

May 2004

# HORIZONS



## President's Message

Happy Nurses' Day! Congratulations to each and every one of you on all the significant work that you do every day providing leadership and vision to your staff. We are all caregivers, though we may no longer directly care for patients. Also, thank you for the opportunity to represent you as Chapter Leader at the recent American Organization of

Nurse Executives Annual Meeting, "Nursing Leadership: Rising on the Wings of Change." In fact, the keynote speaker, General Clara Adams-Ender commented on always thinking of herself in the "caregiver role of leader and manager."

There were many wonderful sessions. Included was one presented by Dr. Jim Loehr titled, "Fully Engaged – Managing Energy to Maximize Performance." His key message was about focusing on energy management, not time management as the key to improved performance and satisfaction. He has been part of studying high performance athletes as well as others, and has determined that the difference between ordinary and extraordinary is extraordinary energy. In order to have extraordinary energy, he described an approach which addresses physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual components. We must have a mission we are striving for that is linked to our values to be fully engaged. And, full engagement requires positive rituals – precise behaviors that become automatic over time. In fact, only 5% of our behaviors are consciously self-regulated. The other 95% are non-conscious, habitual, and automatic. He recommends then, creating rituals around everything that is important to us in order for them to become habits.

Colleen Goode from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center spoke on "Using Evidence to Transform Your Work Environment." She shared an overview of the recent literature describing the staffing studies that identify improved outcomes with increased registered nurse hours of care. There are actually quite a number at this time and she encouraged the nursing leaders present to use these studies with the CEOs and CFOs with whom we work to demonstrate that there is research-based evidence around this topic. Also she presented information related to facilities meeting the ANCC Magnet Designation. Some of the statistics shared were that Magnet facilities have a turnover rate averaging 14.3% vs. a national rate of 20% and Magnet vacancy rates average 3.47% vs. 11% nationally. The average RN mix in a Magnet facility is 58.4%. There is no national number to which we can compare this statistic.

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## President's Column - continued from page 1

The final plenary session was by Jo Ellen Koerner of Simulis Healthcare Services. This speaker's focus was on "The Four-Fold Way of Nursing Leadership: Cultivating Information, Knowledge, Wisdom, and Mystery." She shared some of her experiences with the Dakota Indians on spirituality and healing which she learned through a very personal experience with her daughter's near death experience during pregnancy. It was a moving as well as thought-provoking session.

In addition, I had the opportunity to learn what is happening in other Chapters around the country. There are many exciting activities, many of which include visioning for the future of nursing and collaborating with other nursing organizations. I was able to share our work with the Wisconsin Nursing Redesign Council to develop a Wisconsin Center for Nursing. Also, many states have been facing mandatory overtime legislation and staffing ratios. California shared some of their challenges with meeting their legislated staffing ratios. In fact, they reported that 85% of the hospitals in the state are not meeting this requirement, primarily due to the wording in the legislation stating these ratios must be met "at all times." These colleagues are continuing to be challenged to meet these requirements while trying to maintain viable organizations. I came away with a gratitude for the state in which we live and work.

Lastly, we attended our own Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Executives Annual Meeting in Green Bay the end of April. I always enjoy seeing you there and having the opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and friends. It was a great opportunity for all of us to learn and grow.

*Faye Deich, 2004 W-ONE President*

### **An Opportunity to Learn More About Your Organization**

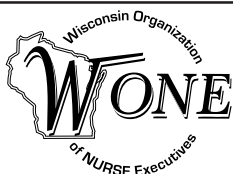
The W-ONE Board of Directors is excited to invite the members of W-ONE to any and all Board Meetings for which you can be available. Attending a Board meeting is an excellent opportunity to learn about your W-ONE organization and also the issues facing us on a statewide and national level. Let Faye Deich know if you are able to attend a particular meeting. Lunch is provided and we wish to ensure that an adequate amount is ordered. All meetings are at the Wisconsin Hospital Association headquarters in Madison unless noted otherwise.

