

MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

2024 SUMMIT – SAVE THE DATE!

The 2024 WCMEW Workforce Summit is set for Tuesday, October 8 in Wisconsin Dells. Once again it will be held at the Wilderness Resort. Stay tuned for updates on topics, presentations, and sponsorship opportunities. If you have interest in helping to plan the Summit, please contact George Quinn.

QUARTERLY COUNCIL MEETING

WCMEW held its quarterly Council meeting on March 12. Main agenda items included:

- An update from the “Promoting Healthcare Careers” work group. Lead Liz Bush, state Director of AHEC, indicated that their 2024 focus will include partnering with the Department of Public Instruction and using DPI’s “[Patient Care Career Pathway](#)”, a tool to help promote healthcare careers in middle and high schools. The goal is to build statewide awareness of healthcare careers, increase the adoption of this tool in middle and high schools, and support its ongoing revision and enhancement. AHEC has retained an intern to spearhead this effort.
- A status report on the “Addressing Clinical Training and Retention” work group’s efforts thus far. Lead Dr. Lisa Dodson, Dean of the Medical College of Wisconsin’s Central Wisconsin Campus, outlined the group’s 2024 goals:
 - *Improve coordination and communication between health systems and educational programs, and expand the number of clinical sites and opportunities.*
 - *Help facilitate higher retention rates*Dr. Dodson indicated that some key initial tasks were to identify key decision-makers and gather success stories on retention.
- Initial discussion of the 2024 Workforce Summit. George Quinn led the Council in discussing the main goals of the Summit, logistics, and potential topics.

Meeting materials can be found [here](#).

WORKFORCE IN THE NEWS

Allina plans to establish RN residency – Becker’s Clinical Leadership

Minneapolis-based Allina Health is tackling the nursing shortage through various long-term initiatives, including improved orientation programs, developing initiatives for nurse leadership and establishing an RN residency program.

Health systems reshape nurse workflows: 4 trends to know – Becker’s Clinical Leadership

Health systems are increasingly reimagining nurse responsibilities and workflows in response to staff shortages and high levels of employee burnout, among other challenges. The nursing workforce has stabilized in recent months, with some employment numbers higher than before COVID-19, but systems are still prioritizing retention efforts.