



## 2013 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Nursing Community (NC) is a coalition of 60 national nursing organizations committed to improving the health and health care of our nation by collaborating to support Registered Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). Collectively, the NC represents nearly one million RNs, APRNs, nurse researchers, nurse faculty, and nursing students. The NC engaged in numerous advocacy efforts in 2013 that impacted healthcare from the nursing lens. The following report summarizes the NC's accomplishments and progress in more detail.

### ADVOCACY ACTIVITY

NC Activity	2011	2012	2013
Letters, Statements	22	17	29
Congressional Testimony	2	2	2
Congressional/ Administration Meetings	3	3	1
Receptions/Events	2	2	2
Webinars	0	0	2
NC Member Organizations	55	57	59
Friends of the NC	0	2	0

### LETTERS AND STATEMENTS

#### 5 Appropriations Advocacy Initiatives

##### *Advocacy*

**February 28, 2013** - [letter](#) to the House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS-ED) Subcommittee on Appropriations requesting that full funding be preserved for the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [PHSA]) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2013.

*Signed by 43 NC Organizations*

**May 7, 2013** - [letter](#) to House LHHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittee detailing FY 2014 funding requests for the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII), the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), and Nurse-Managed Health Clinics (NMHCs, Title III of the PHSA).

*Signed by 42 NC Organizations*

**May 31, 2013** - [letter](#) to Senate LHHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittee on detailing FY 2014 funding requests for Title VIII, NINR, and NMHCs.

*Signed by 44 NC Organizations*

**September 11, 2013** - [letter](#) to the Senate Appropriations Committee expressing appreciation for the FY 2014 funding levels provided to nursing education, research, and practice, through Title VIII, NINR, and NMHCs in their appropriations bill.

*Signed by 43 NC Organizations*

**November 15, 2013** - [letter](#) to the Senate Budget Committee Chair Patty Murray (D-WA) and House Budget Committee Chair Paul Ryan (R-WI) requesting they protect federal investments in nursing education and research programs from further cuts in FY 2014 and beyond.

*Signed by 49 NC Organizations*

#### *Outcome*

**January 17, 2014** - the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014. The final spending package, which adheres to the \$1.012 trillion spending limit set by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 [Public Law No. 113-67], includes \$156.8 billion for the LHHS-ED programs. The Title VIII programs received \$223.841 million, which is \$6.3 million more than the final FY 2013 post-sequestration funding level. The NINR received \$140.517 million, which is \$4.1 million above the FY 2013 post-sequestration funding level.

## **5** Legislative Advocacy Initiatives

### *Advocacy*

**May 7, 2013** - letter to Representatives [Eddie Bernice Johnson](#) (D-TX), [David Joyce](#) (R-OH), and [Lois Capps](#) (D-CA) in support of [H.Res.201-Supporting the goals and ideals of National Nurse Week on May 6, 2013 through May 12, 2013.](#)

*Signed by 42 NC Organizations*

#### *Outcome*

H.Res. 201 received 48 bipartisan cosponsors and was referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, then to the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health.

### *Advocacy*

**October 8, 2013** - [letter](#) to Senators Jerry Moran (R-KS), John Thune (R-SD), and Jon Tester (D-MT), in support of [Protecting Access to Rural Therapy Services \(PARTS\) Act \(S.1143\)](#). A [letter](#) to Representatives Kristi Noem (R-SD), Collin C. Peterson (D-MN), Kevin Cramer (R-ND), and Steve Daines (R-MT) in support of [Protecting Access to Rural Therapy Services \(PARTS\) Act \(H.R. 2801\)](#).

*Signed by 39 NC Organizations*

#### *Outcome*

S. 1143 is still pending in Congress and has 17 bipartisan cosponsors. It was referred to the Senate Finance Committee. H.R.2801 is still pending in Congress and has 20 bipartisan cosponsors. It was referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, then to the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health. It was also referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

### *Advocacy*

**July 31, 2013** - letter to Senators [Susan Collins](#) (R-ME) and [Charles Schumer](#) (D-NY) in support of [Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act of 2013 \(S. 1332\)](#) in the Senate, as well as a letter to Representatives [Greg Walden](#) (R-OR) and [Allyson Schwartz](#) (D-PA) for introducing [Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act of 2013 \(H.R. 2504\)](#).

*Signed by 45 NC Organizations*

### *Outcome*

S.1332 is still pending in Congress and has 14 bipartisan cosponsors. It was referred to the Senate Finance Committee. H.R.2504 is still pending in Congress and has 94 bipartisan cosponsors. It was referred to the House of Ways and Means Committee and the House Energy and Commerce Committee, then to the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health.

### *Advocacy*

**October 8, 2013** - [letter](#) to Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) in support of [Protecting Access to Primary Care Act \(H.R.2986\)](#).

*Signed by 39 NC Organizations*

### *Outcome*

H.R.2986 is still pending in Congress and has 4 bipartisan cosponsors. It was referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, then to the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health.

### *Advocacy*

**October 8, 2013** - [letter](#) to the House Energy and Commerce Committee urging opposition to the [Protect Patient Access to Quality Health Professionals Act of 2013\( H.R. 2817\)](#).

