

Campaign Overview

Health care is undergoing a much-needed transformation to better serve people, their families, and the communities where they live.

Our nation faces pressing health care challenges—an aging and more diverse population, more people with more chronic conditions, millions more insured, rising costs, and a shortage of providers. We can address these challenges—now—by maximizing the use of nurses.

The Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action is working to improve health care through nursing and to prepare nursing to address our nation's most pressing health care challenges—access, quality, and cost. The *Campaign's* vision is that everyone in America can live a healthier life, supported by a system in which nurses are essential partners in providing care and promoting health.

An initiative of AARP and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the *Campaign for Action* has organized Action Coalitions in 50 states and the District of Columbia to help implement the Institute of Medicine's evidence-based recommendations on the future of nursing.

Our goal is to ensure people get the care they need, when and where they need it by:

Advancing Education Transformation

- Preparing our nursing workforce for the future by strengthening education and training. A more highly educated nursing workforce can lead system improvements and improve quality, accountability, and coordination of care.

Leveraging Nursing Leadership

- Preparing the next generation of nurses to meet the health care needs of people, their families, and the communities where they live and position nurses to lead system change.

Removing Barriers to Practice and Care

- Expanding access to care by maximizing the use of nurses and removing outdated laws, regulations, and policies that prevent nurses from practicing to the full extent of their education and training.

Promoting Nursing Diversity

- Recruiting and preparing a more diverse and culturally competent nursing workforce to provide care in a variety of settings to an aging and more diverse population with more chronic illnesses.

Fostering Interprofessional Collaboration

- Promoting a team-based approach to education and practice to improve the quality and coordination of health care.

Campaign Progress

Advancing Education Transformation

- From fall 2010 to 2014, the number of students enrolled in RN-to-BSN programs increased from 77,259 to 130,345, a 69% increase.
- For the first time in its history, Medicare is paying to support the training of nurses with the Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration, a \$200 million demonstration project in five hospital systems. This historic legislation is designed to prepare more advanced practice registered nurses to care for people across all health care settings.
- The *Campaign* has identified four promising models to streamline academic progression. Thirty Action Coalitions have reported that they are enrolling students in one of these four models.

Leveraging Nursing Leadership

- Through the Nurses on Boards Coalition (NOBC), the *Campaign* is working to ensure nurses' frontline perspectives are represented in the boardrooms where health care decisions are being made. The Coalition is a group of 21 national organizations (including conveners AARP and RWJF, and 19 nursing organizations) that have committed to developing strategies and a work plan to get 10,000 nurses on boards by 2020.

Removing Barriers to Practice and Care

- In the *Campaign's* last five years, eight states (Maryland–2015, Nebraska–2015, Minnesota–2014, Connecticut–2014, Nevada–2013, Rhode Island–2013, North Dakota–2011, and Vermont–2011) removed statutory barriers that prevented nurse practitioners from providing care to the full extent of their education and training, helping to increase consumers' access to care. It had taken decades for the previous 13 states and D.C. to modernize their scope of practice laws.

Promoting Nursing Diversity

- Forty-one Action Coalitions are working on diversity initiatives and are weaving them into their education, leadership, and practice work.
- Between 2010 and 2014, the percentage of minority students in baccalaureate nursing programs increased 3.3% (from 26.8% to 30.1%), the percentage of minority students in master's nursing programs increased 5.8% (from 26.1% to 31.9%), and the percentage of minority students in doctoral nursing programs increased 6.5% (from 23.2% to 29.7%).

Fostering Interprofessional Collaboration

- Three major foundations—the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, and the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation—collaborated to support the Health Resources and Services Administration's National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education at the University of Minnesota. The Center is working to provide leadership, scholarship, evidence, coordination, and national visibility to advance interprofessional education and practice as a viable and efficient health care delivery mode.

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