



Join the Wisconsin Center for Nursing
as we celebrate our
15th Annual Conference

**Strategies for Strengthening
Our Wisconsin Nursing Workforce**

October 17, 2025
Ingleside Hotel, Pewaukee, WI



Conference Agenda

7:30–8:30 AM	Registration, Coffee, and Conversation Exhibits Open
8:30-8:50 AM	Welcome & Happy WCN Anniversary Kerri Kliminski, EdD MSN RN, WCN Board President Quick Snapshot: Directions in Nursing Workforce Development Kelly Kruse Nelles, MS RN APRN-BC, WCN Interim Executive Director
8:50-9:50 AM	Opening Session: International Staffing – A Long-term Workforce Stabilization Solution Michelle Hehman, MSN RN CPN NEA-BC, Sr. Account Manager and Director of Nursing, Passport USA by Health Carousel International Sponsored by Passport USA by Health Carousel International Workforce Initiative: Innovative Care Delivery
9:50-10:15 AM	BREAK EXHIBITS
10:15-11:00 AM	Growing the Nursing Workforce at UW Health: Implementation of an RN Apprenticeship Program Janice Simmons, DNP RN CNE CNL, Manager In-Patient Clinical Apprenticeship Programs (NA, RN, RT, ST) Nichole Hinkel, PhD RN PMH-BC, Program Manager, RN-Nursing Apprenticeship Program Workforce Initiative: Pre-nursing pathways, Upskilling through Apprenticeship
11:00-11:15 AM	BREAK EXHIBITS
11:15 AM-12:00 PM	How Felician Village Improved Their Staffing in Long Term Care Luke Schubert President/CEO, Felician Village Manitowoc/Two Rivers Workforce Initiative: Well-being of the Nurse Workforce, Innovative Care Redesign
12:00-1:15 PM	WCN Awards Luncheon “Celebrating 15 Years of Nursing Workforce Achievement”
1:15-2:15 PM	Panel Discussion: Wisconsin Policy Impacting the State Nursing Workforce • The Changing Role of the LPN to Address Staffing Shortages in the Acute Care Setting • Expanding Clinical Instructors/Preceptors to include BSN Prepared Nurses • APRN Modernization Act: What This Means for Healthcare Organizations • Strengthening Public Health Nursing Workforce through Resolutions Panelists: Kerri Kliminski, Ed MSN RN, Dean, Madison College of Nursing Gina Dennik-Champion, MSN RN, Executive Director Wisconsin Nurses Association Pamela Guthman, DNP RN APHN-PHN, Guthman Consulting LLC/Wisconsin Public Health Association Moderator: Kelly Kruse Nelles MS RN APRN-BC, WCN Interim Executive Director Workforce Initiative: Nursing Education, Upskilling, Innovative Care Delivery
2:15-2:30 PM	BREAK and CAKE
2:30-3:30 PM	Innovation in Nursing Care Delivery through the Use of Technology: Examples from Practice “The Use of AI to Support Long Term Care” Robin Wolzenberg, BSN RN, Senior Vice President Clinical & Regulatory, Leading Age Wisconsin “Partnering Virtual Care with Bedside Nursing to Reduce Nursing Burden” Victoria Sergent, BSN NI-BC NE-BC DC, Executive Director, Chief Nursing Informatics, Froedtert ThedaCare Julie Mills, MSN CCRN, Executive Director, Virtual Care Team, Froedtert ThedaCare Workforce Initiative: Nurse Well-being, Innovative Care Redesign
3:30-4:00 PM	Audience Comments, Review of the Day & Closing Thoughts Tom Veaser, RN MS, CNO/VP of Quality, Froedtert Holy Family Memorial