

2. SUPPORTING NURSES TO ADVANCE HEALTH EQUITY

2.4 HRSA and the Indian Health Service (IHS) should make substantial investments in nurse loan and scholarship programs to address nurse shortages, including in public health, in health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) for HRSA, and in IHS designated sites; and invest in technical assistance that focuses on nurse retention.

1. Key Strategic Stakeholders

Nursing Organizations

Association of Public Health Nurses; Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations; Minority nursing associations; Rural Nursing Associations

Health Care Organizations

Employers; Industry groups across the healthcare continuum

Federal Government

Policymakers with influence over appropriations

State Government

State and county health departments

Education

All colleges and universities with nursing programs at all levels; Current and potential nursing students; Midwife and pediatric nursing programs

2. Top 3-5 Actions for 2021

- A. Encourage coalitions to make specific funding requests by drafting legislative language
- B. Identify advocates – nurses and friends of nurses
- C. Reach out to nursing associations
- D. Establish academic practice partnerships.
- E. Leverage funding opportunities, especially Medicare and Medicaid

3. Top 3-5 Actions for 2022

- A. Get everyone registered to vote, especially through coalition partnerships.
- B. Showcase best practices at national level
- C. Compile data on scholarship availability
- D. Deliver qualitative and quantitative data and analytics that can be applied to patient scenarios
- E. Align with other sectors of healthcare workers to address nursing shortages – family caregivers, community health workers

4. Success Indicators

- Equitable fund disbursement
- Benchmarks for near-term and long-term comprehensive goals
- Specific measures around different health drivers – for profit/non-profit, rural, inner city, etc.