

SFY 2013

Ohio Board of Nursing Annual Report



July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

Ohio Board of Nursing – Annual Report 2013
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October 28, 2013

The Honorable John Kasich
Governor, State of Ohio
77 South High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Governor Kasich:

On behalf of the Ohio Board of Nursing, we are pleased to submit this annual report for state fiscal year 2013, in accordance with Section 4723.06 of the Revised Code. The report highlights the work of the thirteen-member Board, supported by a staff of sixty-eight employees. The Board is responsible for regulating approximately 266,000 licenses and certificates and 178 nursing education programs.

The Board administers and enforces the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4723. During fiscal year 2013, the Board issued and renewed licenses and certificates to qualified individuals; surveyed and approved education and training programs; and disciplined and monitored the practice of licensees and certificate holders who violated the Nurse Practice Act or administrative rules regulating practice.

We believe this Annual Report details the Nursing Board's important and significant role in positively impacting the safety of nursing care. Board initiatives, collaborative government efforts, and public and private partnerships reflect Ohio's goal to achieve a lean and efficient government with common sense approaches to meeting regulatory challenges.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith Church, DHA, MSN, RN".

Judith Church, DHA, MSN, RN
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy J. Houchen".

Betsy Houchen, RN, MS, JD
Executive Director

Board Overview & Mission

Board Overview

The Board's top priorities are to efficiently license the nursing workforce and remove dangerous practitioners from practice in a timely manner to protect Ohio patients. Public protection is critical, as nursing touches virtually every citizen of Ohio. The Board regulates approximately 266,000 licenses and certificates, an increase from 223,000 in 2008. Each fiscal year since 2008, newly licensed registered nurses and licensed practical nurses in Ohio have increased by an average of 14,000.

Our Mission

The mission of the Ohio Board of Nursing is to actively safeguard the health of the public through the effective regulation of nursing care.

Demonstrated Track Record and Nationally Recognized

The Board has a demonstrated track record of ensuring excellent public protection, funding initiatives to combat the nursing shortage, and regulating the largest number of licensed professionals of any agency in the State of Ohio. In order to ensure the highest quality of services and better achieve lean government, the Board has been an innovator fostering development of new approaches for patient safety, including using a just culture analysis in reviewing practice complaints, participating in the creation of a national patient safety database, and participating as one of three states to pilot a National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Transition to Practice study.

The Board is particularly pleased that in 2013 the NCSBN awarded Executive Director Betsy Houchen the R. Louise McManus Award. It is described as the most prestigious of NCSBN's honors. Individuals who receive the R. Louise McManus Award have made sustained and significant contributions through the highest commitment and dedication to the purposes of NCSBN. Criteria for selection include active leadership in NCSBN; substantial contributions to the improvement of nursing regulation; impacting public policy and development to enhance the health and well being of individuals and the community; and making contributions to the mission of NCSBN over a significant period of time.

Contributions to Statewide Initiatives

Opiate and Other Prescription Drug Abuse

The Board collaborated with the administration, legislators, law enforcement, and other state boards and agencies in the continued fight against prescription drug abuse. Ohio's commitment to end opiate and other prescription drug abuse is consistent with the Board's mission to actively safeguard the health of the public through the effective regulation of nursing care.

The Board is a member of and has supported various initiatives of the Governor's Cabinet Opiate Action Team (GCOAT), including the Reforming Prescribing Practices Committee, Education Subcommittee, Metrics Subcommittee, and the Law Enforcement Committee. The Board also contributed to meetings of the Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Group (PDAAG), a collaborative of governmental and private entities.

In April 2013, the Nursing, Medical, and Pharmacy Boards issued the "Joint Regulatory Statement on the Prescription of Naloxone to High-Risk Individuals" endorsing the prescription of naloxone (Narcan™) to those who are at high-risk for opioid drug overdose. The purpose of the statement is to promote wider utilization of naloxone for high-risk individuals by educating prescribers on the use of naloxone to prevent or reverse the effects of opioids, including respiratory depression, sedation and hypotension.

Regarding prescribing practices of APRNs with authority to prescribe, the Board:

- Hired an investigator who is an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) with a background in the treatment of pain and knowledge about prescribing controlled substances.
- Obtained the authority for increased access to relevant prescriber information in the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) drug reporting system.
- Encouraged OARRS registrations, through the renewal cycle, for APRNs with prescriptive authority. The Board's initiative to increase the number of APRN OARRS registrants resulted in a substantial increase of 984 registrants during the 2013 renewal period.
- Adopted Rule 4723-9-12, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), which requires that under certain circumstances APRN prescribers use the OARRS information in their practice when prescribing controlled substances or tramadol.