Friday, June 18, 10-2, WHA  
Friday, August 20, 10-2, WHA  
Wednesday, September 15, TBD, WHA Fall Conference in Lake Geneva  
Friday, November 19, 10-2:30, WHA

### **Professional Development Committee**

The Professional Development Committee will be meeting in May to start working on the new strategic plan goals. The topics of conversation will be defining mentorship and how mentors could be used in the W-ONE organization. In addition, the committee hopes to compile a list of resources that can be put on the website on being a mentor. Scholarship applications can still be submitted until August 1 of 2004. Visit the W-ONE website for information --

<http://www.w-one.org>



Horizons is published quarterly as the newsletter of the Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Executives. Articles on nursing, management and health care issues, and letters to the editor are welcome. Display and classified advertising are accepted. For information, contact the editor.

2004 W-ONE Board of Directors: President, Faye Deich; Secretary, Susan Peterson; Treasurer, Janice Giedd; Past President, Gerri Staffileno  
2004 W-ONE Board Members: Peg Sebastian, Bev Hoege, Jan Hutchens, Gini Davis, Joan Beglinger, Mary Ann Clark, Diane Strack  
Editor: Peggy Ose

## W-ONE is looking for a few good men and women!

Are you looking for something to do? Are you interested in making a difference in W-ONE? Are you willing to share your knowledge? Are you looking for a growth opportunity? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, W-ONE is looking for you!

There are several openings on the W-ONE Board for 2005 as well as two positions open on the Nominations Committee. Please consider yourself or a colleague for one of the following positions:

**President Elect:** A four-year commitment, one as President Elect, two as President, and one as Past President, requires membership in AONE

**Secretary:** A two-year commitment, requires membership in AONE

**Board Member:** A two-year commitment

**Nominations Committee:** A two-year commitment

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else (be sure that person agrees!) please complete the form attached to this issue of Horizons (page 10). The deadline for submission of nominations is May 31, 2004. If you have questions, contact Gerri Staffileno, Chair, Nominations Committee at 414-298-6748 or [gstaffil@columbiastmarys.org](mailto:gstaffil@columbiastmarys.org).

## Nurse Leader of the Year Award

Every year, W-ONE chooses one of its members as the Nurse Leader of the Year. This is your opportunity to nominate one of your peers who stands out as an outstanding leader. The criteria for this award includes active membership in W-ONE, creativity in either nursing management or nursing administration, contributions to the profession of nursing, the promotion of health care outside of his/her organization and role modeling for others. Each one of us knows someone who fits this description!

Please use the nomination form included in this issue (page 11) to nominate a colleague as Nurse Leader of the Year. There is nothing better than recognition from a peer!

**Due Date: May 31, 2004**

## Program Committee

"AHOY Mateys," the Spring Convention in Green Bay, was a "Swashbuckling" great time. We had about about 123 attendees this year. We had great educational presentations, great food, wonderful accomodations, great costumes and much laughter. As I looked around the rooms of the educational sessions, meal breaks and the evening events, I saw many smiles, heard much laughter and networking. I saw friends being reunited, ideas being shared and felt the energy of having so many of Wisconsin's nurse leaders together in one location.

"AAAAAR It was AWESOME!

We also had eight vendors this year! How awesome is that? GREAT JOB FELLOW PIRATES! The vendors were so impressed that they reminded the program committee to put them on our invitations list for next year.

WHA will be tabulating the evaluations as soon as they can. The program committee will be utilizing this information to improve on the conference for 2005. The Spring Conference in 2005 will be in La Crosse. We are reworking the dates to make them more convenient to our members. We will let you know as soon as we are able to work this out.

Thank you to all that attended, who brought items from their organizations for giveaways, who found vendors for this event, who participated in the hospitality suite arranged by membership, who presented and listened and to those that in any way assisted in making this such a successful event. Thank you to Aurora Health Care for providing the CEUs for the conference. I can only hope to see you all and others in 2005.

