

## ICN Leadership for Change Programme™ celebrates first USA and North Pacific Island graduates



**Geneva, Switzerland, Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA, 23 February 2015** – On 27 January 2015, the International Council of Nurses' Leadership for Change Programme™ (ICN LFC) celebrated the graduation of 17 senior nurse leaders and human resource for health executives from nine US-Affiliated Pacific Island countries and territories (USAPIs). The first ICN LFC ever conducted in the USA.

This ICN LFC Programme was a collaborative partnership between ICN, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Nursing (UHMN), Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA) and the American Pacific Nursing Leaders Council (APNLC). The graduation ceremony took place in Honolulu, Hawai'i on the campus of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

"ICN congratulates all of the participants and the partners on a job well done," said Dr. David C. Benton, ICN Chief Executive Officer. "We look forward to our continued partnership with UHMN, PIHOA and the APNLC. ICN will work now to ensure continued capacity building in our Training of Trainers phase of the ICN LFC Programme so that new LFC programmes can be implemented in the USAPI and led by the newly certified ICN LFC Trainers in collaboration with the UHMN."

Composed of 15 women and 2 men, these dynamic participants included chief nursing officers, human resource executives, and finance officials of various health ministries from the following US PICTs: American Samoa; the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas; the Federated States of Micronesia (Chuuk, Pohnpei Yap and Kosrae); Guam; Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (Majuro and Ebeye). The Monitoring and Evaluation Meeting, Graduation Ceremony and TOT Workshop was held 26-30 January 2015.

The partnership between UHMN and ICN was made possible by funding and technical support from PIHOA under the leadership of the PIHOA Board of Directors, its Executive Director, Ms. Emi Chutaro, Dr. Mark Durand, PIHOA's Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement Coordinator, and Dr. Greg Dever, PIHOA's Regional Human Resources for Health Coordinator. These individuals have a passion and mandate to

scale up the health workforce in the region, and to develop innovative health systems' models of excellence in quality improvement. PIHOA used its grant funds from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), the CDC National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII), and the Pacific Islands Primary Care Association (PIPICA) to support the ICN programme.

Ms. Chutaro noted, "The PIHOA Board of Directors endorsed the ICN LFC Programme during their March 2014 Board meeting, and formalized their agreement in their August 2014 Board meeting of the continued importance of quality improvement work in the USAPI health agencies. PIHOA is looking forward to the changes in quality improvement that the program participants will spearhead and lead in each of their respective health agencies. PIHOA thanks the UHMN for reaching out to ICN and for hosting the training to ensure it is available to all of the USAPIs. Going forward, it is planned for the program to be disseminated further within the region to support continued progress towards regional health reform and healthcare workforce development."

"Nurses constitute the largest component of the workforce across the world," Dr. Kristine Qureshi with UHMN notes that "creative, effective leadership from nursing is necessary to pave the way for healthcare reform in many countries and regions, including the USAPI." UHMN Dean Mary G. Boland remarked "The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Nursing maintains its commitment to provide leadership and serve as a resource for healthcare education, research and practice in the Asia/Pacific region."

The ICN LFC Programme is directed by Dr. Stephanie Ferguson, who is also the Facilitator and Director leading the ICN Burdett Global Nursing Leadership Institute (GNLI); Dr. Kristine Qureshi, PhD, RN, FAAN, who serves as the National Coordinator of the ICN LFC Programme with UHMN and the US PICTs; and Dr. Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN, Dean and Professor of UHMN, which has been designated as the Provider Organization and a dynamic faculty team from the UHMN will work with all the participants to ensure on-going sustainability and outcomes in the next phase of the ICN LFC Program.

ICN has been a pioneer in leadership, management and negotiation skill development for nurses for more than 20 years through its highly successful leadership programmes: Leadership for Change™, Leadership in Negotiation, and the Global Nursing Leadership Institute.

Further information about the ICN LFC Programme is available at: <http://leadership.icn.ch/lfc/>

#### **Note for Editors**

The **International Council of Nurses** (ICN) is a federation of more than 130 national nurses associations representing the millions of nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses and leading nursing internationally, ICN works to ensure quality care for all and sound health policies globally.

The **University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Nursing** (UHMN) UH Mānoa Nursing, the Nursing Capitol of the Pacific, is the leader in nursing education and research in Hawai'i with outreach to Asia and the Pacific Basin. We support the mission of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa: to provide an innovative, caring and multicultural environment in which faculty, students and staff work together to generate and transmit knowledge, wisdom, and values to promote quality of life and health for present and future generations. The school offers the BS, master's, and doctoral programs. To reflect Hawai'i's unique cultural diversity and heritage, UH Mānoa Nursing is committed to increasing the representation of Native Hawaiian and other underserved people in all nursing programs. Visit us at [www.nursing.hawaii.edu](http://www.nursing.hawaii.edu).

The **Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA)** is a non-profit organization that is governed by and represents the collective interests of the Ministers, Secretaries, and Directors of Health of the US-affiliated Pacific Island Countries and Territories of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia. PIHOA's mission is to improve the health and well-being of the Pacific communities it serves by providing, through consensus, a unified credible voice on health issues of regional significance.

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