Military Veterans and Spouses

In the spring of 2013, the Board implemented a new policy to decrease the processing time for military veterans and nurses licensed in other states seeking reciprocity by "endorsing" their out-of-state licenses into Ohio. The Board changed its policy that required applicants to submit transcripts and photographs prior to the issuance of Temporary Permits and licenses. The Board determined that educational preparation could be verified and the identity of the applicant could be established through the use of the Nursys® national database and other methods.

House Bill 303, effective March 20, 2013, specified that the holder of a license who did not renew a license because of military service is permitted to renew the license as provided in the law governing renewal of licenses for persons engaged in military service (Section 5903.10, ORC), and is exempt from the \$50 late processing and \$100 reinstatement fees.

In June 2013, Governor Kasich issued Executive Order 2013-05K. The Governor's Executive Order requires all boards and commissions to identify, and report legal barriers to the revision of policies and procedures to further streamline the issuance of licenses and certificates based on relevant military education, training or service. In furtherance of the Governor's objective, the Board immediately added language to the proposed 2013 rules requiring nursing, dialysis, medication aide and community health worker programs to establish policies for review of military education, training and service. Programs would be required to award the student credit for any military education or skills training determined to be substantially similar to the curriculum established in rule.

Ohio's Workforce

❖ *Nursing and Primary Care Workforce Data*

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health," identifies data collection as a vital component for health care planning and policymaking. Governor Kasich and the Ohio legislature have established growing Ohio's workforce as a priority.

For the 2013 renewal cycle the Board was successful in reaching its goal to embed the complete set of data questions in renewal for RNs and APRNs to assist the workforce planning initiatives of government and private industry. The Board worked with stakeholders during the development of the questions, including ODH, the Health Policy Institute of Ohio, the Ohio Action Coalition, and the Ohio Action Coalition's Data/Research Work Group consisting of nursing educators, administrators, and practitioners.

The data questions will provide demographic information as well as data about education; primary and secondary work setting, title, practice area; and employment status. The Board based the questions on the nursing Minimum Data Set (Colleagues in Caring Project), core data questions of the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis, and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing 2013 RN survey. For APRNs, there are additional questions that will provide primary care data and information related to APRNs and prescribers.

❖ *Nurse Education Grant Program (NEGP)*

During this fiscal year, the Board continued to provide grant funding to nursing education programs for the purpose of increasing their nursing student enrollments. NEGP was created by the legislature in the 2004-2005 budget bill to provide grants to nurse education programs that develop partnerships to increase student enrollment capacity (Section 4723.063, RC). The program is funded by ten dollars from each nurse license renewal fee. During the September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2013 grant cycle, the Board awarded fifteen grants totaling \$2,506,053. Programs receiving the funds report an increase in their student enrollment capacity.

The Board successfully sought sponsorship of an amendment in HB 303 to extend the grant program for another ten years through December 31, 2023, and to establish that PCMHs are eligible to partner with nursing education programs.

❖ ***Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program***

To address Ohio's nursing workforce shortages and to encourage nursing graduates to remain in Ohio as they enter the work force, the Board assists the Ohio Board of Regents in administering the Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program (NEALP). Five dollars of each nurse license renewal fee is used to fund NEALP. This program provides financial assistance to Ohio students as an incentive to become nurses or nursing faculty in Ohio nursing education programs. For the 2012-2013 school year, \$502,500 was awarded to applicants, an increase of \$172,429 from the previous year. Under NEALP, loan recipients are potentially eligible for 100% loan forgiveness based upon their commitment to remain employed as a nurse in Ohio.

❖ ***Ohio Action Coalition/The IOM Future of Nursing Report***

The Institute of Medicine (IOM), in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), issued *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* in 2010. The Report set forth eight recommendations for nursing. To develop strategies to implement the recommendations, the Ohio Action Coalition was established through a collaborative process with nursing groups in Ohio. Board member Sue Morano and Executive Director Betsy Houchen represented the Board on the Steering Committee of the Coalition. Through the Coalition the Board is collaborating with nursing throughout Ohio for the exchange of ideas to advance the IOM recommendations.

The Board provided a letter of support for the Coalition's proposal for a State Implementation Program grant to assist the Coalition in implementing two IOM report recommendations, data analysis and advancing nursing education. The Board also committed matching funds of \$4,500 from the Board Special Issues Fund that was established to address patient safety and health care issues related to the supply and demand for nurses.