Anyone interested in becoming a program committee team member, please let me know -- [jeff.euclide@aurora.org](mailto:jeff.euclide@aurora.org) (we are a pretty fun and insightful team)

"Shiver me Timbers!" Until next year!  
(remember to eat lots of fruit to prevent scurvy)

*How did the pirate stop smoking?*

*He used the Patch!*

*What did the pirate say to the jokester?*

*Aye, walk the plank!*

*How much did the pirate pay for his peg leg and hook?*

*An arm and a leg!*

Jeff Euclide (Blue Beard)  
Chair of Program Committee-W-ONE

## Membership Committee

The membership drive continues to go well for this year. We currently have 248 members with 53 of those being new to our organization. Reminder notices have been sent, and we encourage each of you to recruit peers within and outside of your organization to become involved with W-ONE.

### Welcome the following new members:

1. Joy J. Ackley, Administrator, Orthopaedic Hospital of Wisconsin, Glendale
2. Lori L. Barto, Director/Manager, Divine Savior Healthcare, Portage
3. Jill M. Baxter, Director/Manager, Mercy Health System, Janesville
4. Allison R. Berg, Director/Manager, Divine Savior Healthcare, Portage
5. Sharon M. Bergsholm, Administrative Director, Bay Area Medical Center, Marinette
6. Linda J. Bodien, Nurse Executive, Ministry Home Care, Marshfield
7. Bonnie J. Bonham, Director/Manager, Divine Savior Healthcare, Portage
8. Julia A. Brantmeier, Nurse Executive/Director/Manager, Friendship Living Centers, Milwaukee
9. Dr. Nancy E Cervenansky, Dean, College of Nursing, Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee
10. Jody M. DeRosa, Director/Manager, St. Marys Hospital, Madison
11. Elizabeth Elsen-Schlender, Director/Manager, Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital, Prairie du Sac
12. Denise L. Ertl Director/Manager, Community Healthcare - Wausau Hospital, Wausau
13. Lori L. Ferries, Director/Manager, Franciscan Skemp Healthcare, Sparta
14. Richard J. Foster, Coordinator, Eagle River Memorial Hospital, Eagle River
15. Peggy Glander, Nurse Executive, Howard Young Health Care, Woodruff
16. Ellen A. Graham-Knight, Director/Manager, VA Great Lakes Healthcare System, Tomah
17. Holly K. Halberslaben, Director/Manager, St. Marys Hospital Medical Center, Madison
18. Diane L. Holschbach, Manager, Shawano Medical Center, Shawano
19. Rene Iannarelli, Director/Manager, Sacred Heart-St. Mary's Hospital, Inc, Rhinelander
20. Kay E. Johnstone, Clinical Manager, Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center, La Crosse
21. Robin C. Kranig, Director/Manager, Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire
22. Pamela J. Krueger, Director/Manager, Wausau Hospital, Wausau
23. Linda K. Lenz, Director/Manager, Myrtle Werth Hospital, Menomonie
24. Karen A. Lockard, Nurse Executive, Columbus Community Hospital, Columbus
25. Michael Lynn LuCore Jr. Director/Manager, Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire
26. Jane K. Martin, Nurse Executive/Director, Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center, Sheboygan
27. Maureen P. McCausland, Senior VP, University of Wisconsin Hospital & Clinic, Madison
28. Jan M. McKichan, Nurse Executive, Hayward Area Memorial Hospital
29. Donna M. Metoff, Director/Manager, West Allis Memorial Hospital, Aurora Health Care, West Allis
30. Nancy E. Mills, Director/Manager, West Allis Memorial Hospital, West Allis
31. Mary D. Morrison, Director/Manager, Osceola Medical Center, Osceola
32. Ellen Myhre, Supervisor, Osseo Medical Center, Osseo
33. Del D. Nell, Associate Patient Care, St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center, Green Bay
34. Kathleen A. Ojeda, Director/Manager, Veterans Administration, Milwaukee
35. Shelly J. Parsells, Director/Manager, Wausau Hospital, Wausau
36. Jean L. Peavey, Nurse Executive, Baldwin Area Medical Center, Baldwin
37. Carrie A. Presser, Director/Manager, Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital, Milwaukee
38. Kathleen Roberts, Director/Manager, Franciscan Skemp Healthcare, La Crosse
39. Elizabeth A. Schreiber, Director/Manager, Flambeau Hospital, Park Falls
40. Suzanne G. Schuler, Nurse Executive, Milwaukee Co. Behavioral Health Division, Milwaukee
41. Margaret E. Sheeks, Director/Manager, Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital, Prairie du Sac
42. Maurita A. Sullivan, Nurse Executive, Barron Medical Center, Barron
43. Pat A. Swinford, Dean, Bellin College of Nursing, Green Bay
44. Gary B. Tiesling, Director/Manager, Sacred Heart-Saint Mary's Hospital, Inc., Rhinelander
45. Mary M. Vieth, Director/Manager, VA Medical Center, Tomah
46. Shelly A. Waala, Administrative Supervisor, Community Memorial Hospital, Menomonee Falls
47. Heidi A. Warpinski, Director/Manager, St. Vincent Hospital, Green Bay
48. Laura L. Wayd, Director/Manager, The Village at Manor Park, Milwaukee
49. Belinda R. Weinberg, Director/Manager, Gundersen Lutheran, Onalaska
50. Laurie J. Wensink, Director/Manager, Columbia-St. Mary's-Ozaukee Campus, Mequon
51. Lori E. Wenzel, Director/Manager, Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center, La Crosse
52. Nancy A. Wood, Director/Manager, Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital, Prairie du Sac
53. Faye H. Zwieg, Nurse/Executive, St. Luke's Medical Center, Milwaukee



