



## **BSN in Ten**

### **W-ONE Position Statement**

The national trend for states to progress with BSN in Ten is gaining momentum. Graduating nurses with Associate or Diploma degrees would be required to earn their BSN within 10 years of licensure. Nurses who currently possess their ADN or Diploma degrees would be exempted.

The Tri-Council for Nursing Issues, the IOM Future of Nursing Report issued last October, and several studies recommend advanced degrees in nursing. Each report cites research that demonstrates better patient outcomes with higher educational preparation for nurses. The IOM report goes on to formally recommend an increase of nurses with BSN's to 80% by 2020.

Members from W-ONE formally met with the Deans from both BSN and ADN programs in Wisconsin last August and agreed to work together to move this initiative forward in our state. It was agreed that professional nursing organizations develop position statements and then work together to develop strategies to move forward. Please refer to the W-ONE web site for the complete BSN in Ten White Paper for background information and references.

#### **W-ONE Position Statement**

The nursing profession must be academically prepared to meet the complex needs of the patients and communities it serves and function as an equal partner with other health care professions.

W-ONE supports advancing the educational preparation of nurses. We acknowledge that there are multiple access points into the nursing profession, and that educational advancement is encouraged from the point of entry. As a proactive leader, W-ONE embraces a vision of a preferred future where professional nurses earn a bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN) within 10 years of initial licensure.

This cultural change will demand the creation of system pathways in local Wisconsin communities that promote continued nursing education which would serve as a platform for lifelong learning.