ANNA Supports Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Funding for the Nursing Workforce Development Programs

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) is a nonprofit organization with a membership of over 8,500 registered nurses and other health care professionals at all levels of practice. ANNA members work in settings such as chronic kidney disease management, peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, continuous renal replacement therapy, transplantation, industry, and government/ regulatory agencies.

The Nursing Workforce Development Programs administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration help meet the nation’s demand for nursing services by addressing nursing education, practice, recruitment, and retention. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates 200,000 new RN’s will be needed each year through 2026.

Overview of the Nursing Workforce Development Programs

- **Advanced Nursing Education Program**: Supports those studying to become our nation’s nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-midwives, certified registered nurse anesthetists, nurse educators, administrators, public health nurses, and other nurses requiring a master’s or doctoral degree. In the 2016-2017 academic year, there were 5,942 nursing students, which includes 1,541 graduates, supported by these programs, according to HRSA.

- **Nursing Workforce Diversity Grants**: Help recruit and retain students from diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds to the nursing profession. The program supported 4,416 students in the 2016-2017 academic year.

- **Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention Program**: Helps schools of nursing, academic health centers, nurse-managed health clinics, state and local governments, and healthcare facilities meet shifting demands in health care through innovative programs. Grantees of the Interprofessional Collaborative Practice program trained 6,430 individuals.

- **Nurse Faculty Loan Program**: Supports graduate students committed to serving as faculty members to educate the next generation of nurses. The program supports 84 schools and 1,998 students. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing reports that roughly 75,000 qualified nursing school applicants are turned away per year due to insufficient faculty numbers.

- **NURSE Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship Program**: Helps ensure nursing students and nurses enter into practice where health care facilities have a critical shortage of nurses, most often in health professional shortage areas and medically underserved regions. There were 1,217 scholarships and loan repayments funded in academic year 2016-2017.

**Recommendation**: ANNA supports the Nursing Community’s request of $278 million in FY 2021 funding for HRSA’s Nursing Workforce Development Programs.

If you have additional questions about these issues please contact ANNA’s Washington Representative Jim Twaddell (202-230-5130, jim.twaddell@dbr.com).