**WHA Report**  
**Judy Warmuth,**  
**VP Workforce Development**

### **NCLEX and Nurse Technician changes**

As of April 1, 2004, a higher score is required to pass the NCLEX exam. This means that, at least for a while, a larger number of individuals will most likely fail the exam. Often in Wisconsin hospitals, these individuals work as Nurse Technicians while they wait to retake the exam. The Board of Nursing has been very concerned that graduate nurses often wait prolonged periods of time to take the initial exam, and then an even greater amount of time to retake in the event they fail on the first attempt. To encourage early taking and, if necessary, retaking of the NCLEX, the Board has revised its position on Nurse Technicians. The new position is that individuals should not be allowed to function in the Nurse Tech role for more than **six months** following graduation from nursing school. For the nurse graduate who takes the exam immediately and is successful, there is no problem. For the graduate who delays taking the exam and then fails, six months will pass very quickly. The Board feels that all agencies employing nurses should have a policy in place to encourage timely taking and retaking of the examination and also to address the employment role after six months in a technician position. The revised position paper should soon be available on the Department of Regulation and Licensing website.

### **TABOR**

The Legislature has been working on a bill (AJR 55) that would amend Wisconsin's constitution. Called the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights, or "TABOR," the proposal would, among other things, cap increases in state government spending (at a rate still to be determined). While on its surface TABOR may seem attractive, it could also mean that the grossly inadequate payments hospitals receive from Medicaid will continue, if not severely worsen. TABOR could even lead to changes in the current and future Critical Access Hospital (CAH) program. You are encouraged to contact your legislators and ask that they carefully consider the pros and cons of this proposed Wisconsin constitutional amendment.

### **Nurse:Patient Ratios**

A recent AHA teleconference on the Effect of Ratios Legislation within California hospitals painted a disconcerting picture by reporting that more than 3,100 elective surgery cases have been cancelled and 30% of requested patient transfers are refused. It was also reported that many hospitals are failing to meet the ratio requirement during breaks and meals. Staff nurses have been irritated by very staggered lunches and breaks when often only one staff member may leave a unit at one time. Emergency rooms and delivery suites have had the most problems maintaining required ratios.

### **How to locate resources noted at the W-ONE Spring Meeting**

Mary Foley immediate past president of the American Nurses Association was the keynote speaker at W-ONE's spring conference. She did a great job! Two of the resources (Maven's) she discussed are available on line. They are the American Hospital Association's Workforce Report "In Our Hands." It is available at:

<http://www.hospitalconnect.com/healthcareworkforce/toolkit/index.html> and the IOM report "Keeping Patients Safe." A summary of that report can be read at <http://www.wha.org/workForce/pdf/IOMrecommendations11-5-03.pdf>

## Patient Care Committee Report

The Patient Care Committee continues to focus on the goal of keeping current our list of member involvement on statewide and community initiatives and committees related to patient care and/or safety. The following updates address the goal of informing our members of these activities.

