



THE CORRECTIONAL NURSE

Inspiring

Professional Correctional Nursing Practice

November 2023

Last month I had the pleasure of presenting at the Western American Correctional Health Services Association's conference in Sacramento, CA. I discussed Correctional Nursing (of course!) and specifically continuing education requirements and opportunities. While doing the research, I learned a few things that I'd like to share with you. First, the terms professional development and continuing education have been used interchangeably ever since I can remember, but they are slightly different. Continuing education refers to skills or training beyond basic education. Sometimes it includes formal education, like earning a bachelor's or master's degree, or attending other educational opportunities that build on your foundational (basic) knowledge. They often award continuing education hours to be used for re-licensure if that is a requirement in your state.

Professional development may include skill acquisition and formal education opportunities, but its intent is to prepare you for the future. It advances your skills and training so you can get the job you want. Typically a plan is set and professional development opportunities are chosen based upon this plan. While continuing education hours may be awarded, the activity doesn't necessarily have to have continuing education hours to be chosen. In addition, continuing education offerings may be chosen based on your professional development plan.

Activities that you might consider for either continuing education or professional development include formal university classes, webinars, online classes like those offered at [The Correctional Nurse Educator](#), and even journals and conducting online research about a topic that interests you and supports your career plan.

Truly, I encourage you to take a few moments, think about where you would like to be and what you would like to be doing in five years (or whatever timeframe suits you), and then write down a plan to get there!!

Happy Thanksgiving to All!

Newsworthy Notes

The next American Correctional Nurses Association OPEN FORUM to be held in December 2023. Check out the [website!](#)

Upcoming conferences include

[The American Correctional Association](#)'s Winter Conference in National Harbor, MD January 4-7, 2024.

PLAN NOW for the NCCHC Spring 2024 Conference to be held in St. Louis, MO April 27-30th.

Remember that you can find our past Newsletters on the CorrectionalNurse.Net website in the Newsletter Archive.

Thanks for all you do, and Be Safe!!

CorrectionalNurse.Net

This month at [CorrectionalNurse.Net](#) we will be discussing correctional nurse moral distress and legal risk.

As always, announcements for new blog posts will be posted on our FaceBook pages and on Instagram.

Please [FOLLOW US](#) and check back often to ensure that you get notification of new posts!

VISIT CORRECTIONALNURSE.NET NOW

Correctional Nurse Educator

Our 50% off featured class this month at The Correctional Nurse Educator is [Seizure Disorder for the Correctional Nurse](#). I hope you enjoy it!

Remember The Correctional Nurse Educator will work with your group to provide quality, accredited continuing education classes at a discounted and affordable cost.

VISIT THE CORRECTIONAL NURSE EDUCATOR NOW

Nursing Behind the Wall

This month at [Nursing Behind the Wall](#) you will meet Mr. Santiago, a gentleman with an eye injury.

VISIT NURSING BEHIND THE WALL NOW

In closing, I appreciate you taking the time to read this newsletter, and I hope that you will find our sites interesting and educational. Our profession of Correctional Nursing is unique and sometimes challenging, but always very important to our patients. The impact we make is far-reaching, even if it is not always evident as we care for our patients. I have ALWAYS been proud to say that I am a Correctional Nurse – I hope that you are as well!

Lori

Inspiration



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