

January 2023 Newsletter

WCMEW FORMS WORK GROUPS

In January, WCMEW began implementation of its strategic planning effort by forming five work groups. Each group will be responsible for an aspect of the plan, including:

- Promoting Healthcare Careers and Recruiting Professionals
- Strengthening Our Physician Education and Training Pathways
- Strengthening Our Nursing Education and Training Pathways
- Retaining Professionals, and
- Redesigning Care Delivery

The groups are charged with creating goals for 2023 and carrying out activities to accomplish those goals. Over 30 WCMEW partners have volunteered for the work groups that will be holding their first meetings in February. If you would like more information on the strategic plan or have interest in volunteering for a work group, contact George Quinn at gquinn@wcmew.org.

DHS TRAINING GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Health Services has announced a new round of funding opportunities for advanced practice clinician (APC) and allied health professional (AHP) training grants.

As stated in the announcement:

The APC grants are designed to create and support new clinical training opportunities for physician assistants (PAs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) in rural Wisconsin. APRNs include nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, clinical nurse specialists or certified registered nurse anesthetists. The goal of the grant is to expand the use of PAs and APRNs to increase access to health care in rural areas.

The AHP grants are for consortia between hospitals, clinics, health systems and educational providers to establish education and training programs for allied health professionals. The goal of the grant is to increase the availability of quality

education and training opportunities for critical allied health positions in rural areas of the state.”

Applications for the grants are both due April 3.

WORKFORCE IN THE NEWS

[The Future of Health: Integrating Social Work into Health Care](#) – The University of Texas at Austin

How does health social work improve patient outcomes? Two out of three patients at UT Health Austin’s Musculoskeletal Institute report improvement in six months when social workers are integrated into teams to provide cognitive behavioral therapy.

[CMS Awards 200 New Medicare-funded Residency Slots to Hospitals Serving Underserved Communities](#) – CMS.gov

Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) took a critical step to advance health equity and access to care, awarding the first 200 of 1,000 Medicare-funded physician residency slots to enhance the health care workforce and fund additional positions in hospitals serving underserved communities. Approximately three-quarters of the new positions will be for primary care and mental health specialties.