**Vilas County Community Health Improvement Committee – Subgroup – Dental Access and Services** – Pat Van Acker ([vanackerp@hyhc.com](mailto:vanackerp@hyhc.com)):

The focus of this sub-group is to decrease access problems related to dental care in the Vilas County area. Plans are in place for “Lift a Lip” Program, “Seal a Smile” Program and “Fluoride Rinse” Program.

**Regional Bioterrorism Executive Committee** – Jan Neuman ([neumanjl@centurytel.net](mailto:neumanjl@centurytel.net))

Topics of discussion at the meeting included: Bed capacity exercises, mass immunization clinics and ongoing hospital terrorism preparations. Future discussions will focus on decontamination and isolation equipment available in the state and region. HRSA funds for negative air pressure room capabilities were disbursed this month to all applicable regional hospitals.

Mary Beth White-Jacobs ([whitejacobsm@blackriverhospital.com](mailto:whitejacobsm@blackriverhospital.com)) participates on each of the following:

**WHA Medical and Professional Affairs Council (MPA)** The council is evaluating its direction via an on-line member survey. The MPA will conduct a planning session in April 2004.

The October 2003 meeting included the following topics and discussion:

- A presentation by Teradimensions on a software package that could potentially be used for intra-agency reporting (non-public)
- Plans for a statewide Stroke Awareness Day Campaign were planned May 12, 2004. All organizations were encouraged to participate. More information is available at <http://www.strokealert.org>
- The public launch of WHA’s voluntary quality reporting program, CheckPoint, was reviewed.
- The Wisconsin Patient Safety Institute and WHA will combine efforts with a Quality and Safety Forum on October 18-19, 2004. Topic and speaker ideas may be forwarded to WHA or WPSI.

**WHA Quality Measures Team (joined November, 2003)**

The Measures Team met on April 23, 2004 to evaluate the launch of Checkpoint. Current projects for the team include:

- Safety goal methodology revisions were made. The aim is to increase the consistency and comparability of the data collected.
- Revisions were suggested to the format of the website.
- Proposals for the next measures, and safety goals for the website were discussed.

**Wisconsin Hospital Bioterrorism Preparedness Advisory Council**

The combined CDC HRSA advisory council met on March 9, 2004 and reviewed joint strategic issues and progress towards established goals. Issues discussed were:

- Collaboration of Regional Trauma Advisory Council (RTAC) and HRSA team. It was recognized that some membership overlaps and RTAC focuses on individual trauma.
- Statewide training efforts focus groups and the methods to track them.
- Healthiest Wisconsin 2010 was presented as an overall goal for all health care providers in the state.
- Statewide Bioterrorism exercises are planned for this fall.

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## Patient Care Committee Report - continued from page 6

Update from Wisconsin Association of Healthcare Quality (WAHQ) - Judy Sytsma

([judys@cmhospital.org](mailto:judys@cmhospital.org))

This is the first report to establish a communication link between W-ONE membership and WAHQ. The President of WAHQ is Linda Buel, RN, CPHQ, Quality Analyst-UW Health, Madison. Each region in Wisconsin has a representative. The names and addresses can be found at our Web site at <http://www.wahq.org>. The Annual Spring Conference was held on March 5, 2004 in Madison. We are currently collaborating with Metastar to provide study sessions for individuals interested in becoming certified in Health Care Quality. If you have any persons in your organization who would be interested in this program, please forward this information to them. The next Board of Directors meeting for WAHQ will be held in Madison on May 14, 2004.

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If you become part of any initiative or committee that has enhancing patient safety or improving patient care as its goal(s), contact Pam Aud at WHA or Jan Hutchens at Franciscan Skemp Healthcare, La Crosse at 608-785-0940 or [hutchens.janice@mayo.edu](mailto:hutchens.janice@mayo.edu). We would like to ensure inclusion of the progress of your group within the Horizons so that best practices and ideas for improved patient care and safety can be shared with the W-ONE members.

