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Welcome New Board Member, Mandy Nelson!

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing welcomes Mandy Nelson, MS, APRN – CNS, to fill the unexpired APRN term. Mandy is the Clinical Nurse Specialist for the Medicine Service Line at OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City. Ms. Nelson earned her Master of Science degree from Ball State University in Muncie, IN. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Oklahoma City University and her Associates of Science degree in Nursing from Oklahoma State University in Oklahoma City. Ms. Nelson has a variety of experiences in Critical Care, Neurology and Medical-Surgical nursing. She is certified in Adult Health through the American Nurses Credentialing Center and is certified in Critical Care Nursing for Adults through the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. The Board of Nursing welcomes Ms. Nelson as the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse representative on the Board.

Journal Record Honors Loomis and Glazier

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing had two women selected for The Journal Record's 2014 Fifty Making a Difference. Cori Loomis, attorney for Crowe & Dunlevy and Board of Nursing member, and Kim Glazier, Executive Director for the Board of Nursing, were recognized as female business and community leaders during the 2014 Journal Record Woman of the Year awards gala.

The Journal Record started the Woman of the Year program in 1981 to recognize what was then called a growing segment of the workforce. The program recognizes fifty women each year and the contribution they make to the business and non-profit industries, as well as the communities in Oklahoma. Each year hundreds of nominations are received from across the state for this program. Congratulations Cori and Kim, recipients of this prestigious honor!

Glazier Honored by the Great 100 Nurses Foundation

Kim Glazier, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, was recently recognized as one of the great 100 nurses in Oklahoma! The Great 100 Nurses Foundation was founded in New Orleans, Louisiana twenty-eight years ago and since then has honored thousands of nurses across Louisiana, North Carolina, Texas, and for the first time in Oklahoma in 2014. "These exemplary nurses are selected based on their concern for humanity, their contributions to the profession and their mentoring of others. It is a great honor in the life of the nurse. The Foundation helps each RN walk taller and recognize themselves as nurse heroes." Retrieved from: <http://g100nurses.org/>

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing congratulates Kim and all Oklahoma nurses recognized by the Great 100 Nurses Foundation. Additional information is provided at: <http://g100nurses.org/>

NCLEX Pass Rate Report Calendar Year 2014

In Calendar Year (CY) 2014, Oklahoma educated first-time candidates for Registered Nurse licensure achieved an overall 83.55% NCLEX-RN Pass Rate. This is a slight increase from the 83.03% NCLEX-RN pass rate for CY 2013. The CY 2014 Oklahoma NCLEX-RN pass rate is higher than the National NCLEX-RN pass rate of 81.79%.

Approximately 54% of all campuses in Oklahoma, including pre-licensure associate degree and baccalaureate degree nursing education programs, achieved pass rates above the national average. Approximately 19% of the programs achieved pass rates that were more than 10 percentage points lower than the national average. In CY 2014, Oklahoma associate degree and baccalaureate degree programs ranked higher than 31 other states or jurisdictions on the NCLEX-RN exam. There were 2,146 first-time Oklahoma-educated RN candidates taking the NCLEX-RN exam in 2014, which is higher than the 2,080 first-time candidates testing in CY 2013.

In CY 2014, Oklahoma-educated first-time candidates for Licensed Practical Nurse licensure achieved an NCLEX-PN pass rate of 86.94%. Between CY 2004 and CY 2014, Oklahoma-educated first-time NCLEX-PN candidate averages ranked consistently above the national NCLEX-PN average. In CY 2014, approximately 25% of all campuses offering practical nursing education achieved a 100% NCLEX-PN pass rate, and approximately 55% of the practical nursing campuses achieved a pass rate above the national average. In addition, approximately 7% of the practical nursing campuses averaged more than 10 percentage points lower than the national average. Oklahoma practical nursing programs ranked higher than 24 other states or jurisdictions on the NCLEX-PN exam in CY 2014. There were 945 first-time Oklahoma-educated PN candidates taking the NCLEX-PN exam in CY 2014, which is lower than the 1,182 first-time candidates testing in CY 2013.

Oklahoma nursing education program pass rate percentages for first-time NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN candidates per calendar year 2004 through 2014 are available on the Board's website: NCLEX-RN pass rates, available at: <http://ok.gov/nursing/nclexpass1.pdf>

NCLEX-PN pass rates, available at: <http://ok.gov/nursing/nclexpass.pdf>

Peer Assistance Program

Substance use disorder is a problem that affects a significant portion of our population. According to the 2011 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey, 45.6% of adult Oklahomans had at least one drink during the previous 30 days and 5.5% of adult Oklahomans were heavy drinkers (defined as adult men having more than 2 drinks per day and adult women more than one drink per day.) Additionally, 16.5% of the adult population reported binge drinking (defined as men having more than 5 drinks on one occasion and adult women more than 4 drinks on one occasion.) The National Survey on Drug Use and Health, in 2010, ranked Oklahoma number one nationally for the nonmedical use of pain relievers in the past year for all age categories (12 and above).