Patient Centered Medical Homes

House Bill 198 (128th GA) created the Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMH) pilot program as a way to provide more comprehensive and higher quality care at lower costs. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) now oversees the PCMH pilot project and the PCMH Education Advisory Group (EAP). Board member Judith Church has represented the Board on the EAP since the group's inception. Fifty pilot physician practices and five APRN practices are being converted into PCMH practices.

To further the recognition and utilization of PCMHs, the Board proposed amending the Nurse Practice Act in House Bill 303, effective March 20, 2013. The statutory change authorized the Board's Nurse Education Grant Program (NEGP) to include PCMHs as a potential partner of nursing education programs that apply for the grant. As a result, the Board recently awarded NEGP funds to two programs that are partnering with PCMHs. The students of the programs will have the opportunity to provide nursing care in a PCMH environment.

Telehealth

Board representatives attended and actively participated in stakeholder meetings, a Telehealth forum and an educational Summit meeting sponsored by the Health Policy Institute of Ohio, to discuss collaborative policymaking in Ohio about telehealth. The Board was a participant on the Planning Committee for the Summit. The purpose of the meetings and discussion was to showcase a panel of innovative and promising Ohio-based telehealth/telemedicine projects or programs; educate policy makers and stakeholders on national trends and challenges/opportunities associated with moving telehealth/telemedicine forward in Ohio; and facilitate a discussion of collaborative policymaking around telehealth/telemedicine in Ohio.

Program Area Highlights and Statistics - Fiscal Year 2013

Licensure and Certification

The Board issues licenses and certificates to individuals who meet statutory and regulatory requirements and implements processes to license, certify, and renew applicants as quickly as possible so they may enter or remain in the workforce.

- The Board now regulates approximately 266,000 licenses and certificates, an increase from 223,000 in 2008.
- Each fiscal year since 2008, newly licensed registered nurses and licensed practical nurses in Ohio have increased an average of 14,000.
- For the 2013 renewal period, there were 201,812 licenses and certificates to be renewed. The Board achieved an online renewal rate of 97% for registered nurses, and 99% for both APRN and CTP renewals.

Active Licenses and Certificates as of June 30, 2013	
Registered Nurses (RNs)	189,642
Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs)	56,146
Certificates of Authority (Advanced Practice Nurses) Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist - 2,767 Certified Nurse Midwife - 354 Certified Nurse Practitioner - 6,725 Clinical Nurse Specialist - 1,627	11,473
Certificates To Prescribe (Advanced Practice Nurses)	6,655
Dialysis Technician – Ohio Certified	1,392
Dialysis Technician – Temporary Certificate 1 ¹	256
Dialysis Technician – Temporary Certificate 2	2
Dialysis Technician – Temporary Certificate 3	0
Dialysis Technician Intern Certificate	20
Community Health Worker	83
Medication Aide Certificates	163
Total	265,832

¹ House Bill 303, effective March 20, 2013, streamlined the dialysis technician certification process. The Board will no longer issue Temporary Certificates 1, 2, and 3, but instead issue a dialysis technician certificate leading to full certification.

Nurses Licensed By Examination or Endorsement in Fiscal Year 2013				
Type	Licensed by Examination	Licensed by Endorsement	Temporary Permit Issued	Total
LPN	3,325	355	125	3,805
RN	7,955	2,280	830	11,065
Total	11,280	2,635	955	14,870

- The Board continued use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE), an inter-governmental information sharing initiative that aids in determining immigration status to ensure only lawfully admitted applicants are licensed.
- Licensure, renewal and certification, in conjunction with the Fiscal Unit, implemented a more efficient procedure for application and fee processing resulting in applications being entered into eLicense within one to two business days, and fees delivered to the Treasurer's Office within three business days of receipt.
- Lesleigh Robinson, Program Manager, completed her term as a member of the NCSBN NCLEX Examination Committee. Jennifer Wheeler, Board Practice Consultant and Board Member Judith Church were members of the NCSBN NCLEX Review Subcommittee and the NCLEX Item Writing Panel respectively.

Nursing Education

The Board approves pre-licensure education programs to assure the programs maintain academic and clinical standards for the preparation of entry-level nurses.

