

## FCN Releases Updated White Paper on the Nursing Shortage

The Center has recently updated the white paper, *The Florida Nursing Shortage: A Summary of Recent FCN Research*. This paper provides a comprehensive summary of the latest FCN research on nursing supply, demand, education, and retention to provide a complete picture of the current and future nursing shortage in Florida.

Though numerous factors are contributing to the shortage, the Center's data continues to show that improving retention of nurses is essential to resolving Florida's nursing shortage.

To learn more about the Center's recent research and to read the full paper, please download a copy [here](#).

## Updated QuickFacts & Summary of Reports Available

The FCN QuickFacts serves as a great go-to resource for data on Florida's nursing shortage. This one-page document provides a brief look at Florida's forecasted nursing shortage as well as a snapshot of Florida's RN workforce.

Our FCN Summary of Reports provides a listing and brief summary of our most recent research, with links to each full report.

View our Updated QuickFacts [here](#).

Download our new FCN Summary of Reports [here](#).

## FCN Executive Director Reappointed to Workforce Florida Inc. Board of Directors

Governor Charlie Crist has reappointed Mary Lou Brunell, MSN, RN to the Board of Directors for Workforce Florida Inc. for a term beginning April 13, 2009 and ending March 21, 2012.

## FCN Updates & Nursing News in Florida

Dr. Jen Nooney, the Center's Associate Director of Research, will be leading a workshop on the research process at the Florida Organization of Nurse Executives (FONE) conference on May 28 & 29.

**Florida Nurses Foundation 2009 Scholarships & Research Grants available.** For more info, please visit: <http://www.floridanurse.org/foundationgrants/>

FCN Staff extends congratulations to longtime Center supporter Reuben Bowie, RN, MS, CDONA/LTC, winner of this year's Florida Association Directors of Nursing Administration/LTC (FADONA) Director of Nursing Administrator of the Year award.

May 2009



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**Nursing News Around the State**

**2008 R&R Spotlight: Florida Public Health Institute (p. 2)**

## 2008 R&R Project Spotlight: Florida Public Health Institute

The Retention and Recruitment Funded Projects initiative was established in 2008 using matching funds from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Florida, Inc. This small grants program aims to serve as a way to obtain direct feedback on R&R projects from the nursing community as well as a way to pilot long-term or large-scale retention and recruitment initiatives. By evaluating projects at the end of the award cycle, the Florida Center for Nursing aims to offer evidence-based strategies for retaining and recruiting nurses in Florida.

Each month, the Center will spotlight one project from the 2008 R&R award cycle in an effort to provide more in-depth information for Florida’s nurse employers and nurse leaders.

### **Project Leader:**

C. Earl Fox, MD, MPH  
Florida Public Health Institute

### **Project Title:**

Strengthening the Public Health Nursing Workforce

### **Brief Description:**

In collaboration with public health agencies, nursing schools, and state medical and nursing leaders, Florida Public Health Institute sought to develop a broad public health nursing recruitment and retention plan. Components included innovative education, training, and mentoring opportunities; recruiting outreach to promote the value and image of nursing and attract more individuals to the field; and quantification of nursing workforce needs.

### **Project Goals & Activities:**

Through this grant project, Florida Public Health Institute developed five continuing education (CE) courses with the intention of offering these as free CE courses for public health nurses. The Florida Public Health Institute opted to collaborate with a consulting company to re-format the courses and make them available on the Institute’s website, enabling public health nurses to view and complete these courses at their convenience.

### **Final Project Outcome:**

The courses have been approved for CE credits for both the Florida and Alabama Departments of Health. The Institute has plans to report monthly to the Florida and Alabama Offices of Public Health on course activity and passing rates. Information on the CE modules was presented to the Southeast Consortium of Health Departments and Children’s Medical Services in August 2008 and was received with much enthusiasm. The courses can be viewed at [www.flphi.org](http://www.flphi.org) by clicking the icon on the bottom right entitled, “Earn Continuing Education Credits with Our Free Online Learning System.” The Florida Public Health Institute aims to continue expanding this initiative to a more encompassing virtual training program for public health professionals.

A full list of our R&R projects can be viewed [here](#).