



ACNL in Action:

Nurse Leaders Making a Difference!

Association of California Nurse Leaders

June 2016

In This Issue

ACNL to Lead Delegation to Cuba

Nominations Now Open for 2017-2019 ACNL Board of Directors

Educate Your Legislators on the Importance of AB 1300

VA Proposes to Grant Full Practice Authority to APRNs

AHA and CDC Issue New Patient Resource on Prescription Opioids

California's Death with Dignity Law Now in Effect

ACNL Offers 4 Foundation for Leadership Excellence Courses in the Summer and Fall

Mark Your Calendars for ACNL's 39th Annual Conference, Feb. 5-8, 2017 in Disneyland

ACNL to Lead Delegation to Cuba – Members Invited to Participate

At the invitation of MSc. Idalmis Infante-Ochoa, President of the Cuban Society of Nursing, ACNL is organizing a delegation to Cuba to learn about the role of Cuban nurses in their country's health care delivery system. ACNL President Beverly Quaye and CEO Patricia McFarland will lead this delegation and invite you to join in this unique opportunity. The trip will be April 23-29, 2017.

Delegates will participate in professional meetings and site visits each day. Preliminary goals of the delegation and initial topics of discussion are:

- How leaders influence a healthy work environment and culture of safety.
- The role nursing leadership plays in the delivery of quality patient care.
- The challenges and opportunities faced by nurse leaders in the US and Cuba.
- The issues facing nursing education and practice in both countries.
- Identification of future opportunities for joint research and collaboration.

The interests and composition of the team will determine the final meetings and topics for discussion. If you are interested joining this delegation, contact Patricia McFarland at patricia@acnl.org. Because of the extensive need to plan and coordinate the event, please notify the ACNL office of your interest in participating by June 30, 2016.

Nominations Now Open for 2017-2019 ACNL Board of Directors

Would you like to hone your leadership skills while advancing the work of ACNL and the nursing profession? Then consider running for a position on ACNL's 2017-2019 Board of Directors. There are five Board positions open – one for each of ACNL's four geographic regions as well as president-elect. The president-elect position is a three-year term and the remaining board positions have two-year terms.

(Continued)

To be eligible to run for a position on the ACNL Board of Directors, you must be an active regular member of the organization. Candidates for president-elect must also be members of AONE; AONE membership is preferred for regional directors.

Use the link below to learn more about this outstanding leadership opportunity on the ACNL Board of Directors.

[2017 ACNL Nominations Packet](#)

Call to Action:

Educate Your Legislators on the Importance of AB 1300

AB 1300 (Ridley-Thomas, D-Los Angeles) would modernize The Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act - the California law governing involuntary civil commitment for psychiatric treatment (sections 5150, 5151 and 5152 of the Welfare and Institutions Code).

Since passage of the LPS Act 48 years ago, there have been significant changes in the mental health delivery system, adversely impacting a patient's ability to obtain prompt evaluation and treatment as required. The LPS Act currently lacks guidance for non-LPS designated facilities involved in an involuntary hold, resulting in wide variations in the application of the law from county to county, city to city and even from hospital to hospital.

AB 1300 makes clarifying changes to better define the various steps of a 5150 detention process to ensure consistent statewide application and to ensure that patients receive the most appropriate care in the least restrictive environment appropriate to their needs.

The bill's primary objectives are to:

- Provide a consistent, statewide policy governing the 72-hour involuntary hold process, aligning the process to reflect the current delivery system.
- Improve the delivery system to ensure that individuals can avoid an unwarranted hospital detention while also protecting an individual's civil rights.
- Streamline the involuntary hold process by clarifying who can make decisions on detention.
- Ensure that services are delivered in an appropriate setting, increasing safety for the individuals involved and for the public at large.

BJ Bartleson, Vice President of Clinical Services at CHA, has provided ACNL members access to CHA's toolkit to help you understand and advocate for this important legislation. ACNL's Voice and Communication Committee is developing specific talking points for nurse leaders regarding AB 1300. These talking points will be disseminated to members when available.