- The Board currently oversees 178 nursing education programs (106 registered nurse programs and 72 practical nurse programs), as compared to 143 in 2008.
- The Board approved 9 new nursing education programs. Board education surveyors conducted site visits to 64 existing nursing education programs.
- In addition to nursing education, the Board regulated various training programs: 29 Dialysis Technician Training Programs, 18 Medication Aide Training Programs, and 4 Community Health Worker Training Programs.
- The Board appointed Board Member Lisa Klenke as the Board Education Liaison to provide assistance to staff in reviewing whether education programs are meeting and maintaining the requirements of the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules.
- The Board reviewed the effectiveness of nursing education programs by tracking the performance of first-time test candidates taking the NCLEX licensure examination. Programs are required to maintain a passing rate at or above 95% of the national pass rate for first-time test candidates.
- As a result of nursing education programs not meeting minimum standards, the Board sanctioned eleven programs. Two programs proceeded through the hearing process in accordance with the Chapter 119., ORC, and the Board issued Board Adjudication Orders to withdraw Board approval for continuation of the programs. These programs are operating under a Court issued stay order, pending its decision on appeal. In addition, three programs continued operations after agreeing to follow the terms and conditions of a Board Consent (settlement) Agreement; four programs continued operations but were placed on Provisional approved for monitoring; and two programs agreed to discontinue their programs and the programs voluntarily surrendered their Board approval status.
- The Education Surveyors continue to present nursing education program updates, at the invitation of the Ohio Council of Associate Nursing Degree Nursing Education Administrators, the Ohio Council of Deans and Directors of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Nursing Programs, and the Ohio Organization of Practical Nurse Educators.
- The Board convened the Advisory Group on Nursing Education. The Advisory Group provided recommendations to the Board regarding nursing education and Chapter 4723-5, OAC, the nursing education program rules.
- Education surveyor Cathy Learn served on the NCSBN Distance Learning Education Committee.

- The Board collected education program data from pre-license nursing education programs and provided the data to the public.
- Board staff began offering a nursing education program administrator workshop twice a year.

Continuing Education

The Board assures that licensees and certificate holders maintain competency based on continuing education requirements set forth in the Nurse Practice Act and the administrative rules.

- The Advisory Group on Continuing Education, composed of continuing education approvers and providers, presented recommendations to the Board regarding continuing education issues and the administrative rules governing continuing education.
- Ten Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN) Approvers of Continuing Education continued to assure that providers of continuing education met the requirements set forth in the administrative rules.

Compliance, Discipline and Monitoring

In the Compliance Unit a staff of eight compliance agents and one enforcement agent investigated complaints; seven adjudication coordinators and one supervising attorney were responsible for complaint intake review, review of investigations, settlements, and disciplinary actions.

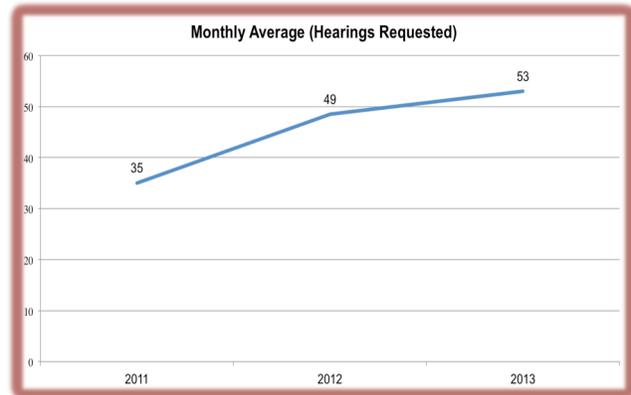
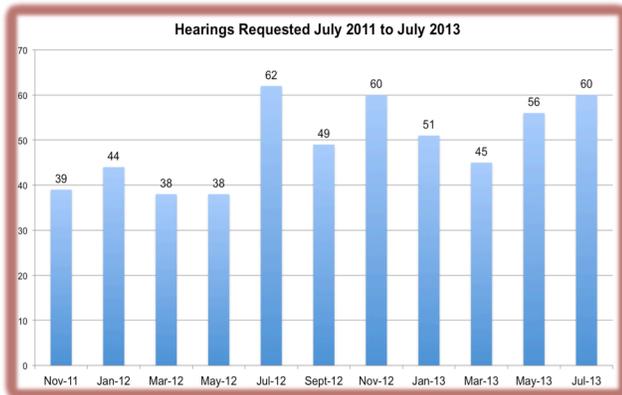
- The Board received 8,028 complaints during fiscal year 2013. Based on the evidence obtained during the investigation, the Board pursued disciplinary action or closed the complaint.
- To increase states' access to discipline information, all Board actions were reported to national disciplinary data banks: NURSYS; Division of Practitioner Data Banks, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and Sanctions & Exclusions, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services. The Board maintained an outstanding submission rate to the Division of Practitioner Data Banks: 1,293 records were submitted with an acceptance rate of 99%.
- The Board continued Settlement Conferences for post-notice disciplinary cases to expedite the resolution of cases, and the Board Hearing Committee to conduct administrative hearings and expedite hearing cases through the Chapter 119. hearing process.
- Board Member Rhonda Barkheimer was elected to serve as the Supervising Member for Disciplinary Matters.