Nurses are not immune to problems with substance use. According to the American Nurses Association, it is estimated between 6-8% of nurses use substances to the extent their practice is impaired. In Oklahoma, that would equate to between 4,200-5,700 nurses practicing potentially impaired. If you are a nurse experiencing this problem, you are not alone; perhaps, the Peer Assistance Program can help. The Peer Assistance Program is a program for nurses who are experiencing a problem with the use of substances, whether drugs or alcohol. If you, or a nurse you know, might have a problem, contact the Board of Nursing Peer Assistance Program at 405-525-2277.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED: If you have experience with substance use disorders either through employment, education or personal experience, please consider volunteering for a Peer Assistance Committee. For more information contact: Laura Clarkson, Program Coordinator, at 405-525-2277.

National Transportation Safety Board Safety Recommendations

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation to determine the probable cause of the accidents. In consideration of investigative findings, the NTSB issues safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents and saving lives.

The NTSB is providing the following information to urge the 50 states, including Oklahoma, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, to take action on the safety recommendations noted below.

Safety Recommendation I-14-1:

Include in all state guidelines regarding prescribing controlled substances for pain a recommendation that health care providers discuss with patients the effect their medical condition and medication use may have on their ability to safely operate a vehicle in any mode of transportation.

The Opioid Prescribing Guidelines for Oklahoma Workgroup developed the Opioid Prescribing Guidelines for Oklahoma Health Care Providers in the Office-Based Setting. These guidelines are posted on the Oklahoma State Department of Health's website and may be accessed at the link below:

http://www.ok.gov/health2/documents/UP_Oklahoma_Office_Based_Guidelines.pdf

Safety Recommendation I-14-2:

Use existing newsletters or other routine forms of communication with licensed health care providers and pharmacists to highlight the importance of routinely discussing with patients the effect their diagnosed medical conditions or recommended drugs may have on their ability to safely operate a vehicle in any mode of transportation.

This notice, along with an article distributed by the NTSB to fulfill Safety Recommendation I-14-2, was provided via email to Oklahoma-licensed Advanced Practice Registered Nurses with prescriptive authority on December 29, 2014.

Online Applications

Effective March 2, 2015, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse initial applications, Prescriptive Authority initial applications and Reinstatement applications are available primarily as online applications. This transition supports the "Go Green" direction of state government, contributes to efficiencies within the Board of Nursing, and promotes lower application processing times.

All applications have been available online since 2009. Since this time, the Board has seen a marked improvement in processing times of applications and improved stakeholder satisfaction.

For those applicants who do not have personal access to a computer through home, work, school or a nearby library, computers are available for public use in the Board office. If an applicant cannot access an online application by any of these means, a paper copy may be requested by the individual applicant by submitting a written request for such to the Board office. A self-addressed, postage-paid (approximately \$1.06) 8 ½" x 11" envelope must accompany the written request for a paper copy of the application.

Oklahoma Board of Nursing Annual Report

The Fiscal Year 2014 Oklahoma Board of Nursing Annual report may be accessed at:

<http://www.ok.gov/nursing/anrep14.pdf>

Recent Policy Revisions

The following policies have been reviewed/approved and are available for review by hyperlink provided.

Approved Policies/Guidelines during the March 2015 Board Meeting:

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Certification Examinations Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, #P-52A, available at: <https://www.ok.gov/nursing/prac-natlcert.pdf>

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Certification Examinations **No Longer** Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, #P-52B, available at: <https://www.ok.gov/nursing/prac-natlcert.pdf>

Refresher Courses for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses Policy, #P-54, available at: <http://www.ok.gov/nursing/apnrefresher.pdf>

Complete January 2015 Board Meeting Minutes are available at: <https://www.ok.gov/nursing/bdminjan15.pdf>

Complete March 2015 Board Meeting Minutes will be available **following** the May 2015 Board Meeting at: <https://www.ok.gov/nursing/bdminmar15.pdf>

Routine Reminders and Links

Reminder for Change of Name

To change your name, you must complete the Name Change Request form. The form is available on the Board of Nursing website at: <http://www.ok.gov/nursing/namechange.pdf>

Reminder for Change of Address

Have you had a change of address? If so, you **must** notify the Board office in writing within 30 days of the change. You may submit a signed and dated statement with your license number or Social Security number, your full name, and your new address. Alternatively, you may complete your change of address on the Board's website: <https://www.ok.gov/nursing/renewal/login.php>

Notice to Licensees Submitting Online Renewals

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing online renewal system provides a convenient way for you to submit your renewal. However, it is essential that you protect the security of your online information. **Your PIN number, which is required for the renewal, should not be shared with anyone, not even with your spouse or support staff at your place of employment.** Your responsibility to renew your license **cannot** be delegated to another person. **You are the only person who can complete and submit the online renewal application!**

To access the online renewal:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/renewal/index.php>

“This publication is issued by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing as authorized by the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act [59 O.S. § 567.1 et seq.] and is located at the following website:

<http://www.ok.gov/nursing/pubs.html>

This publication has been submitted in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes.”

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