



2 South Main Street 2nd Floor Pleasantville, NJ 08232
Telephone: 609.485.0153 Fax: 609.484.0067
Healthcare Sub-Committee Meeting

February 15, 2022

Attendees: Lillian Smith, Fran Kuhn, Sam Wear, Paul McClellan, Pat Laychock, Dan Kelly, Sherwood Taylor, Michael Blatt, Myrna Morales-Keklak, Dr. Sheila Quinn, Gina DeMaio, Sherrise A. Moten

Absent: Dr. Philip Guenther

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kuhn at 3:05pm.

Mr. Kuhn introduced Patti Laychock from Visiting Angels, which is a home health aide provider.

Mr. Kuhn began the meeting by discussing two issues from the last meeting, residency, and specialty nursing at both Shore Medical Center and Atlanticare. An invite was accepted from the United States Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship in New Jersey to engage in a conversation about registered apprenticeship and the viability of the program. Mr. Blatt shared that there are current programs connected to Rutgers University. This program provides the additional support, services, and skills when incumbent nurses may have an interest in obtaining specialty training. Mr. Blatt concluded that the Rutgers Collaborative Registered Apprenticeship Program has over 500 apprentices right now through various hospitals in the state. A state representative from his office will work along with the partner in identifying occupations and programs.

Mr. Kuhn asked Mr. Blatt if funding the training through WDB could be a success in developing related technical instructions. Mr. Blatt shared that WDB can be flexible, and the state will allow changes that specifically address nursing needs and make the programs their own.

Mr. Beatty updated the committee on the adoption of the Rutgers model for apprenticeship and that they are working on a second group.

Mr. Blatt satisfied several questions by sharing the possibilities of developing a criteria that best fits individual need. This may be different in different areas of New Jersey. The current availability of federal grant dollars for related technical instruction are non-competitive and will offset the cost at a rate of \$3000 per apprentice. The grant money will be reimbursable. Mr. Kuhn shared that the WDB can serve as overseer and monitor of the programs.

Mr. Kuhn tabled the idea of assisting Atlanticare with Patient Care Techs due to Mr. Hull and Erick T. not attending.

Mr. Kuhn discussed that WDB incumbent worker training allocating 50% of the cost of classroom instruction even if it is a multi-year process.



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Patti L. confirmed that she represents a trainer and a vendor that is in the process of obtaining EPTL status for Home Health Aides. She confirmed shortages of CNAS, and aides. They are providing training to improve those numbers. Gina DeMaio added they are looking for work base learning opportunity in schools. She will connect with Patti L.

Updates:

Myrna K. shared that Atlantic Cape is updating nursing applications in June for enrollment in the fall. They are accepting 100-125 new admits into the nursing program, 15 will attend the LPN to RN cohort. The program has had some setbacks with the state board voting to undo the moratorium that has been in place since 2009, awaiting a final vote. Myrna K. added they are continuing to write a program that will include college credits. This will allow a seamless move from LPN to RN program. Myrna K. continued to list the number of articulations students can choose i.e. Thomas Edison, University of Phoenix and Wilmington just to list a few. The goal is for students to receive a BSN.

Ms. Smith confirmed that Atlanticare has a need for more Registered Nurses. They no longer just hire bachelor prepared RN. Atlanticare pays for continued education.

Dr. Quinn confirmed Stockton added a January accelerated cohort to the BSN program. The students will start in September. She added that January's cohort of 22, was an addition to the curriculum both cohorts will be a 15-month course. Stockton's graduation rate for the program will increase by 36. Mr. Kuhn questioned active recruitment for students. Dr. Quinn confirmed help of the career centers.

Atlanticare is working to create a partnership with Stockton that included public health students.

Mr. Kuhn questioned if sterile processing is still a needed position. Mr. Beatty confirmed there is a need and they have several open positions.

Mr. Beatty provided a respiratory therapy program update. He confirmed that Stockton will not move ahead with this program. South Jersey HR people are discussing how many in the cohort in order to fill staffing needs. More information to follow.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Beatty.

Second by Mr. Taylor

Meeting concluded at 4:00pm.