



Celebrating Our 10th Anniversary: CLN's Nurse Refresher Program

The Nurse Refresher Course, designed by the Connecticut League for Nursing in collaboration with Charter Oak State College, is celebrating its tenth year. The program prepares inactive nurses to return after an absence of three to five years or more to the practice of nursing in first-level medical-surgical staff positions.

The course curriculum, including both online learning modules and clinical practicum in a hospital setting, proved to be the right combination of self-learning and hand-on refresher to make it popular and practical option for this specific segment of nursing professionals.

It's effectiveness and success over the years has enabled hundreds of nurses to re-enter the workforce and assume important roles in hospitals, long-term and home care and meet the growing nurse staffing needs of the state.

According to Jane Murdock, CLN Online Coordinator, the course was designed with the belief that the returning nurse has not forgotten how to be a nurse. "The educational focus is specifically on the changes that have occurred in clinical practice while the nurse was inactive. The curriculum centers on the new nursing culture, technological and equipment advances, care delivery changes, and advances in medical science that have influenced medical and nursing regimens," Murdock explained.

The first two modules of the course are Internet based, providing maximum flexibility for the re-entering nurse in terms of study time while offering the added benefit of eliminating travel time and costs associated with classroom learning. The 14-week commitment of self-study requires 10 to 15 hours per week to complete assignments, interact with the instructor, and participate in online discussions and conferences.

"The third module consists of a supervised, hands-on, clinical practicum in a cooperating hospital," said Murdock. "Students will have graduated experiences in providing direct care to patients in which they integrate the new knowledge and updated skills addressed in the first two modules," she added.

According to Murdock, Module Three experiences are individually designed by a clinical coordinator to meet the course learning objectives and an assigned nurse preceptor supervises each student. Connecticut hospitals and long-term care facilities are participating in the clinical practicum for the Course with every effort made to place students in facilities convenient to their home.

"Certificates are issued on successful completion of the Course with graduates in high demand in a variety of interesting and challenging settings," said Murdock.

CONTENTS:

Nurse Refresher Pgm.....	Pg. 1
Simulation Initiative	Pg 2
Guide Nursing Education	Pg. 2
Individual Renewal.....	Pg. 2
CLN is Moving.....	Pg. 3
Upcoming Programs	Pg. 3

Simulated Teaching & Learning Initiative (STLI) *Propells CLN to the Forefront*

CLN is spearheading a revolutionary online nursing initiative that, if successful, will position it as a national teaching and learning model.

The Simulated Teaching and Learning Initiative (STLI), funded by a grant from the State of Connecticut Allied Health Education Initiative, is enabling faculty/nurse educators in schools of nursing and acute care hospitals to gain knowledge and skills to incorporate simulation into their teaching and learning.

According to Linda Perfetto, participants registering through CLN will have access at no charge to (11) two-hour, online courses through the National League for Nursing Simulation Innovation Resource Center <http://sirc.nln.org>.

The online learning tools will be available to registered participants for a period of one year beginning on March 1, 2010 with a total of 22 contact hours awarded upon completion.

Supplementing online learning, participants will be invited to hands-on regional small group simulation workshops throughout the program period with Laerdal, Inc. These sessions are in addition to the CLN/Laerdal large group workshops normally scheduled twice each year.

"Following completion of the courses, participants will be able to apply for funding to develop, implement, evaluate and share simulated teaching and learning scenarios. A web based mechanism will be developed to share the scenarios statewide as part of the project," Perfetto added.

For more information, contact Linda Perfetto at lperfetto@commnet.edu.

CLN 2010-12 Guide to Nursing Education Available

The Guide to Nursing Education is now available for pick-up at CLN's new offices:

Members are encouraged to pick up copies of the guide for your nursing students, as well as practicing nurses to learn about educational opportunities for career advancement.

The Guide is filled with useful information including:

- Career opportunities in nursing in a variety of clinical settings, highlighting benefits of employment.
- Valuable product & services specifically for healthcare professionals.
- Educational opportunities to promote nursing advancement and professional development at all career levels.

A sincere thank you to our CLN members and friends who have supported the production of the bi-annual Guide through paid advertisements and content contribution.



2010 Membership Renewal Drive Underway

*Collect your \$25 incentive with
paid renewal by April 5th!*

If you haven't already completed and returned your 2010 CLN Individual Membership Renewal form, don't delay!

CLN has already rewarded dozens of members with \$50 off coupons to those who returned their paid memberships by February 15th.

These coupons can be used to attend the 21st Annual Nursing Convention on June 10, 2010 at St. Clement's Castle in Portland, CT.

We're extending a special offer of \$25 off the registration fee of the Annual Leadership Convention to those who renew by the April 5th deadline.

At \$65* per year for individual members, your membership investment pays for itself in:

- Program Discounts
- Simulated Learning Activities
- Networking/Mentoring Events

Didn't receive your 2010 renewal packet? Please contact:

Mary Ann Turner
CLN's Database Administrator
7 Meadow Road
Enfield, CT 06082
860-745-4649
maryannturner@cox.net

** \$5 of every membership renewal will be
donated to the CLN Student and New
Faculty Scholarship Fund.*

New CLN Office Opens March 1, 2010

The Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN) has moved from Southington to its new Meriden offices adjacent to the CT Nurses Association. Stop in to say hello and pick up your Guide to Nursing Education or renew your 2010 membership. Our new address is:

377 Research Parkway, Suite 2D
Meriden, CT 06450-7160
Phone: 203-235-6873
Fax: 203-235-6876
Email: lisa@ctleaguefornursing.org
www.ctleaguefornursing.org

Advertise in CLN's e-Newsletter

Reach Nurses and Health Care Facilities

The Connecticut League for Nursing publishes 10 newsletters each year that are distributed electronically and in hard copy to more than 100 hospitals, long term care facilities, VNA's, home care agencies, CT schools of nursing, as well as our individual members.

Reach your target audience while supporting the CT League's mission of educating and advancing nursing in the state.

For rates & information, contact Lisa Olsen
at lisa@ctleaguefornursing.org

Connecticut League for Nursing

Promoting excellence in nursing education to build a strong and diverse nursing work force.

Three strategic goals for CLN:

1. Leadership excellence and effective organizational management
2. Cutting edge educational programming for nurse educators
3. Dynamic membership that actively support statewide participation in nursing initiatives

Upcoming Educational Programs

Friday, April 23, 2010

Certified Nurse Educator
Preparation Workshop
from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm
Masonicare, Wallingford, CT
Fee: \$220

Friday, June 4, 2010

Nurse Faculty Item Writing
Workshop
from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Gateway Community College,
North Haven, CT
Fee: \$95

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Going the NEXT STEP: Putting
Technology to Work in Nursing
Education & Practice
from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
St. Clements Castle, Portland, CT
Fee: \$125 member
\$160 non-member
\$100 retired

Friday, June 11, 2010

Exclusive Technology Intensive
Facilitated by Dr. Diane Skiba
Limited to 25 participants
from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Middletown Inn, Middletown, CT
Fee: \$95

Program brochures will be sent by e-mail or visit the CLN website at www.ctleaguefornursing.org to register on-line. Questions, call Lisa at CLN 203-235-6873.