

Date: November 14, 2025



FRIDAY HUDDLE

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

Nurse Workforce

Rural Access & Unmet Needs: In recognition of National Rural Health Day, Huddlers highlighted the essential role of nurses across Oregon's rural communities. The Office of Rural Health's [Areas of Unmet Health Care Need report](#) underscores persistent gaps in services and the importance of nurse-led solutions to close access and equity divides.

Workforce Transitions: Layoffs at PeaceHealth and LegacyGo Health clinics, combined with tight hospital hiring in the Portland metro region, are increasing worry among new graduates about residencies and first jobs. Huddlers emphasized the value of residential, community-based, hospice, and long-term care roles for building strong clinical skills and relationship-centered practice. Huddlers described encouraging students to see community, hospice, residential, and specialty fellowships as legitimate and rewarding career starts.

Clinical Placements & Exposure: Huddlers revisited concerns about a hospital-centric clinical model, noting that fewer hospice, home health, and community rotations since COVID leave students unfamiliar with non-acute settings.

Resources

Federal Government Is Open — Now what? A [KFF analysis outlines](#) the implications of the averted shutdown for healthcare programs and coverage.

Educational Incentive Grants for Behavioral Health Providers — OHA: New incentives funded under HB 2024 will support scholarships, loan repayment, and training programs to grow and retain Oregon's behavioral health workforce. [Click here to learn more.](#)

AmeriCorps Planning Grants — HECC: Planning grants are released several times per year to help organizations design future AmeriCorps programs. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Missed the Friday Huddle: Extended Cut Today? The recorded session will be [available on YouTube](#) by the end of day November 14. Hear from OCN staff about the lessons learned from the [RN Well-Being Project](#).

Friday Huddle Holiday Schedule: Happy Holidays! No Huddles on the following dates:

November 28	January 2
December 19	January 9
December 26	

Huddles resume on January 16, 2026.

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, November 21st, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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