*Signed by 40 NC Organizations*

### *Outcome*

H.R. 2817 does not have any cosponsors as of February 20, 2014 and has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, then to the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health.

## **2 Federal Appointments**

### *Advocacy*

**March 8, 2013** - [letter](#) requesting Mary D. Naylor, PhD, RN, FAAN, be reappointed for an additional term on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC).

*Signed by 39 NC Organizations*

### *Outcome*

Dr. Naylor was reappointed to serve another term on MedPAC.

### *Advocacy*

**February 25, 2013** - [letter](#) to the Senate Finance Committee expressing support for the nomination of Marilyn Tavenner, MHA, RN, as the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

*Signed by 51 NC Organizations*

### *Outcome*

Ms. Tavenner was confirmed as Administrator on May 15, 2013. The NC also sent a [letter](#) congratulating her on this achievement.

*Signed by 50 NC Organizations*

## 1 Support for Veterans Health Administration

### *Advocacy*

**October 2, 2013** - [letter](#) to Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki expressing support for the proposal to recognize APRNs (including nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, certified registered nurse anesthetists and clinical nurse specialists) as full practice providers in the Veterans Health Administrations Nursing Handbook.

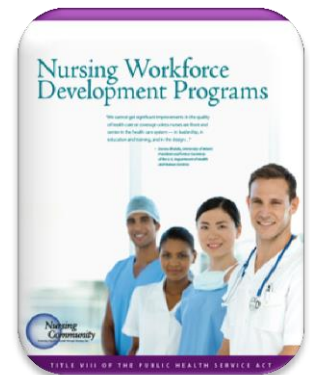
*Signed by 40 NC Organizations*



### CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY

On March 15, 2013, the NC submitted [testimony](#) to the House LHHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittee respectfully requesting funds for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs, NINR, and NHMCs. These funds would help ensure our nation's population received the highest-quality nursing service possible.

On May 6, 2013, the NC submitted [testimony](#) to the Senate LHHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittee. The NC respectfully requested funds for three key nursing programs: the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs, NINR, and NMHC. The testimony reinforced the critical nature of funding for these programs and their necessity to ensure America's patients continue to receive high-quality, cost-effective care.



### MEETINGS

Seven members of the Nursing Community attended a meeting with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to discuss issues pertaining to the demand for nurses and the importance of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs. This discussion was in preparation for the OMB's efforts to prepare the President's FY 2015 budget.

## RECEPTIONS

The Nursing Community had the honor of co-hosting two receptions with Members from the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress.

**January Welcome Reception:** The Nursing Community, in collaboration with the House Nursing Caucus co-chairs Representatives Lois Capps, RN (D-CA) and David Joyce (R-OH), held a Welcome Reception for Members of the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress. In attendance that evening were fourteen members of Congress.

- Rep. David Joyce(R-OH)
- Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)
- Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY)
- Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-NY)
- Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)
- Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA)
- Rep. Julia Brownley (D-CA)
- Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC)
- Rep. Howard Coble (R-NC)
- Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV)
- Rep. Leonard Lance (R-NJ)
- Rep. Glenn Thompson (R-PA)
- Rep. Jan. Schakowsky (D-IL)
- Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY)



*House Nursing Caucus Co-Chairs,  
Representatives David Joyce and  
Lois Capps.*



**February Reception:** The Nursing Community joined forces with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), and the House and Senate Nursing Caucuses, to co-host a reception to celebrate *State Mobilization: Achieving the Future of Nursing's Campaign for Action Goals*. House Nursing Caucus co-chairs Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA) and Rep. David Joyce (R-OH) offered remarks to several hundred attendees.

## WEBINARS

The Nursing Community hosted two webinars in 2013:

In February, the NC presented a webinar titled [\*Nursing and Healthcare Delivery Under the 113th Congress\*](#). Two experienced federal representatives from the Nursing Community, **Frank Purcell** (American Association of Nurse Anesthetists) and **Jo Ann Webb** (American Organization of Nurse Executives), provided insight on how leadership changes in the House and the Senate as well as recent legislation to address the fiscal cliff are affecting nursing. In addition, they outlined how implementation of provisions within the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may impact the practice of APRNs. **The webinar was attended by 893 members.**

In September, the NC hosted a webinar titled [Implementation of the ACA: What Nurses Need to Know](#). **Dr. Mandy Cohen**, Senior Advisor to the Administrator at Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), addressed the expansion of insurance coverage with the launch of the Health Insurance Marketplace. **Dr. Ellen-Marie Whelan**, Senior Advisor of the Innovation Center at CMS, discussed the impact of the ACA on nursing practice and offered guidance for nurses as to how best to prepare for the transition. **The webinar was attended by 2,257 members.**

## MEMBERS

The Nursing Community proudly extended its [membership](#) to include 59 nursing organizations across the nation. The newest members of the Nursing Community are:

[American Association of Neuroscience Nurses](#)

[Emergency Nurses Association](#)

[Association of Veteran Affairs Nurse Anesthetists](#)

[National Forum of State Workforce Centers](#)