Thank you -- Jan Hutchens, Chair – W-ONE Patient Care Committee

### News and Resources from the Wisconsin Patient Safety Institute (WPSI)

**Demonstrating Progress:** Before reports from Checkpoint and the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality became available, the Wisconsin Patient Safety Institute engaged in a brief survey of Wisconsin hospitals to gauge adoption of WPSI's original medication safety recommendations. The results appear in the January/February edition of the *Journal of the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin*. The news is good! The survey demonstrates improvement in every area surveyed, and Wisconsin hospitals surpass national benchmarks in areas where comparable data are available. A link to the article is posted in the "RESOURCES" section at <http://www.wpsi.org>. Rather than duplicate efforts, WPSI is complementing Checkpoint and the Collaborative by providing resources to support organizations working on safety improvement in areas being reported publicly. Two specific examples follow.

**High-Alert Medications:** WPSI's High-Alert Medications Team developed two original resources, *Model High-Alert Medications Policy & Procedures* and *Smart IV Infusion Pump Financial Analysis*, a spreadsheet designed to help facilities evaluate the return on investment of new smart infusion pump technology. These materials and a selection of recommended readings are posted to the "RESOURCES" section at <http://www.wpsi.org>.

**Surgery Verification:** Following release of JCAHO's universal protocol, WPSI's Surgery Verification Team explored how WPSI could provide useful information above and beyond JCAHO's recommendations. As a result, WPSI will develop a Surgery Verification page on its Web site and post practical samples and tools for use in this area—policies and procedures, pre-surgical checklists, brochures or posters used to engage patients in site marking, recommended readings, and other resources. Watch for more information this summer.

**2003 Forum:** Slides, handouts, and audio files from the 2003 Forum are available in the "FORUM" section at [www.wpsi.org](http://www.wpsi.org). Read brief summaries of poster presentations; listen to keynote presentations from Lucian Leape and Helene Nelson; print materials for later reference. And, while you're there, please take a moment to complete the brief feedback form so we can continue to improve.

**2004 Forum:** WPSI is teaming up with the Wisconsin Hospital Association to present the 2004 Wisconsin Quality & Safety Forum on October 18 and 19 in Eau Claire. Again this year, the Forum will combine education with a showcase of successful safety and quality improvement projects. The poster session brochure and application are available in the "FORUM" section at <http://www.wpsi.org>. **Applications for the project showcase are due by May 21.** Please help us publicize this opportunity to your colleagues to ensure that we have a breadth of expertise and creativity represented.

As always, WPSI welcomes your comments and suggestions! Contact us at 608-442-3789 or [abo@wpsi.org](mailto:abo@wpsi.org). Thank you for your support!

## Nursing Recruitment and Retention Committee Report

Carol Winegarden and Faye Deich represent W-ONE on the Wisconsin Nursing Leadership Council for Strategic Planning, which was established in April 2003. This committee has representation from all of the large nursing groups in Wisconsin and came together to develop a plan to ensure a sufficient nurse workforce to improve the health outcomes for the people of Wisconsin.

Five goals were established and an infrastructure – The Wisconsin Center for Nursing – was envisioned to ensure implementation of the plan.

W-ONE's Recruitment and Retention Committee has since reconvened to work on the goal of retaining the nurse workforce. Issues being discussed include:

- The physical work environment
- Generational issues
- Shared governance
- Various models of practice to retain the existing workforce in the profession
- The role of the nurse as a steward of the profession

Work will continue this year on refining the goals and objectives for inclusion into the statewide plan.

Current membership includes:

Joan Beglinger, St. Marys, Madison  
Diane Buss, St. Marys, Madison  
Jim Greer, Department of Corrections  
Kristi Hund, Stoughton Hospital  
Vicki Jess, Myrtle Werth Hospital, Menomonie  
Suzanne Shaw, Holy Family, Manitowoc  
Mary Stangel, Holy Family, Manitowoc  
Carol Winegarden, St. Mary's Hospital Med. Ctr., Green Bay  
Ellen Zwirlein, Memorial, Prairie du Chien



### Cancer Center Director

Full-time opportunity exists in the new UW Cancer Center, Riverview. The Director is a healthcare professional with accountability for the day-to-day operations. Responsible for the coordination, leadership, and development of both the support staff and clinical staff. Works closely with physicians and all staff members to assure quality service to patients, providers, and the community.