Licensure Applicants Referred To Compliance For Review		
Type	Total Number	Referred to Compliance
Licensure by Examination	11,280	1,922 (17%)
Licensure by Endorsement	2,635	364 (14%)
Total	13,915	2,286 (16%)

Complaints	
Type of Complaint	Number
Action Taken in Another State/Jurisdiction	868
APRN Practice Issues	98
APRN Lapses	63
Boundaries	38
Community Health Worker Applicant	7
Confidentiality	32
Criminal	348
Default/Child Support	5
Dialysis Applicant	55
Drugs/Alcohol	650
Endorsement Applicant	364
Fraud (Theft)	34
Fraud (Medicare/Medicaid)	8
Imposter/Never Licensed	18
Invalid License (lapsed/inactive)	31
Medication Aide Applicant	10
Miscellaneous	831
NCLEX Test Applicant	1,922
Non-compliance	525
Nursing Student	7
Patient Abuse	49
Practice	1,072
Physical Impairment	1
Psychiatric Impairment	9
Renewal Applicant	527
Reinstatement	456
Total	8,028

Board Actions	
Type of Action Taken	Number
Board Order	236
Permanent Surrender	40
Default Order	58
Consent Agreement	535
Notice of Opportunity	302
Immediate Suspension	103
Temporary Suspension	7
Summary Suspension	2
Automatic Suspension	115
Suspension Without Stay	363
Stayed Suspension (Probation)	268
Revocation/Denial	10
Permanent Revocation/Denial	106
Reprimand	122
Permanent Withdrawal of Application	3
Non-Permanent Withdrawal of Application	1
Voluntary Retirement	19
Total	2,290

Number of Hearings Requested



- Lisa Ferguson-Ramos, Compliance Program Manager, worked directly with the compliance staff of the Medical and Pharmacy boards, and other state agencies such as ODH and the Bureau of Workers Compensation, to target prescription drug abuse cases.
- Because Ohio was one of the high performers identified by the past surveys in the area of discipline, the NCSBN Commitment to Ongoing Regulatory Excellence Committee (CORE) invited Ohio to attend national focus groups to identify promising practices and standards of excellence for boards of nursing in the area of investigations and discipline.
- Monthly meetings were held with the Assistant Attorneys General representing the Board to coordinate disciplinary processes and assure the timely resolution of disciplinary cases.
- The Board continued the Patient Safety Initiative, a joint collaboration with nursing employers to more comprehensively review and address nursing practice and system issues to improve patient safety.
- Dennis Corrigan received national recognition of his work as a Board investigator by NCSBN through the article, "A Day in the Life of a Nursing Regulator," an interview featured in the Spring 2013 Leader-to-Leader publication.
- At the request of NCSBN, Tom Dilling and Mike Miller, Ohio State Medical Board, wrote and had their article published in the Journal of Nursing Regulation, "When Employment and Licensure Intersect: Addressing Ex-Offenders in the Health Care Professions."

Monitoring Compliance

The Board monitors individuals' compliance with the requirements of confidential alternative to discipline programs and their ability to return to safe practice. Six monitoring agents monitored compliance with Board actions and alternative program agreements for chemical dependency.

Cases	Number
Active cases	1,268
Inactive cases ²	1,857
Monitoring ceased – issued Automatic Suspension and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing	114
Monitoring ceased – released from the terms and conditions of their Board Order/Consent Agreement	140
Removed from monitoring due to permanent licensure surrenders/retirement	7
Total	3,386

² Cases on inactive monitoring status generally involve suspended licenses or certificates. The case is assigned to “active” monitoring status upon an individual’s request for reinstatement and/or entry into a post-suspension consent agreement.

Alternative To Discipline Programs

Alternative Program For Chemical Dependency

Participants' compliance with their Alternative Program Agreements was monitored to determine the ability of actively recovering individuals to practice nursing in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act.

