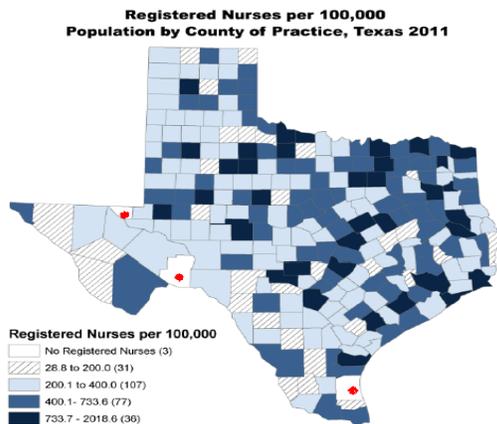


How Can Nurses Practicing in Rural Areas Contribute to Better Care, Better Health and Lower Costs for Texans?

The Texas Team, Advancing Health through Nursing, believes all Texans deserve better care, better health and lower costs associated with health care. The Texas Team also recognizes nurses – as the largest group of health care providers in the state – are the key to achieving these goals. Rural nurses play a significant role in the health and wellness of Texans and have a significant impact! Did you know some of our counties are seeing an average of just 28-200 nurses per 100,000 population? This creates an opportunity for rural nurses to lead the charge toward better health and wellness in rural communities.



The Texas Team has joined the national *Campaign for Action* and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement in working to advance the Triple Aim which aims to improve care, enhance the patient experience of care and control costs.

The Texas Team, as a state action coalition, is an active participant in the *Campaign for Action* and works to advance the Institute of Medicine (IOM) recommendations:

1. Increase the percentage of Texas RNs who hold baccalaureate or higher degrees to 80% by 2020;
2. Double the number of nurses with doctorates by 2020;
3. Strengthen the diversity of the Texas RN workforce to better care for the state's multicultural population;
4. Enable all nurses in Texas to practice to the full extent of their education and training;
5. Advance interprofessional collaboration to ensure coordinated and improved patient care;
6. Expand leadership ranks to ensure that nurses have voices on management teams, in boardrooms and in policy debates; and
7. Improve health care workforce data collection to better assess and project workforce requirements.

The Texas Team seeks to actively engage a wide range of health care providers; consumer leaders; prominent officials; and groups representing government, business, academia and philanthropy. Rural nurses can contribute to this effort through community engagement, collaborative partnerships, and engaging in the dissemination of the important work of the Texas Team. Please get involved today!

What is the *Campaign for Action*?

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in collaboration with AARP, initiated the Future of Nursing: *Campaign for Action* in late 2010. The initiative builds on *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*, a landmark Institute of Medicine (IOM) report that provided a blueprint for transforming the nursing profession to improve health care and meet the needs of diverse populations.

The *Campaign for Action* envisions a nation in which every person has access to high-quality, patient-centered care in a health care system where nurses contribute as essential partners in achieving success.

For more on the *Campaign for Action* and other health care workforce programs:

Campaign for Action

www.campaignforaction.org

Texas Team on Facebook

www.facebook.com/txteamnursing

For more information about the *Campaign for Action* in rural Texas:

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