

NURSING COUNCIL ON
WORKFORCE SUSTAINABILITY

NEWSLETTER



NCWS Work Continues: Addressing Nursing Workforce Challenges

The Nursing Council on Workforce Sustainability (NCWS) remains dedicated to developing innovative solutions to the ongoing nursing workforce shortages. The organization's committees are actively working on several key initiatives to strengthen the nursing pipeline and improve workforce sustainability.

One major focus is the development of nursing apprenticeships across the Commonwealth, in partnership with the Division of Apprenticeship Standards. Additionally, NCWS continues to enhance pathways for practical nursing education and create opportunities for unlicensed assistive personnel to transition into nursing roles. Other critical efforts include addressing primary care workforce needs, improving clinical placements, and exploring virtual nursing models.

Revive in Action Boston: Supporting Urban Communities

Revive in Action is a community-based organization dedicated to investing in urban communities through various initiatives. Executive Director Jay Prosser recently spoke to the Home Health Aide (HHA) Pre-Apprenticeship class, delivering a presentation in Haitian Creole.

The organization provides HHA pre-apprenticeship programs, rapid rehousing assistance, and support for migrant entrepreneurs.

To learn more about these impactful programs, visit reviveinaction.org.

If you would like to contribute your expertise to one of our workgroups or committees, please reach out to NursingCouncil@umassmed.edu.

Massachusetts Legislative Session: Key Nursing Workforce Bills

With over 8,000 bills pending legislative action, NCWS has identified several key legislative priorities that impact the nursing workforce:

- **Bill SD 1598:** This bill, sponsored by the American Nurses Association (ANA) Massachusetts, seeks to establish NCWS as the official Massachusetts Nursing Workforce Center, expand its reach, and secure sustainable funding.
- **Bill HD 3502:** Sponsored by the Massachusetts Hospital Association (MHA) and multiple unions, this bill focuses on addressing workplace violence in healthcare settings.
- **Bill HD 3591:** Sponsored by the MHA, this bill proposes a tax credit for healthcare professionals who precept students, incentivizing mentorship in clinical education.

We encourage you to review these legislative initiatives and reach out to your legislators or the sponsoring organizations for further details.



The NCWS Around Massachusetts: Engaging with the Community

So far in 2025, the NCWS has been actively engaging with healthcare professionals and organizations across Massachusetts, sharing insights and fostering collaboration:

- **January:** Executive Director Jay Prosser spoke at the New England Regional Black Nurses Association Membership Meeting.
- **January:** NCWS attended the MHA's Annual Meeting in Boston, connecting with healthcare leaders from across the Commonwealth.
- **January:** NCWS participated in the State Subscriber Meeting for the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers, fostering national collaboration on nursing workforce policy and initiatives.
- **February:** Jay Prosser addressed the Massachusetts Association of Colleges of Nursing, discussing strategies to strengthen educational pipelines for nursing workforce development.
- **March:** Jay attended an in-person meeting of the Western Massachusetts Nursing Collaborative at Holyoke Community College. This working session led to valuable outcomes that will positively influence NCWS initiatives across the Commonwealth.

Stay connected with NCWS as we continue working towards a stronger and more sustainable nursing workforce in Massachusetts!