- Ohio was one of the seven states included when NCSBN convened a small group of Executive Directors from the states that have audited their Alternative Program for Chemical Dependency programs.

Case Description	Number
Applications mailed	51
Applications returned	38
Active cases	56
Admissions	19
Successful completions	11
Terminations	9

Practice Intervention and Improvement Program (PIIP)

Board staff monitored participants' compliance with their Participatory Agreements that set minimum requirements for practice remediation, including education and worksite monitoring.

Case Description	Number
Referrals	61
Cases admitted	12
Cases active (June 30, 2013)	11
Successful completions	6
Refused admission/ineligible	13
Failed to complete terms of program agreement	3

Nursing Practice

The Board addresses pertinent nursing regulatory issues and requirements for licensees and certificate holders and provides greater clarity about the requirements to those regulated by the Board and to the general public.

- Ohio is one of seventeen state nursing boards participating in the TERCAP® project to collect data that is being used to establish a national database regarding patient safety and practice breakdown. TERCAP® (Taxonomy of Error, Root Cause Analysis and Practice-Responsibility) is the tool used to gather data and track cases involving practice breakdown.
- The NCSBN Transition to Practice Study, designed to examine the effect of the Transition to Practice model on patient safety and quality outcomes based on the practice of newly licensed nurses transitioning to practice, continues into its third year. Ohio is one of three states participating in the study.
- The Board requested and received a formal Attorney General Opinion about whether, under Section 4723.43(B), Ohio Revised Code, a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) has the legal authority to order or prescribe a preoperative or postoperative medication to be administered by another licensed healthcare professional, such as a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse. The Opinion concluded that Section 4723.43(B), ORC, does not authorize a CRNA to order or prescribe a preoperative or postoperative medication to be administered by another licensed health care professional, such as a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse.
- Board staff responded to an average of 355 questions per month regarding the application of the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules to nursing, advanced practice nursing, dialysis care, medication aides, and community health workers.
- The Board convened the Advisory Group on Dialysis to discuss Board approval and national certification of dialysis technician training programs and review Chapter 4723-23, OAC, rules regarding the regulation of dialysis technicians.
- The Board convened the Committee on Prescriptive Governance (CPG) to develop recommendations regarding the prescribing authority of APRNs who hold a certificate to prescribe and revise the Formulary as needed. During fiscal year 2013, the CPG convened additional meetings to complete revisions based on the expanded schedule II prescribing authority to APRNs who are authorized to prescribe.
- The Board maintained and updated the Formulary that establishes the parameters for drugs prescribed by APRNs who hold certificates to prescribe.

Administration

Administration includes operational support such as legal, fiscal, personnel, legislative and regulatory matters, information technology, and communications.

Board Governance

The Board met seven times during the year for a total of fifteen meeting days. Meetings were held at the Board office, 17 South High Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio. In the fall of 2012, the Board elected Judith Church as Board President and Jane McFee as Vice-President, and re-appointed Betsy Houchen as Executive Director.

Legislation and Administrative Rules Impacting Nursing in Ohio

Legislation

The Board monitored and advocated on behalf of proposed legislation that might impact the practice of nursing or Board operations, provided Board members legislative reports, and worked with the Governor's office, state legislature, other regulatory boards and public stakeholders on issues of mutual interest and of impact to the Board, its licensees and the public it serves. Bills related to the Board that became effective in fiscal year 2013 include:

- House Bill 303, effective March 20, 2013, comprehensively modified the Nurse Practice Act. The bill provided updates to laws pertaining to various aspects of the Board's primary responsibilities to license and discipline. The bill deleted programs and procedures that are no longer operational or productive. HB 303 addressed pertinent regulatory issues and requirements for nurses, dialysis technicians, medication aides, and community health workers in a common sense manner and the changes implemented provide greater legal clarity to licensees and the public.
- House Bill 490, effective September 28, 2012, required that late processing and reinstatement fees be waived for military personnel spouses in certain situations; granted an extension of time to military personnel to satisfy continuing education requirements; and authorized licensing agencies to grant temporary licenses to persons whose spouses are on active military duty.
- House Bill 284, effective March 22, 2013, authorized certain APRNs and RNs, and physician assistants to pronounce death if the individual's respiratory and circulatory systems are not being artificially sustained, and at the time of pronouncement the individual was being cared for in a nursing home, licensed hospice care program, or various designated licensed residential care facilities or homes for the aged.
- House Bill 143, effective March 27, 2013, regarding concussions and head injuries in youth sports, specified that some types of licensed health care providers would be

permitted to assess a student athlete's condition under certain circumstances in collaboration with the physician. This includes current APRN-physician practices.

