

Health Care Workforce Center

Another Nurse Refresher Course Coming in September

The Health Council, St. Elizabeth Medical Center and TriHealth will be hosting the fall RN Refresher course, September 12 – November 17, for nurses who have been out of bedside nursing and are interested in returning to the rewarding and challenging field.

The refresher course assists participants in developing and applying current knowledge in areas of the nursing process, health assessment, clinical skills and clinical decision making. It will also help registered nurses gain experience in providing clinical care to

patients with selected nursing needs while allowing them to gain a renewed sense of confidence as a professional nurse. The course is approved by the Kentucky Board of Nursing and meets contact hour requirements in Ohio and Kentucky. It will provide 160 contact hours of theory and 125 hours of clinical experience.

The deadline for registration is August 8. The \$500 fee for the course will be reimbursed upon successful completion and hiring by the sponsoring hospital. For more information, visit www.gchc.org.

THEO Guide To Be Included in September *Enquirer*

The next issue of the Tristate's Health-care Education Opportunities (THEO) guide will be published in September in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. The resource guide provides high school students and their parents with useful resources and facts about getting started in a health career. It includes articles and advice written by representatives from sponsoring hospitals and the Health Council.

Organizations interested in sponsoring the special insert or obtaining more information can contact Mary Duffey at (513) 531-0200. ■

Collaborative Update

CincinnatiMDjobs.com Utilization Increased

Activity on cincinnatiMDjobs.com continues to rise with 8,400 unique visitors referencing the site since its launch and a total of 89 jobs posted. The complimentary online service offers area physician employers the opportunity to post physician job listings and practice profiles on a website that will be marketed to medical residents and practicing physicians regionally and nationally.

CincinnatiMDjobs.com had a booth at the National Medical Association Regional Conference at the end of April. The initiative received positive response, with at least one candidate in a targeted specialty identified, and several vendors expressed interest in sponsorship. CincinnatiMDjobs.com will also be represented at the National Medical Association 2005 Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly in July. The event will be held in New York City and is expected to draw 5,000 attendees.

The Cincinnati MD Resource Center is providing staff to support the recruitment process by marketing opportunities and the region's advantages to job-seeking physicians, especially minority candidates, to reflect the area's growing population. The Resource Center held its first Physician's Forum in conjunction with the Cincinnati Medical Association on April 14. Participants identified issues affecting recruitment

and retention, which will be discussed in more detail by a special sub-group to be identified.

Individuals who may be interested in volunteering for the Cincinnati MD Resource Center Board can contact Erika McMullen at (513) 531-0267.

Ohio On the Move Raises Awareness

Increasing public awareness of Ohio On the Move (OOM) is a prime objective, and the program has been included in several special events to help achieve that goal. OOM was a sponsor of the Opening Day Rally on the Square and an exhibitor at the Cincinnati Flying Pig Marathon Expo. Both events exposed OOM to people throughout the Tristate area and beyond. In May, OOM participated in the girls!CAN Girls!Rock event, which included entertainment and activities for hundreds of local elementary school girls, adult mentors and teacher chaperones. At the Ohio State Medical Association Annual Meeting in Cleveland, OOM was promoted as a tool for physicians to refer to patients in need of increased physical activity and improved diet.

Collaborative Establishes Endowment Fund

The Collaborative is focusing on the development of its endowment fund

in 2005. The endowment will allow the Collaborative to invest a significant amount of money and use the interest income. The purpose of the endowment is to provide a source of sustainable funding for the Collaborative.

Endowment gifts may be given in honor of a special person, in memory of a family member or in many other ways. If you would like more information about the Health Improvement Collaborative's Endowment Fund, please contact Lynn Olman or Linda Wilfong at (513) 531-0267.

Coming In Summer 2005

Watch for the Collaborative's first musical fundraiser! "My Sister, Her Boyfriend and Me Sing Broadway ... live!" was recorded in early spring at the Metropolitan Club in Covington, KY. Featuring sisters Katye and Libet Wilfong and Katye's boyfriend, Benji Reid, the CD is a live recording of Broadway standards. Reid, a recent graduate of Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory, is a professional actor in New York City. The Wilfong sisters are each pursuing a college degree in the performance industry. The CD will sell for \$14.99, and all proceeds benefit the Collaborative. CDs may be pre-ordered by calling or emailing Linda Wilfong at (513) 531-0267 or email her at lwilfong@gchc.org. Release date is expected to be summer 2005. ■