



Press Release

On Thursday, April 3, 2014 Governor Deval Patrick awarded nearly \$2 million in grants to help train health care providers to improve patient services and reduce costs. The funding will go to 51 organizations across the state to begin assessing how to prepare health care workers for the careers of the 21st century economy. Chapter 224 health care cost containment legislation allocated \$20 million to prepare the health care industry for the new demands and innovations called for in the legislation. The Governor made the announcement at Lynn Community Health Center.

The award recipients may partner with hospitals, community centers and educational institutions to create new service delivery models and determine what workforce skills and training are necessary for today's workers.

The Health Care Workforce Transformation Grants will enable health care businesses to assess the skills of their workforce, as well as the relevance, quantity and quality of existing training or educational programs. This will also allow businesses to develop a plan to deliver new training and educational programs to their current workers and, in partnership with the state's educational institutions, determine the need for improving or creating programs that will attract future workers.

The Organization of Nurse Leaders, Inc. is a proud recipient of one of these important Healthcare Workforce Planning Grants and has been awarded funding. With the assistance of an advisory board, ONL plans to develop a blueprint for a Massachusetts Nurse Residency Program for newly licensed nurses who are unemployed. This initiative is in response to the Institute of Medicine's Report on the future of nursing to develop nurse residency models across practice settings that improve the retention of nurses, expand competencies, and improve patient outcomes.

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