

## NURSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

*Growing jobs, careers, communities...*

**DATE:** April 24, 2024

**TIME:** 2:30 – 4:30 pm

**LOCATION:** College of the Siskiyous, Yreka Campus: 2001 Campus Dr., Yreka, CA 96097 – RHSI Building

**COMMITTEE CHAIR:** Elizabeth Pulatie, DHA, MSN - Chief Executive Nurse/VP Patient Care Services, Mercy Medical Center, Mt. Shasta

**COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR:** Susan Westphal, RN - Assistant Administrator, Fairchild Medical Center

**STAFF:**

Hallie Coppi, PhD, RN – Dean of Health Sciences & Director of Nursing

Stephanie Richardson – Nursing Program Coordinator

Dawn Jacobson, MSN, RN – Nursing Faculty

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Hallie Coppi, Stephanie Richardson, Dawn Jacobson, Brenda Harris, Elizabeth Pulatie, Audali Avila – SMART Center, Shelly Davis, Mark Fields, Christy Hernandez – SMART Center, Erin Resuze, Kim Peacemaker

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Elizabeth Pulatie
2. **Review/Approve Minutes:** Elizabeth Pulatie – Approved Minutes from January 10, 2022
3. **Nursing Programs Update:** Hallie Coppi
  - a. Vocational Nursing class- We currently have 11 students. (Planned to graduate in December of 2024). One student from a previous cohort will join the class to finish the last semester of 0953.  
  
We will open a Fall Application for January 2025 LVN start. We would like to have 20 students. We will work with hospitals for accommodations
  - b. Open Vocational Nursing Position due to resignation. Position is posted, the applicant will start July 1, 2024  
  
Screening and interviews are currently going on now; we will hire this position to work with Dawn.
  - c. LVN-RN Step-Up program

Second interview went well; we are working on getting this nurse hired for the position. We also have another applicant in the pool for the ADN program and will interview next week.

d. Open LVN to RN Step-Up Program - Update on reopening proposal.

Dawn just received her master's degree; she is approved to teach in all of the nursing programs, CNA, LVN, and ADN.

We would like to have three full time faculty to work on the reopening of the ADN program. Regional planning met last week; they are holding our clinical student placements. We will petition the BRN in the fall to reopen the Step-Up program. It will go to the educational and licensing committee, then to the board where they will decide if we are able to reopen.

We were given 5 years from closure, we closed with accreditation and a 100% pass rate. Summer of 2025 we would have students if we are approved.

We would like new faculty for the ADN program to start as soon as possible. The applicants that we are interviewing have varied experience. We may need help from our clinical partners for faculty remediation to get all program content covered.

Assistant Director – Rhonda Brown has agreed to help us.

SIM tech we have a few applications. SIM is 25% of our ADN program training. This is an 11-month position, the salary has increased and we are hoping to attract more interest. We are also looking to hire a part-time qualified nurse to help with the simulation along with the instructor and SIM tech.

e. Next LVN Cohort (Application will open in the Fall of 2024)

f. CNA – Graduated 8 students in August 2023, all passed their written and skill testing

i. Cohort starting June 10, 2024

Eight students are currently registered for the CNA summer cohort, open registration will open tomorrow (April 25th) and high school registration opens on Monday, May 6, 2024.

We could possibly do 2 cohorts of CNA with 15 students each.

We are not adding in Home Health at this time, it requires one instructor to one student, makes it difficult.

Could possibly work with a part time instructor.

Hallie is working with the Director of noncredit and Adult Ed, Veronica Coats, to create a community CPR course. This course would be a noncredit free BLS class. We have all the equipment purchased and are working on the curriculum. This will break down the barriers for community members and students receive CPR. We are hoping to offer it twice a month at COS. Our goal is to train our faculty to teach the CPR courses. It will be a great resource for the community and noncredit.

g. Program Funding

i. Strong Workforce Funds for all programs.

- ii. AB-132 Fund to reopen and push the RN program forward.
- iii. We will reapply for the Enrollment Growth Grant if we are able to reopen the LVN to RN Step-Up Program.

Senate Bill coming up could possibly help with RN students get their clinical rotations in our local hospitals, by utilizing Critical Access Hospitals in our area. We would like to use more local clinical sites. During Covid, COS used FMC OB for their clinical rotation, we had all 30 RN students graduate.

Looking at a nursing preceptorship. Spread students out to our local hospitals. FMC is getting preceptors from Shasta and Simpson. The students that stay in our local hospitals are the ones that live here.

We need to grow our own nurses in this community.

BRN is not accepting any new Step-Up Programs.

Shasta is strictly an RN program not a step-up. Shasta can take LVN's into their program, usually only 2-5 students per year, and most need to retake their sciences (needs to be within 7-year window).

Paramedic to RN program, is that a possibility? How to bridge the two programs. What are the pass rates? Different practice of patient care. Depends on the medic, different mechanics. The paramedic program would need to be closely aligned with the teaching of our nursing programs. Maybe a "medic pathway" or a "transition course".

Hospitals are looking for local RN's. There may be ways to give points for local students going through prerequisite programs at COS. We will be exploring different options and presenting it to the BRN.

SMART – Is looking at funding for our LVN class last semester, SMART's fiscal year starts in July. Could possible help with NCLEX fee assistance. Erin Kangas is working on getting the programs added to the state's ETPL list, which can provide funding for our students. SMART also has special grants that come in for training. They could also help with the CNA program. Tuition, Scrubs, Shoes, supplies, etc. COS will work closely with SMART to see what we can do to help students through our nursing programs.

The nursing program also receives state lottery funds that may be used to offset student cost. We are working with our business office on how to use this funding.

Mercy would like to use the SIM lab. FMC uses the classrooms and labs for training and refresher courses, "boot camps". The SIM and skills lab may be reserved by contacting Crystal, the Yreka Coordinator at [cfahey@siskiyous.edu](mailto:cfahey@siskiyous.edu) or contact Hallie at [hcoppi1@siskiyous.edu](mailto:hcoppi1@siskiyous.edu)

COS may be able to build a Basic Skills course as a noncredit adult learner course, employees could register through COS and be trained by faculty or hospital staff. It could be coded as a "refresher" course. We will meet with the hospitals to see the need.

Public Health – There is a need for wound care and blood draw refresher courses. PH has been sending people to Medford. Collaborate with nurses at the hospitals to teach the courses. Public Health is currently fully staffed and working on an aging program.

COS Executive Team has been very supportive. The COS HR department is be fully staffed at COS. We are seeing nursing applicants and getting these positions posted and pushed through the process. We would like all of our nursing faculty to be cross trained.

Hallie will set up a meeting with the noncredit director to see what training options we can utilize through noncredit.

4. **Committee Member/Agency Updates** – Round table discussion/sharing – All
5. **Good of the Order** – Next meeting - Fall of 2024, will be done quarterly.
6. **Adjourn and Thank You!**