Minimum Bachelor's Degree in Nursing or Radiation Therapy. Master's preferred. At least 3-5 years of progressively responsible work experience in Oncology practice as well as experience in supervising personnel.

Competitive salary and benefits all in an environment of clinical excellence and care.

Qualified applicants should send a resume to:

Human Resources Department  
410 Dewey Street, P.O. Box 8080  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8080  
email: [hr@rhahealthcare.org](mailto:hr@rhahealthcare.org)  
fax: 715-421-7551

### HIMSS Meeting

On May 12, a meeting sponsored by the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Dairyland (WI chapter) took place in Madison. Content included sessions on bar coding solutions to prevent medication errors; an overview of the Baldrige National Quality Program; electronic prescribing, recording and management of medications and a session describing the Wisconsin Patient Safety Institute. It is likely that many of the topics would be of great interest to W-ONE members as we work to enhance patient safety and improve performance in our facilities.

For those of you that are not familiar with HIMSS, it is a national group of professionals with a special interest in Health Systems. The 10,000+ membership includes Industrial and Systems Engineers, IT and Telecommunications professionals, business and management staff as well as a growing number of nurses, pharmacists, MDs, laboratory professionals, and other clinicians with an interest in health systems and health technology. Much like AONE, HIMSS serves its members with educational programs, mentoring and career development, advocacy and fellowship. The national HIMSS website is <http://www.himss.org>.

There is also a HIMSS Wisconsin Dairyland chapter <http://www.dairyland-himss.org>. This chapter planned the program which took place in Madison on May 12 and one which will be in Green Bay on October 20, 2004. The later will focus on emerging health care technologies with keynote and breakout speakers. There will be a social event at Lambeau Field on the evening of October 19 with the conference following on October 20. In addition, the National HIMSS 2005 meeting is planned for Dallas on February 13-17, 2005. Members who would like more information or to be placed on the chapter mailing list should contact HIMSS via the chapter website or Richard C. Reynolds, Consultant, University of Wisconsin Medical School, 608-265-8215, [rcreynol@wisc.edu](mailto:rcreynol@wisc.edu)



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## Member Checklist

- Please contact Pam Aud whenever you have a change in either employment or residential address to guarantee timely mailings. e-mail [paud@wha.org](mailto:paud@wha.org) or 608/268-1806.
- Submit articles for publication in the next issue of Horizons to Peggy Ose, 715/421-7427.
- If you are interested in being a part of a specific committee, contact the committee chair.

## WHA Contact

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Dear W-ONE Members:

We are looking for a few strong nursing leaders. You may be the one we are searching for to serve W-ONE. It's time to elect new officers and committee members for several positions. If you are interested in being placed on the ballot, please indicate your interest by marking the position of interest. You may also nominate another person, be sure they are in agreement!

\_\_\_\_\_President Elect (total of four year commitment, must be an AONE member)

\_\_\_\_\_Secretary (two year commitment, must be an AONE member)

\_\_\_\_\_Board of Directors (two year term)

\_\_\_\_\_Nominations Committee (two year term)

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Title\_\_\_\_\_

Agency\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred mailing address\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address\_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed application in the envelope provided, no later than **May 31, 2004.**

**Thank you!**

**RETURN TO:**

W-ONE  
c/o WHA  
5721 Odana Road  
P.O. Box 44992  
Madison, Wisconsin 53744-4992

## Nurse Leadership Award Nomination

I request that the W-ONE Committee on Nominations and Recognition consider:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**for the 2004 Nurse Leader of the Year award.**

Having reviewed the criteria for this award, I believe this candidate has met them in the following ways:

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### Submitted by:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>RETURN TO:</b> W-ONE c/o WHA P.O. Box 44992 Madison, WI 53744- 4992</p>
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**Please Return by May 31, 2004**