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News & Updates



Do You Need Help Coping with COVID-19?

The Iowa Department of Public Health has a new program to support healthcare professionals who have been impacted by COVID-19 and are struggling with their behavioral health.



Please contact Your Life Iowa by either calling 1-855-581-8111 or texting 1-855-895-8398. The program provides telehealth and

Interesting News

Click on the heading links below for more information.

[Upcoming Board Meetings are listed on the Board's website](#)

The next regularly scheduled Board conference call is December 2, 2020. Agendas (posted no later than 24 hours before a meeting) and approved minutes can be found at [Board Meeting Records](#)

[Emergency Proclamations Continue](#)

The license relief emergency proclamation, among other extensions, set forth by Governor Kim

recovery support services for adults with behavioral health needs impacted by COVID-19.

For more information specific to the program, please contact jennifer.robertson-hill@idph.iowa.gov.

Sponsored by the Iowa Department of Public Health and funded by Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration, Emergency COVID-19 Project (CFDA 93.665).

Source: *Do You Need Help Coping with COVID-19?* October 2020, A Matter of Substance Newsletter. A publication of the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) Division of Behavioral Health Bureau of Substance Abuse.

LPN IV Therapy Course

The Iowa Board of Nursing has released an updated LPN IV Therapy Course, approved by the Board at their meeting held October 14, 2020.

Background and Timeline

Board staff was charged with updating the Board-approved IV therapy course and to provide ongoing evaluation. Board staff worked collaboratively with an IV Therapy Advisory Committee composed of clinicians, educators, and researchers whose expertise is in infusion therapy. In addition, a subject matter expert was contracted to spearhead the curriculum revision and modification efforts. IV therapy content and nomenclature changes were discussed during three meetings held in 2019 and 2020.

The following list is a summary of the IV course changes, particularly on the role and responsibility of the LPN in an infusion therapy capacity:

- Updated and clarified IV therapy nomenclature and information based on the latest standards of practice.
- Added checkpoints throughout the chapters to verify understanding.
- Updated IV therapy examination questions for the final test.
- Updated IV therapy checklists and milestones required to attain competency.

Please direct any questions you may have about the revised IBON IV Therapy Course to Dr. Jimmy Reyes, Associate Director of Practice & Education at jimmy.reyes1@iowa.gov

Call for Workforce Advisory Committee Members - Extended Deadline

The Iowa Center for Nursing Workforce, a program under the Iowa Board of Nursing, is seeking committee members to replace four members whose terms have ended.

Reynolds was continued on November 10, 2020, and runs through December 10th. Click on the above emergency proclamation link to see the Board's COVID19 webpage. **The Board strongly encourages licensees to renew on time.**

[Resources Available for Nurses Dealing with Substance Use and/or Mental Health Concerns during the Pandemic](#)

The Iowa Board of Nursing recognizes that during this time of crisis and world-wide COVID-19 pandemic, licensed professionals may be struggling to live and work each day, particularly those professionals dealing with substance use or mental health concerns. Consistency is a part of recovery and we understand that may be difficult right now. Your health and safety is important to us. We encourage those who are already a part of the Board's monitoring program to continue down the path of recovery.

For those who are not part of a program but find yourself struggling, we encourage you to reach out. If you would like to self-report and need assistance with substance use and or mental health

Mission Statement: The Iowa Center for Nursing Workforce exists to support a dynamic, well-prepared and diverse nurse workforce to meet the health and wellness needs of Iowans.

Iowa's nursing workforce center is staffed by an IBON employee. The charge of the advisory committee is as follows:

- 1) Identify the overall strategic direction for the Iowa Center for Nursing Workforce.
- 2) Establish priorities for the Iowa Center for Nursing Workforce.

Advisory members meet three times each year. In-person meetings run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Des Moines. However, in the immediate future, meetings will be held via an online meeting platform and run from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The dates for 2021 are yet to be determined.

Available positions include:

- A representative of a public or private college offering BSN or higher in nursing degrees
- A practicing registered nurse educated at the ADN or BSN level
- A practicing registered nurse educated at the LPN level
- A public member

Interested parties should submit a cover letter and resume to:

Laura Hudson, MSN, RN
Associate Director – CE/Workforce
400 S.W. 8th Street, Suite B
Des Moines, IA 50309-4685

All letters and resumes must be received in the board office by **December 5th** (date extended) for consideration. Applicants are approved by the Board and will be notified by board staff of the appointments after the IBON meeting held in January 2021.

For more information about the work of the Iowa Center for Nursing Workforce and to see current advisory committee members see the website: [The Center](#)

concerns, please contact [the Iowa Nurse Assistance Program](#) (INAP) staff:

Rhonda Ruby, MS, RN
INAP Program
Coordinator
Rhonda.Ruby@iowa.gov
(515) 725 4008

Michele Royer, LBSW
INAP Case Manager
Michele.Royer@iowa.gov
(515) 725 3389

The [American Nurses Association](#) has [launched a Resilience and Nurse Suicide Prevention Resource Site](#). The information and tools on the ANA site are provided to address the issue of suicide prevention. Please visit the site to find the tools and information to help. Share this information with your colleagues.

News You Can Use is the official means of communication from the IBON to Iowa Nurses.

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