- **IHA to collaborate with Illinois State Medical Society on physician workforce issues.** ISMS has invited IHA to participate in future planning sessions between staffs of both organizations.
- **3/13 letter to IDFPR.** IHA expresses concerns with new policy impacting LPN and IV administration ([click to view letter](#)).