Issue 3: September 2010 Click for feedback

15th SOUTH PACIFIC NURSES FORUM

This year's **South Pacific Nurses Forum** (SPNF) will be held in Auckland, New Zealand at the Aotea Center in November. See below for dates.

Registration for this year's forum titled "Nurses at the Helm: Steering Nurses Across the Pacific" are due by **Friday 10th September.** Please note that a group booking has been made available at the Rendezvous Hotel. See Accommodation options for more information.

The **South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance** (SPCNMOA) meeting will be held in Auckland to coincide with the South Pacific Nursing Forum. Each country will make a 10 minute presentation on Pacific Island Perspectives on Health Systems Strengthening. These presentations will be on the themes outlined in recent SPCNMOA emails. Country members are requested to provide a few lines for their presentation to the WHO CC by **16th September**.

A meeting of the **Asian Pacific Emergency Disaster Nursing Network** (APEDNN) will be held, just prior to the above meetings. APEDNN members will be contacted shortly with a patient safety country analysis survey and for emergency and disaster case studies.

Planning meeting Fri 5th November
APEDNN meeting Sat 6th - 8th November
APEDNN & SPCNMOA separate workshops Mon 8th November
SPCNMOA meeting Tues 9th - 10th November
SPNF meeting Mon 8th - 11th November
Final combined meeting Thurs 11th November

A GLOBAL SURVEY MONITORING PROCESS IN NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

In response to increasing emphasis on the need for accurate information on global nursing and midwifery services, the WHO in collaboration with the University of Toronto developed a survey according to the 5 Key Result Areas (KRA). These are human resources planning, management, education, practice, and leadership.

Published earlier this year, the report of the survey recommends the improvement in these areas. 77 member states returned the completed survey which demonstrated a strong commitment to achieving global health targets

ACHIEVING HEALTH-RELATED MDGs.

IT TAKES A WORKFORCE!

The health workforce faces critical shortages, unequal skill mix and unequal distribution, all of which impede progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The minimum threshold of 23 nurses, midwives and doctors per 10 000 population was established by WHO for the delivery of essential maternal and child health services.

Unfortunately only 5 of the 49 countries indentified by the World Bank as low-income countries meet this threshold.

Click here to read more about how leadership, training and retention of mid-level health workers may address the issues of skill shortage within primary health care.

PSHON NEWSLETTER;

ISSUE 5- AUGUST 2010.

Issue 5 focuses on

and strengthening nursing and midwifery services. While many member states reported already having tools in place to work with communities and policy makers, 70% of countries indicated experiencing continued shortage of qualified nurses and midwives.

With accurate data on the health-care workforce, it is hoped that improvements to global health targets can be met. Click here to read the survey report.

NURSES AND MIDWIVES:
NOW MORE THAN EVER FOR A HEALTHY WORLD

The Nightingale Initiative for Global Health (NIGH) is pleased to announce completion of a high-definition video saluting the global nursing community. The soundtrack by Canadian fiddler Natalie MacMaster has been received by nurses with heartfelt thanks. It is available online for you to view in celebrating 2010 as the International Year of the Nurse.

Available in 7 languages, the video of historic photographs from WHO archives features nurses and midwives at work and recognises them as the health professionals central to Primary Health Care. Click here to view the tribute to Nurses and Midwives.

chronic disese and preventative care. The epidemic of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, obesity and heart disease means that Pacific countries face a double burden: Addressing communicable and waterborne diseases while fighting the additional burden of epidemic chronic conditions. Click here to read Issue 5 with reports, feature articles, and journals.

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