

CENTER FOR NURSING

ADVANCEMENT

THOUGHTS FROM THE FRONTLINE



DECEMBER 2024

The Center Welcomes New Executive Director, Dr. Jennifer Hitt

The Tennessee Center for Nursing Advancement is proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Jennifer Hitt as its new Executive Director. With an impressive 20-year career in nursing and healthcare leadership, Dr. Hitt brings a wealth of knowledge and a deep commitment to advancing the nursing profession in Tennessee.

Dr. Hitt's journey began at the bedside, where she honed her clinical skills before moving into leadership roles across diverse healthcare settings. Her passion for high-quality patient care has been the foundation of her career, and her pursuit of professional growth has driven her to continually seek opportunities to influence healthcare delivery on a larger scale.

Dr. Hitt has also held the position of Founding Director of Nursing at Christian Brothers University, where she worked to create a transformative learning experience for students. Her dedication to fostering an inclusive and dynamic educational environment has allowed aspiring nurses to thrive both academically and professionally. She is particularly committed to mentorship and is driven by the opportunity to guide students through their academic journeys and witness their success in clinical practice.

Beyond her work in the classroom, Dr. Hitt is a strong advocate for interdisciplinary collaboration. She has worked to bring together healthcare professionals, academic colleagues, and industry partners to create synergies that enhance nursing education and practice. Dr. Hitt is committed to advancing a culture of excellence, innovation, and compassionate care in nursing.

In addition to her new role at the Tennessee Center for Nursing Advancement, Dr. Hitt has recently been elected as the President of the Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA). In this new leadership position, she will continue her work advocating for the nursing profession and shaping policies that impact nurses throughout the state.

As Executive Director of the Tennessee Center for Nursing Advancement, Dr. Hitt is poised to drive initiatives that will elevate nursing standards, optimize operational efficiency, and ensure compassionate care is delivered across Tennessee's healthcare systems. Her leadership philosophy centers on collaboration, empowerment, and positive change, and she looks forward to shaping the future of nursing in our state.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Hitt as she embarks on this exciting new chapter with the Tennessee Center for Nursing Advancement!

Dr. Jennifer Hitt



Exciting News: The Annual Report 2023-2024 is Now Available!

We are thrilled to announce that the 2023-2024 Annual Report is complete and ready for you to explore! This comprehensive report highlights the incredible achievements, milestones, and progress made over the past year.

Dive into detailed insights about our programs, community impact, and the remarkable work the Center is doing. It's a testament to the dedication and commitment that drives our mission forward every day.

You can view or download the report at the following link: [2023-2024 Annual Report](#)

Thank you for your continued support and for being an integral part of our journey. Together, we are shaping the future of nursing and healthcare in our community and beyond.



Announcing Our New Name: Tennessee Center for Nursing Advancement

We're excited to share that our organization has officially adopted a new name: the **Tennessee Center for Nursing Advancement (TCFNA)**. This change reflects our commitment to supporting nurses statewide while continuing to champion healthcare initiatives in the Appalachian Highlands region, where our roots run deep.

A Fresh Look for a Renewed Mission

Along with our new name, we're introducing a new logo! The design features the outline of Tennessee to symbolize our statewide reach and highlights the dedication and compassion that define the nursing profession.

As TCFNA, we remain focused on advancing nursing leadership, addressing workforce challenges, and fostering professional growth across the state.

Thank you for your continued support as we move forward in our mission to strengthen nursing and healthcare in Tennessee. Together, we're making a difference!



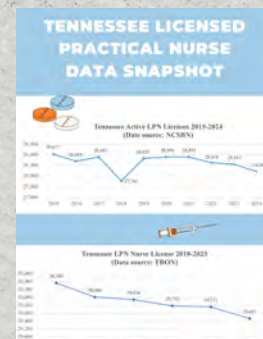
Introducing Weekly Data Snapshots: Insights at Your Fingertips

We're excited to announce the launch of our new Data Snapshots, a weekly feature designed to provide quick, actionable insights into key nursing trends and workforce data.

What Are Data Snapshots?

These concise updates will highlight important metrics, trends, and insights related to nursing and healthcare in Tennessee. From workforce statistics to regional analysis, our snapshots will keep you informed and help guide decision-making for nursing professionals, educators, and policymakers.

You can access our Data Snapshots every Thursday on our [website](#) and across our social media platforms. Follow us on your favorite channel to stay up-to-date and join the conversation.



Celebrating Our Community Partners: The Heartbeat of Our Mission

As we reflect on our journey and the impact we strive to make, it's essential to spotlight the incredible community partners that help us turn our vision into reality. Their unwavering support, expertise, and commitment enrich our initiatives and strengthen our mission.

Why Community Partners Matter

Community partners are more than just collaborators; they are the backbone of our efforts. They provide valuable resources, unique perspectives, and essential services that enhance our programs. Together, we can tackle challenges, reach more individuals, and create lasting change.

Our Partners in Action

This month, we would like to highlight some of our esteemed community partners:

OpusVi: The Center collaborates with OpusVi on our Nurse Leadership Program and we are currently designing a Nurse Leadership Mentor Program. Their expertise has significantly enhanced our efforts to cultivate strong nursing leaders.

Nexstar: We are pleased to highlight our ongoing partnership with Nexstar, which has been instrumental in enhancing our social, digital, and audio advertising efforts. Their expertise in these areas has significantly boosted our outreach and engagement, allowing us to effectively connect with our community and promote our initiatives.

Belmont: We are excited to partner with Belmont University on the Nurse Be-Well program, which focuses on teaching students essential self-care activities, including mindfulness practices. This innovative program is integrated into both didactic and experiential learning courses, providing students with valuable tools to enhance their well-being and resilience.

ETSU Public Health: We are thrilled to collaborate with ETSU Public Health on a groundbreaking project to create a Geographic Information System (GIS) that maps the distribution and characteristics of the nursing workforce. This initiative aims to provide valuable insights into nursing demographics and resource allocation, helping us better understand and address workforce needs in our region. By leveraging data visualization, we hope to enhance strategic planning and support the growth and sustainability of the nursing profession in our community.

Looking Ahead

As we continue to grow and adapt, the role of our community partners will remain crucial. We encourage you to connect with these amazing organizations and explore how you can support their efforts as well.

Let's celebrate the power of collaboration and the collective impact we can make when we join forces. Together, we are not just a network; we are a community dedicated to creating positive change.

Thank you to all our partners for their relentless dedication and passion. We look forward to achieving even more together in the months to come! Stay tuned next month as we feature additional community partners.