[CHA's AB 1300 Toolkit](#)

(Continued)

VA Proposes to Grant Full Practice Authority to APRNs

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing a rule to grant full practice authority to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) when acting within the scope of their VA employment. Full practice authority will help optimize access to VA health care by permitting APRNs to assess, diagnose, prescribe medications and interpret diagnostic tests. This action proposes to expand the pool of qualified health care professionals authorized to provide primary health care and other related health care services to the full extent of their education, training and certification to veterans without the clinical supervision of a physician.

The proposed rule can be found for comment at www.regulations.gov. Comments related to this proposal are due by July 26, 2016.

[Read Press Release from Veterans Administration](#)

AHA and CDC Issue New Patient Resource on Prescription Opioids

The American Hospital Association and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently issued a new resource on prescription opioids to help increase communication between health care providers and patients about the risks and benefits associated with these medications.

More than 1,000 people are treated in emergency departments each day for misusing prescription opioids. America's hospitals are helping patients and communities address this very serious public health problem.

This one-page resource, *Prescription Opioids: What You Need to Know*, is intended for prescribers as well as patients experiencing pain, who may potentially be prescribed opioids before being discharged from the hospital. The co-branded product takes an approach that urges both audiences to discuss the risks and benefits of prescription opioids, how to use these medications as safely and effectively as possible, and ways to manage pain that do not involve prescription opioids.

[Prescription Opioids Resource Document](#)

[AHA Press Release About Opioid Resource Document](#)

[CDC Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain](#)

California's Death with Dignity Law Now in Effect

The End of Life Option Act (Assembly Bill X2-15 by Eggman) went into effect on June 9. This law allows patients of sound mind, who are suffering from a terminal illness and meet certain qualifications, to request aid-in-dying medication.

(Continued)

Some concerns related to insurance coverage have been raised about the End of Life Option Act. Under the new law, if a terminally ill Californian meets the law's criteria and chooses to take the medication to end their own life – this is not a suicide – therefore, life insurance policy exclusions for suicide will not apply.

California's End of Life Option Act will be the focus of many discussions and debates over the next few months. As nurse leaders it is our responsibility to be informed about this legislation. Several websites have been created to assist health care leaders and individuals in understanding the provisions of the End of Life Option Act.

Visit <http://endoflifeoptions.org/> for more information and resources.

ACNL Offers Four Foundation for Leadership Excellence Courses in the Summer and Fall

Our health care environment is changing rapidly. Health care reform, pay for performance, HCAHPS, value-based purchasing, quality, patient safety and other critical initiatives are vital to the success of your healthcare organization and your ability to provide optimal patient care.

ACNL's Foundation for Leadership Excellence is a five-day intensive program to help you develop long-lasting, effective leadership skills. Whether its human resource issues, customer-service concerns, implementation of quality and patient safety initiatives, budget analysis, cost-saving mandates or building your influence as a leader, you will gain new perspectives and solutions for the difficult challenges you face on a daily basis.

Foundation programs will be offered in July, August, September and October:

July 11-15, 2016

The Plaza at St. Agnes Medical Center
1111 E. Spruce Avenue, Fresno, CA

[More Information and Registration](#)

August 15-19, 2016 – *Sold OUT*

National University - Business Park Campus
9388 Lightwave Avenue, San Diego, CA

September 26-30, 2016

San Joaquin County Agriculture Center
2101 E. Earhart Avenue, Stockton, CA

[More Information and Registration](#)

October 17-21, 2016

Embassy Suites - Anaheim South
11767 Harbor Blvd, Garden Grove, CA

[More Information and Registration](#)

(Continued)

Mark Your Calendar!

ACNL 39th Annual Conference

Soaring to New Heights as Nurse Leaders!

**February 5 – 8, 2017
at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim**



[Like ACNL on Facebook!](#)