



NurseConneCT | November 21, 2025 | 14th Edition

### UPCOMING EVENTS

See what's happening this month

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Leading With Equity



Tina Loarte-Rodriguez, DNP, RN, CPPS, CPHRM, Executive Director, The Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce, Inc.

### Community, Culture, and Courage in Action

*This month, we reflect on the power of community and the momentum of our next generation of nurses. From the energy of our 45th Annual Student Day to honoring Native American Heritage Month, we are reminded that nursing has always been about connection, courage, and collective growth.*

As we step into November, I am still energized by the incredible momentum from our 45th Annual Student Day. Over 1,000 future nurses came ready to learn, connect, and step into their calling. Their enthusiasm reminded us that nursing is not simply a job. It is a commitment to

## CT NURSING EVENTS & NEWS

Nurse Honor Wall

### "I AM A CT NURSE" CAMPAIGN

Call for CT Nurses to share about themselves

### STAY CONNECTED

Find links to the CCNW website and social media pages. Also, share feedback or submit ideas for newsletter

advocacy, curiosity, healing, and courage. Watching them claim their place in this profession affirmed that the future of nursing is bright. Not because the challenges have disappeared. But because our emerging nurses are bold enough to confront them with heart and innovation.

This month, we also honor Native American Heritage Month. Indigenous communities have long taught us that healing is rooted in relationship. Relationship with the land. With our ancestors. With each other. Their wisdom reminds us that healthcare is not only clinical. It is cultural. It is communal. It is about belonging. As we address ongoing workforce pressures across our state, this lesson matters. The way we train, support, and retain nurses must reflect the humanity of the people and communities we serve.

At the Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce, we remain committed to leading with collaboration, creativity, and courage. We are working closely with educators, employers, policy leaders, and students to redesign pathways into the profession and expand opportunities for growth throughout a nurse's career. To our students. We see you. To our nursing faculty and partners. We appreciate you. To every nurse in every setting. We value you. The work continues. The momentum is real. And together, we are shaping a future of care that is inclusive, innovative, and grounded in purpose.

With gratitude and forward motion.

## PATHWAYS TO NURSING

### Answer the call. Become a CNA.

8 weeks and 110 hours is all that stands between you, a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant). View more information on the certification from [Albertus Magnus College](#) and a new meaningful career!

Enrollment in the CNA course provides training, materials, testing, and full time job placement. Yes! Once they finish and get their CNA license they will get HIRED by a partner company.

The Albertus CNA program is free and open to anyone over the age of 18.

- Training, testing, and materials are covered by the program.
- Students must commit to job placement once training is completed.

For more information, visit <https://www.albertus.edu/certified-nurse-assistant.php>



*Find your purpose as a CNA.*

**Learn more at Albertus Magnus College**

## Growing Together

This month, we are shining a spotlight on the power of mentorship. Nursing is a journey that is learned through community. There is wisdom in shared stories, strength in encouragement, and growth in being guided by someone who has walked the path before you. Whether you are navigating your first semester or preparing to transition into practice, having a mentor can make every step feel more grounded and more possible.

Starting in January, CCNW will be launching a virtual student mentoring program designed to connect nursing students with experienced nurses from across Connecticut. Mentors will offer support with clinical confidence, professional identity, career planning, and the everyday questions that textbooks never fully answer. This is not tutoring. This is relationship building. This is community.

If you are a student who would like to be part of our first mentoring cohort, we would love to hear from you.

Please email Tina at [Tina@ctcenterfornursingworkforce.com](mailto:Tina@ctcenterfornursingworkforce.com) to be added to the January interest list.



*Mentorship is one of the strongest forms of support in nursing. Having someone who has been where you are can make the journey feel clearer and more confident.*

## LAUNCHING YOUR CAREER

### Lead with Purpose: Join the Alzheimer's Association CT Board

The Alzheimer's Association leads the fight to end Alzheimer's and all other dementias through research, advocacy, and quality care. The Connecticut Chapter is seeking board members from all nursing backgrounds—especially those passionate about neurology, dementia care, gerontology, family health, palliative care, or caregiving.

Board terms begin as early as January 1, 2026, with bi-monthly meetings in Farmington and an estimated 2–6 hours of engagement per month. Nurses with skills in advocacy, communications, fundraising, marketing, or strategic planning are encouraged to apply. A \$2,500 give-or-get contribution supports ongoing programs, with in-kind donations accepted.

Deadline to apply: December 3, 2025.

