

## Nursing Leadership's 2023 Advocacy Priorities

A qualified, engaged, diverse workforce is health care's most precious resource. Health organizations cannot care for patients without health care workers. Our workforce challenges are a national emergency demanding immediate attention from all levels of government and workable solutions. These include recruiting, revitalizing and diversifying the health care workforce by the following:

### 1. Increase the Health Care Workforce and Strengthen Capacity

- Expedite visas for foreign-trained nurses and physicians in medically underserved areas.
- Award scholarships and assist graduates of health professions programs with loan repayment in return for an obligation to provide patient care in underserved rural and urban areas.
- Reduce administrative burdens taking clinicians away from the bedside and contributing to burnout, such as excessive and unnecessary use of prior authorization.
- Make permanent telehealth flexibilities allowed during the public health emergency, including expanding eligible telehealth practitioners, lifting site restrictions limiting where patients can use telehealth, and allowing billing for audio-only telephone and video services.
- Extend the CMS Acute Hospital Care At Home waiver, allowing patients to receive care in their home through a daily in-person or remote evaluation by a nurse.
- Remove federal barriers for states to allow out-of-state providers to perform telehealth services.

### 2. Protect Health Care Workers From Workplace Violence

- Enact federal protection for health care workers against violence and intimidation.
- Provide hospital grant funding for violence prevention training programs, equipment and technology to create a safer environment.

### 3. Address Nurse Faculty and Clinical Site Shortages

- Invest in nursing schools to ensure nursing education pathways remain strong during PHEs.
- Support nursing schools, students, faculty, preceptors and education infrastructure by providing resources to hire and retain a diverse faculty, as well as enroll and retain nursing students.
- Modernize nursing curriculum, technology and simulation labs.
- Establish nurse-led interdisciplinary and interprofessional educational partnerships.

### About AONL

As the national professional organization of more than 11,000 nurse leaders, the American Organization for Nursing Leadership is the voice of nursing leadership. Our membership encompasses nurse leaders working in hospitals, health systems, academia and other settings across the care continuum. Since 1967, AONL has advanced nursing leadership practice and patient care through professional development, advocacy and research. AONL is an affiliate of the American Hospital Association.

If you have questions regarding AONL's policy or advocacy efforts, please contact Stacey Chappell, director, advocacy and external communications, at 202-321-2392 or [schappell@aha.org](mailto:schappell@aha.org).