



FRIDAY HUDDLE

Convene • Connect • Collaborate

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



NO HUDDLE NEXT WEEK! OCN will be closed in honor of Juneteenth.

NURSE WORKFORCE

AI in Nursing and Healthcare: Huddlers revisited an ongoing conversation about artificial intelligence and nursing practice. OCN Executive Director Jana Bitton proposed the idea of an Oregon AI Nursing Council—or a similar convening of nurses and experts—to help nurses better understand AI applications, ethical considerations, implementation challenges, and potential impacts on patient care. There is concern that AI tools are being adopted rapidly without sufficient nurse input, drawing parallels to lessons learned during electronic health record implementation. The discussion emphasized how nurses need to help shape AI adoption rather than simply react to it.

Workplace Violence, Bullying, and Civility: OHSU has begun incorporating anti-bullying messaging and reporting pathways into workplace culture, and participants highlighted growing recognition of bullying as a form of workplace violence. [OCN's Caring for All, Diminishing None conference](#) will focus on workplace incivility and bullying prevention, featuring a national speaker and practical strategies for improving workplace culture. The group also highlighted ANA's [free workplace violence resources](#) for new and early-career nurses.

2026 Outstanding Nurse Preceptor Awards: OCN announced that [nominations for the 2026 Preceptor Awards](#) will open Monday, June 15, 2026. This year's process will shift away from a competitive scoring model and instead focus on recognizing as many outstanding preceptors as possible. Organizations are encouraged to submit complete applications to highlight the contributions of nurses who support student and new nurse development.

NURSE EDUCATION

Engaging Nursing Students and Supporting Transition to Practice: The OCN board has expressed interest in hearing more student perspectives and understanding the “expectation mismatch” many new graduates experience when transitioning into practice. Participants noted that nursing students are often balancing school, work, family responsibilities, clinical requirements, and NCLEX preparation, making sustained engagement difficult. The discussion suggested that OCN may be better positioned to support nurses during their first few years of practice, when workforce retention and professional identity become more pressing concerns.

RESOURCES

2026 Nurse Preceptor Recognition - Nominations Opening Soon! The [call for nominations](#) will open on June 15, 2026. SAVE THE DATE for the event - Wednesday, September 23. Facilities are invited to recognize preceptors who have made a difference in Oregon's nursing workforce.

Oregon Health Plan Consumer Advisory Opportunity: The [Oregon Health Authority is seeking OHP Open Card members](#) to participate in discussions about benefits, services, and lived experiences. Share this opportunity with patients, family members, and community members whose perspectives may be valuable as Oregon navigates potential Medicaid funding reductions.

Healthcare Affordability: [The Commonwealth Fund published a report](#) examining care denials, delays, and prior authorization barriers experienced even by privately insured patients, highlighting ongoing challenges for both patients and providers. [One Nation Overcharged](#), a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-supported grassroots effort, is focused on healthcare affordability.



OREGON CENTER
for **NURSING**

NEXT FRIDAY HUDDLE:

Friday, June 26th, at 8:00 a.m.

OregonCenterForNursing.org

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