
CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES

December 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the President of the Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses (CAPHN), I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the HRSA's Division of Nursing's funding opportunity entitled, "*Nurse Education, Practice and Retention Program*".

CAPHN is a private, non-profit, statewide membership organization. Officially established in 2002, the organization mission is to strengthen the leadership role of the public health nurse. CAPHN provides expertise in areas of public health through leadership, advocacy, education, collaboration, and nursing practice.

CAPHN recognizes the significance of this grant and the opportunities it would provide to its membership, and to new and existing public health nurses throughout the state of Connecticut, and strongly supports the DPH proposal. CAPHN will assist in recruitment of nurses into the public health internship program by marketing directly to our membership, as well as to other professional nurses' organizations with which CAPHN has collaborative relationships. Also, CAPHN leadership and members have the expertise and capability to act as mentors to interns, and potentially have site capacity to offer clinical placement for appropriate experience.

I am confident that the education in this internship program will prepare public health nurses to be leaders and advance their knowledge on major health issues in populations in the state, identify various public health approaches to reduce health inequity and improve health, and utilize key strategies to maintain and improve population health and safety at all levels - local, regional, national and global.

Sincerely,

Monica K. Wheeler, MSN, PN
President
Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses