Big Changes for Family Birth Center

Family Birth Center (FBC) nurses have finished their self-scheduling process and are moving forward with its first schedule beginning July 7. This is a great example of nurses coming together to work on a problem and finding a solution that works for the majority.

We all know what a challenge scheduling can be and are so impressed with the committee finding a solution so quickly, thanks to the hard work of Leslie Cady, Ashley Frost, and Mandi Cook, our FBC Scheduling Committee members. The nurses hope this process will continue to be a positive experience of shared governance.

On Friday, May 31, the nurses of Sky Lakes FBC Center received notice that Deb Wetherelt had left as the FBC’s director. Her exit was preceded by a three-week investigation by management. All the nurses on FBC were interviewed and allowed an opportunity to express their concerns during this interview process.

Now that the nurses concerns have been heard, they are welcoming the opportunity to move forward. The nurses hope for a strong leader in this unit and will be asking management for a voice during the interview process.

Get Your ONA Action Scrubs!

The Sky Lakes Executive Team and Membership Committee have decided to purchase black scrub tops, jackets, and caps with SKY/ONA insignia, using the remaining grant funds that were allocated to support membership in the Bargaining Unit. These are scrubs that nurses can wear for unity days and when we start working toward the next contract negotiations, coming up in 2020!

If you haven’t already, please email Aletta Manix at alettamannix@gmail.com or Kristin Tyson at ciaobabykris@hotmail.com with your size and item preference by Monday, June 10.
Staffing Survey

Sky Lakes will be undergoing a staffing survey this week (June 4-6). What does this actually mean? From the OHA’s website the survey process is described below:

Health Facility Licensing and Certification (HFLC) staff use a standardized survey process intended to evaluate hospital compliance with the rules related to nurse staffing. Hospitals are randomly selected for survey from the list of hospitals licensed in the state of Oregon.

- Each hospital is audited once every three years to assess nurse staffing compliance;
- Audits include review of relevant records, interviews of both Hospital Nurse Staffing Committee (HNSC) co-chairs, and interviews of any other persons deemed necessary to determine compliance;
- Hospitals keep and maintain records that demonstrate compliance;
- After an audit, OHA sends the hospital and the HNSC co-chairs a written report that explains any nurse staffing concerns found during the survey. A hospital submits a plan of correction to address any concerns noted in the OHA’s report. Once a plan of correction is approved, OHA will revisit the hospital within 60 days to determine compliance; and
- OHA maintains and posts audit reports online.

OHA gives an opportunity to hospital staff, patients, and family members to give feedback via SurveyMonkey. Check your work email to see if a survey link is waiting for you. If you cannot locate the email, please contact your supervisor, a member of the staffing or executive committee, or your ONA labor representative. We strongly encourage everyone to fill out this survey so your voice can be heard.

Lusann Strop will be available to OHA for interviews in place of the Staffing Committee Nurse Co-Chair as the position is currently vacant (more to come on that opportunity). If you would like to talk to Lusann, contact ONA Labor Representative Liz Weltin via email at Weltin@OregonRN.org or by phone at (503) 293-0011 ext. 1366 and she’ll get you in touch with Lusann.

ONA Nurse Staffing Workshop

Join ONA’s Nurse Practice Consultant on July 17 in Klamath Falls for a Staffing Workshop! We will be discussing best practices for developing a staffing plan and providing education on how you can create and review your plans to ensure they meet the requirements of the staffing law.

Wednesday, July 17, 3-6 p.m.
Location: Gaucho Collective
1038 Main St., Klamath Falls, OR

FREE for all ONA members
Non-ONA members are able to attend for an $80 fee

Participants successfully completing this workshop will be awarded 3.0 continuing education contact hours.

ONA is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Register today at www.OregonRN.org