

**Date: July 25, 2025**



# FRIDAY HUDDLE

A gathering of Oregon nursing workforce leaders to offer timely updates and share insights from peers and stakeholders.

## Nursing Workforce

**Friday Huddle: Extended Cut:** OCN will host a “Friday Huddle: Extended Cut” on Aug. 8 to unpack the recently passed federal legislation and potential impacts on the Oregon nursing workforce (Medicaid cuts, staffing law interplay, employment, and moral distress). Attendees were polled on prioritizing CE credits vs. timely discussion. If you have specific topics related to the future of the nursing workforce under the current environment, please contact [Jana](#).

## Education & Mentorship

**Champions of Simulation Nursing Education:** Nick Miehl (OHSU) shared that his team has created a foundational simulation educator onboarding module to standardize training. The course is currently internal to OHSU, but they are exploring ways to expand. Are you or someone you know a champion of simulation nursing education? We'd love to connect! Please email [Jana](#) or [Nick Miehl](#) for more information.

**OSU CATALYST Mentoring Program:** Oregon State University College of Health seeks nurse mentors—especially first-generation or diverse-background nurses—for monthly meetings with OSU health students aspiring to nursing careers. It can be done virtually, and the time commitment is around eight hours per academic year! [Click here to sign up.](#)

## Policy, Events & Resources

**Samaritan Health Maternity Unit Closures:** This past week, community members gathered in response to [Samaritan Health's proposal to close maternity units](#) in Lebanon and Lincoln City. Huddlers discussed declining birth volumes in these rural areas and examined potential alternatives—such as midwifery-led care and freestanding birth centers—to preserve local access to maternity services. The Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) is currently [circulating a petition](#) advocating to keep the birthing centers open.

**Federal Rule Proposal – Home Health & Hospice:** The Department of Labor has proposed to [remove the federal minimum wage requirement](#). Huddlers expressed concern of how this would impact the home health and hospice workforce.

**OCN Outstanding Preceptor Event:** Nominations for Outstanding Preceptor of 2025 will close on August 6. Be sure to send in your [nominations now!](#) Save the Date: Outstanding Preceptor Awards will take place Sept. 17 as an online event.

**Wildfire Season Mental Health:** Office of Emergency Management has compiled resources (including pediatric materials) to support individuals and communities experiencing wildfire-related trauma. [Click here to access those resources.](#)

### Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, August 1st, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

### Find OCN Online

[www.oregoncenterfornursing.org](http://www.oregoncenterfornursing.org)