- Senate Bill 301, effective March 13, 2013, in part expanded the types of controlled substances that are not included in determining whether a prescriber has personally furnished a greater amount of controlled substances than allowed by law. The act further modified the laws governing submission to and requests for information from OARRS.
- Senate Bill 337, effective September 28, 2012, made changes to certain criminal laws and may impact investigations and enforcement of certain grounds for discipline for Board licensees. The act addressed certain collateral sanctions for ex-offenders, in part by creating a certificate of qualification for employment. The act provided specified exemptions to preserve the Board's absolute bars and the ability to immediately or automatically suspend licenses by operation of law.

Administrative Rules

The Board timely completed its five-year review of applicable administrative rules as required by Ohio Revised Code Section 119.032. These rules became effective on February 1, 2013 and included the following: Board organization and records, including personal management systems; definition of terms used in the Nurse Practice Act; continuing education requirements; and other miscellaneous changes to update or correct prior language inconsistencies.

In addition, the Board adopted rules as required by Senate Bill 83 (129th GA) to implement the bill's provisions pertaining to the authority of an APRN who is authorized to prescribe schedule II controlled substances. The rules conform to the recommendations of the Committee on Prescriptive Governance (CPG). The bill also required the Board's rules to include criteria for the components of APRN standard care arrangements, with physicians and podiatrists, that address prescribing schedule II controlled substances. The proposed revisions were amendments to existing rules except for new Rule 4723-9-13, OAC, which is specific to the content of schedule II prescribing continuing education. The Board accelerated the rulemaking process to provide licensees ample time (10 months) to complete the required hours of continuing education before the statutory deadline.

In the spring of 2013, the Board initiated another five-year review of applicable administrative rules while proposing to amend additional administrative rules due to legislative amendments enacted by HB 303, SB 83, and HB 490 (129th GA) and HB 59 (130th GA), or for technical or non-substantive reasons. Further, in accordance with Governor Kasich's Executive Order 2013-05K that requires all boards and commissions to identify, and report legal barriers to the revision of policies and procedures to further streamline the issuance of licenses and certificates based on relevant military education, training or service, the Board immediately added language to its current proposed rules package requiring nursing, dialysis, medication aide and community health worker programs to establish policies for review of military education, training and service. Programs would be required to award the student credit for any military education or skills training, determined by the program to be substantially similar to the curriculum established in rule.

Communications

Throughout the year, the Board informed the public, licensees, certificate holders, and other interested parties about the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules governing practice, proposed statutory and administrative rule changes, and other issues relating to regulation.

- The Board issued *Momentum*, a magazine published quarterly at no cost to the taxpayers or the Board, and made available to the publication to licensees and the public.
- The Board increased communications with nurses and the public through Facebook, eNews, and Twitter, to deliver Board news and time-sensitive announcements. At the end of fiscal year 2013, the Board had 3,374 eNews subscribers, 1,114 Twitter followers, and 5,311 Facebook “likes.”
- The Board maintained an ongoing liaison and working relationship with multiple state agencies, nursing groups, and other health care stakeholders to foster information sharing.
- The Board scheduled Open Forum at each Board meeting to provide an opportunity for interested parties to address the Board.
- The Ohio Center for Nursing website was coordinated by the Board and maintained independent of the Board’s primary website. Established to promote nursing as a career and provide information about the nursing workforce in Ohio, this website also functioned as the Ohio Network for Nursing Workforce (ONNW) site for Ohio’s membership in the National Forum for State Nursing Workforce Centers.
- The Board maintained daily submission of credential data from the licensing system to the national nursing database, Nursys.
- To assure other states, boards, employers, and the public have necessary and accurate data from Ohio when licensing, disciplining, hiring, or seeking information about licensees, the Board’s IT and licensure staff reviewed and submitted revised data to Nursys, a national database.
- The Board provided over 1,000 records to the public in response to public records requests, with over 92% provided in five business days or less.
- Board staff participated in the state eLicense Policy Work Group and worked with the Office of Information Technology to address eLicense system improvements and a system revision.

