

Date: October 3, 2025



FRIDAY HUDDLE

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

Nurse Workforce

Federal Shutdown and CMS: Huddlers reflected on the U.S. government shutdown and discussed unknowns for nursing operations; the VA is expected to continue care, and participants were invited to share pay/operational impacts. [CMS has posted](#) which activities continue; for long-term care, investigations, and complaint responses were cited as paused.

Concerns about Safety Risks and Moral Distress: Huddlers highlighted ongoing concerns related to under-resourced care environments, such as limited staffing in behavioral health settings, triage coverage gaps in emergency departments, and challenges in placing hospice patients. Participants expressed rising moral distress linked to insufficient recourse from regulatory agencies despite mandatory reporting obligations.

For example, Huddlers noted that there is limited recourse when unlicensed individuals are asked to perform nursing procedures in schools, weakening the case for dedicated school nurses and raising questions about whether policy or legislative fixes are needed. The conversation emphasized the need for nuanced understanding, clarity between regulatory and criminal concerns, the changing structures in healthcare and regulation, and better visibility into investigation outcomes.

Nurse Education

Moral Distress in Healthcare: The national group “Don’t Clock Out” will [host a session](#) on moral distress for nurses and leaders on Saturday, November 8th. Huddlers were invited to share takeaways.

Online Journal of Nursing Workforce: The spring edition [is accepting manuscripts](#) on workforce initiatives and research; opinion/position pieces are not currently accepted, and works-in-progress are welcome. Deadline is Friday, October 31st.

Resources

Impact of Travel Nurses: The Healthcare Workforce Technical Assistance Center will [host a webinar](#) on Tuesday, October 7th and present findings on the impact of travel nurses across health professions, including long-term care.

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, October 10th, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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