To learn more or submit your interest, visit [alz.org/ct](http://alz.org/ct)

Serve where your voice and experience can make a difference—because leadership in nursing extends far beyond the bedside.



*Leadership is more than a title. It's a chance to shape the future of care, advocacy, and community impact. The Alzheimer's Association Connecticut Chapter is inviting nurses to bring their expertise, compassion, and vision to its Board of Directors.*

**To learn more or submit your interest, visit [alz.org/ct](http://alz.org/ct)**

### Bridging Theory and Practice: A Call for Scholarly Voices

Nurses are invited to contribute to the Special Issue: Pedagogical Approaches to Learning Within Nursing — Clinical Practice and Practice Model Applications, now open for submissions. This issue explores how pedagogical theory and practice models can strengthen the connection between academic learning and real-world nursing.

Topics include simulation-based pedagogy, interprofessional education, mentorship, reflective practice, and organizational structures that unify diverse nursing specialties under shared frameworks.

Submissions are accepted upon approval, with a deadline of February 28, 2026. To learn more or start your submission, visit <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1155/NUF.SI-2025-001425>

This is a unique opportunity to shape how nurses learn, teach, and lead in the next era of practice.



**Innovation in nursing doesn't stop at the bedside. It grows through the ways we teach, learn, and lead.**

[Learn more at ctaprns.org](https://ctaprns.org)

## LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

### Leading with Equity

We extend our appreciation to the ANA California team for their leadership in advancing the Assessment to Eradicate Racism in Nursing™. Racism in healthcare continues to impact patient outcomes, workplace culture, and trust in our systems. This assessment offers a meaningful framework for identifying systemic barriers and gathering the data needed to inform true policy and practice reform.

The findings from participating institutions will guide strategies that promote belonging, support workforce equity, and embed anti-racism as a non-negotiable standard in nursing. Together, we are shaping environments where every nurse and every patient is valued, respected, and supported.

For more information, visit <https://www.anacalifornia.org/racism-in-nursing-and-healthcare?cid=f17ea8bf-0275-4825-8303-28b085b61b6a>



*Creating a just healthcare system requires intentional action. We are grateful to ANA California for their partnership in advancing the Assessment to Eradicate Racism in Nursing™, a vital step in building workplaces where every nurse and every patient is respected and supported.*

[Learn more](#)



## Nurse Honor Wall is LIVE!

The Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce (CCNW) Nurse Honor Wall is a special place to recognize the incredible nurses who make a difference every day.

Whether you're celebrating a nurse who cared for you or a loved one, honoring a recent graduate, a co-worker, recognizing a well-earned retirement, or showing pride in a special nurse in your life — your tribute helps shine a light on their compassion and dedication. In addition, a portion of the proceeds will benefit CCNW scholarships and workforce awards.

**Basic** includes: photo, name of the nurse, and name or organization who is honoring the nurse | \$50

**Memoriam** includes: photo, name of the nurse, and either dates or who is honoring the nurse | \$50

**Enhanced** includes: photo, name of the nurse, name or organization who is honoring the nurse, and "words of honor" (limited to 100 characters) | \$100

**Honor a nurse today!**

[LEARN MORE AND HONOR A NURSE](#)

[VIEW ALL CCNW UPCOMING EVENTS](#)



*Nurse Honor Wall - Recognizing and celebrating the contributions of nurses*

**I AM A CT NURSE**

## Call for CT Nurses to share about themselves

CCNW is proud to launch the “I Am a CT Nurse” campaign to recognize and celebrate the highly skilled nurses serving Connecticut communities every day. We invite all CT nurses to submit a short, 45–60 second video sharing your name, school and or organization, license, and what you love most about being a CT nurse. By participating, you’ll help shine a spotlight on the dedication, compassion, and expertise that define our state’s nursing profession.



To learn more about how to submit your video, visit our [website](#).

### Learn How To Submit Your Video

Stay  
Connected  
With CCNW



#### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please take a few moments and share your feedback with us.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

#### NEWSLETTER SIGNUP

Like our newsletter? Share with your colleagues

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/s1/ZSzi4fe/newslettersignup>

#### RECOMMENDED HASHTAGS

#CTNursingWorkforce  
#NursingExcellenceCT  
#ConnecticutNurses  
#CTNurseLeaders  
#CTNursingCommunity  
#HealthCareWorkforceCT

### CCNW WORKFORCE SUPPORTERS



THE CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR  
NURSING WORKFORCE



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