



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 Simonsen, 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	Panel Discussion: Innovation in Nursing Care Delivery through the Use of Technology: Examples from Practice <i>“The Use of AI to Support Long Term Care”</i> Robin Wolzenberg, BSN RN , Senior Vice President Clinical & Regulatory, Leading Age Wisconsin <i>“Partnering Virtual Care with Bedside Nursing to Reduce Nursing Burden”</i> 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