

November 2023

Office of Integrated Health Supports Network

The Office of integrated Health – Health Supports Network Regional Community Nursing Meetings

“A safe space for nurses to discuss challenges, experiences, and ask questions.”

Goals:

- To ensure individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are receiving needed services.
- To provide a forum in which nurses (and others) can discuss ideas, challenges, policy needs (e.g., health policies, which affect individuals with IDD, to bring policy needs forward.
- To provide a forum for caregivers to interact with state agency representatives, to express concerns, develop educational tools and resources, and further enhance train-the-trainer models.

Region 1 – November 1, 2023

10am -12:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/819ebb95-59da-4044-ac13-d308de43ce02@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader:

Kevyn Burn- kburn@wallresidences.com

November Meetings Dates

**Regional Nursing Meetings
will continue to be held
virtually until further notice.
Hybrid meetings are
currently in the planning
process for each region.**

Region 4 – November 13, 2023

11am - 1:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/44ae8478-ff9f-421c-a00e-04bfd4245ff9@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader:

Jeannette Gholson- jgholson.thc@gmail.com

Region 2 – November 15, 2023

10am - 12:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/9c7d4cea-b090-42c8-a496-e2684e9fc954@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader:

Beatrice Claiborne - bclaiborne@mycri.org

Region 3 – November 17, 2023

10am - 12:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/a374d90e-882e-4d58-b37a-10034b7e405e@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader:

Teresa Berry - mttb1@aol.com

Region 5 – November 27, 2023

10am - 12:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/0423d7a6-f851-4e02-ae25-ffc08b900dfc@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader: Marcia A. Lindsay-

Brothers - mbrothers@chesapeakeibh.net

November 2023 Meeting Agenda

Virtual Meeting Platform:

- As of November 1st, 2023, the Regional Nursing Meetings will be conducted in the Microsoft Office TEAMS Webinar virtual platform. Registration will continue to be required to receive the meeting URL link, password, and phone access to each meeting. Registering using the URL link prior to the meeting date is recommended to avoid technical issues the day of the meeting. Tentative hybrid meetings are in the planning stages for each region which will be discussed and announced at each regional meeting.

Presentation:

- This month our guest speaker will be Alexander Trumble, Program Manager for the DBHDS Infectious Disease & Epidemiology department. He will give a presentation on how DBHDS tracks infectious diseases, and the current focus of the DBHDS epidemiology department.

Issues and Concerns Relevant to each Region:

- Each meeting is designed to have built in time for open group discussion. Your volunteer regional community nursing leader, and the regional OIHSN RNCCs are both available to help with specific issues or concerns you might be facing. Feel free to reach-out to either and/or both of them for assistance outside of the meeting. Networking within the meeting is meant to be safe and supportive for those providing care to individuals with IDD to seek answers to their questions.

Monthly CNE Opportunity: OIH - HSN Health & Safety Alert Review and Discussion:

- This month's **CNE topic** is the Infection Control Health & Safety Alert with quiz/evaluation. To receive 1 **FREE CNE**, you must attend the meeting and return the quiz/evaluation by email, fax, or text. Just scan or take a picture of your completed quiz with your smart phone, and text or email it to your regional RNCC, with your name and email address clearly displayed. Your CNE certificate will be emailed directly to you.

NOTE: Anyone can attend the Regional Nurses Meeting of their choice. You do not have to attend the Regional Nursing Meeting where you work or reside. Simply register with the link provided to attend.

The Office of Health & Safety Network Supports (HSNS) Registered Nurse Care Consultants

Tammie Williams: Community Nursing Education Lead- tammie.williams@dbhds.virginia.gov

Christine Kocher: christine.kocher@dbhds.virginia.gov

Jessa Sprouse: jessa.sprouse@dbhds.virginia.gov

Joy Richardson: joy.richardson@dbhds.virginia.gov

Katherine Rice: katherine.rice@dbhds.virginia.gov

Marylou Bryan: marylou.bryan@dbhds.virginia.gov

Melissa Blevins: melissa.blevins@dbhds.virginia.gov

November 2023

Office of Integrated Health Supports Network

Don't Wait! Get The FLU Vaccine!



Individuals with developmental disabilities are at high risk of severe complications from the flu, including hospitalization and death. Risk is further elevated if the individual also has a history of:

- Pneumonia
- Bronchitis
- Emphysema
- COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder)
- Diabetes
- Heart disease
- Mobility disorders
- Swallowing difficulties
- Asthma
- Kidney disease

The Flu vaccine is the best protection against flu. The Flu vaccine reduces severity of illness, length of illness and lowers risk of a hospital admission due to complications.

Caregivers and family members can add an additional layer of protection for individuals by also getting a flu vaccine.

[Flu: What To Do If You Get Sick](#)

If an individual already has flu symptoms, call their PCP (Primary Care Provider) as soon as symptoms are noticed, so the individual can be treated with antivirals.

Antiviral drugs can make flu symptoms milder, can shorten the length of the illness, and can reduce risk of more serious complications.

Find the nearest vaccine site [here](#).

[CDC's Frequently Asked Questions About the Flu.](#)

References

1. [Centers of Disease Control and Prevention \(n.d.\). Find flu vaccines.](#)
2. [Centers of Disease Control and Prevention \(2023, Aug. 5\). Frequently Asked Influenza](#)
3. [Centers of Disease Control and Prevention \(2022, Sep. 15\). Flu & People with Disabilities \(Flu\) Questions: 2022-2023 Season | CDC](#)
4. [Centers of Disease Control and Prevention \(2022, Dec. 15\). Frequently Asked Influenza Flu: What To Do If You Get Sick.](#)

OIHSN Meeting/Training Updates

Currently the Office of Integrated Supports Network (OIHSN) is transitioning from the use of ZoomGov for meetings and trainings to the use of Microsoft Office TEAMS webinar.

OIHSN asks for your patience and understanding during this technical learning process. The November regional nursing meetings will be the first meetings held using TEAMS.

If you have any issues with registration for a regional nursing meeting please contact that region's RNCC at OIHSN so they can help get you registered.

Region 1: Katherine.rice@dbhds.virginia.gov

Region 2: Jessa.spouse@dbhds.virginia.gov

Region 3: Melissa.blevins@dbhds.virginia.gov

Region 4: Joy.richardson@dbhds.virginia.gov

Region 5: Christine.kocher@dbhds.virginia.gov

The current plan for virtual trainings starting in January 2024 is to offer a limited number of trainings monthly to allow for scheduling adjustments and learning the new virtual TEAMS webinar platform.

A reduced OIHSN training schedule for Winter 2024 will be released in December 2023. The OIHSN Nursing Team is also working hard to add new trainings to the Commonwealth of Virginia's Learning Center (COVLC).

There are several FREE OIHSN trainings available to all agency providers on the Commonwealth of Virginia's Learning Center (COVLC) 24 hours a day – 7 days a week.

To complete a COVLC registration for DBHDS – External Entities Domain, use the following steps.

- Register at <https://covlc.virginia.gov>
- Select the "Need an account?" button.
- Select #4. dbhdscovlchelpdesk@dbhds.virginia.gov for anything related to the Dept. of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services then follow the instructions.

Contact the Domain Administrator, Keiana Bobbitt, at keiana.bobbitt@dbhds.virginia.gov if you need help.

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