APPENDIX A - Board Members
(Members for All or Part of Fiscal Year 2013)

Name/Position	City	End of Term
Judith A. Church, DHA, MSN, RN President	Miamisburg	2016
J. Jane McFee, LPN Vice-President	Perrysburg	2013
Rhonda Barkheimer, RN Supervising Board Member for Disciplinary Matters	Canton	2014
Janet Arwood, LPN Chair, Advisory Group on Continuing Education	Hilliard	2013
Nancy Fellows, RN	Willoughby Hills	2016
Lisa Klenke, RN Chair, Advisory Group on Nursing Education	Coldwater	2015
Maryam W. Lyon, RN Chair, Advisory Group on Dialysis	Sidney	2013
Susan Morano, RN	Lorain	2014
Tracy Ruegg, RN, CNP	Powell	2013
Roberta Stokes, RN, CNP	Cleveland	2013
Sheryl Warner, JD, Consumer Member	Canal Winchester	2015
Bertha Lovelace, RN	Shaker Heights	2012*
Melissa Meyer, LPN	Amelia	2012*

*Served until end of appointed term

APPENDIX B - Fiscal Report

Revenue	
Income from Fees	\$11,314,528
Total Revenue	\$11,314,528

Payroll & Personal Services	
All Staff Payroll	\$5,653,712
Payroll Savings Transfer	\$0
Training and Registrations	\$5,343
Court Reporting	\$26,550
Hearing Officers	\$39,305
Expert Witnesses	\$0
Subpoena Fees	\$5,007
Advisory Group Travel	\$3,089
Purchased Services (other)	\$32,632
Actual Spent	\$5,765,638

Maintenance	
Rent (+space repairs, improve)	\$ 332,767
Maintenance & Repairs	\$22,355
Office Supplies	\$56,950
Staff Travel	\$32,529
Board Member Travel	\$23,415
Telephone	\$27,912
Telephone (DAS)	\$40,181
Printing (DAS)	\$2,829
Printing (Other)	\$65,649
Mail Services (DAS)	\$55,003
Auditor of State (Audit Fees)	\$1,292
Ohio Shared Services	\$5,411
Bank Lock Box & Bank Fees	\$40,963
Computer Services (DAS)	\$80,129
Computer Maintenance (other)	\$29,208
Other	\$160,421
Actual Spent	\$977,014

Equipment	
Computer / IT	\$31,720
All other	\$56,999
Actual Spent	\$88,719

Refunds	
Actual Spent	\$750
OPERATIONAL COSTS TOTALS	\$6,832,139

Special Issues Fund	
<i>Beginning Balance</i>	\$17,819
New Donations / CE	\$0
Actual Spent	\$500
Fund Balance	\$17,319

NEGP Fund	
Actual Disbursed	\$1,196,053
Administrative Expenses	\$29,444
Total	\$1,373,506

FY 2013 Appropriations	
Operational Budget (4K90)	\$6,680,896
Special Issues (5P80)	\$5,000
Nurse Education Grant (5AC0)	\$1,373,506
Total Appropriations	\$8,059,402

APPENDIX C - Strategic Initiatives

In addition to carrying out its responsibilities pursuant to Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code, the Board conducted strategic planning. The Board adopted the following Strategic Initiatives to promote public safety and the safe practice of nursing:

1. Assure licensees and certificate holders meet statutory and regulatory requirements to be licensed or certified to practice in Ohio and are appropriately credentialed to practice, while maintaining an efficient and effective system to license or certify applicants as quickly as possible to enter or remain in the workforce.
2. Efficiently handle complaints, investigations, and adjudications to safeguard the health of the public and, in cases involving chemical dependency or practice issues, provide alternative to discipline programs, if determined appropriate.
3. Approve pre-licensure education programs to assure the programs maintain academic and clinical standards for the preparation of entry-level nurses.
4. Assure licensees and certificate holders maintain competency based on continuing education standards set forth in the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules.
5. Address pertinent regulatory issues and requirements for licensees and certificate holders and provide greater clarity about the requirements to those regulated by the Board and to the general public.
6. Implement technological systems to increase organizational efficiency and the use of resources.

**APPENDIX D - Board Staff
(As of June 30, 2013)**

Administrative

Executive Director	Betsy Houchen, JD, RN
Executive Assistant	Joseph Kirk
Chief Hearing Officer	Beth Lewis, JD
Hearing Officer	Brian Forbes, JD
Operations/IT Manager	Eric Mays
Network Administrator	John Robinson
Administrative Professional	Amanda Eisert

Compliance

Program Manager	Lisa Ferguson-Ramos, JD, RN
General Counsel	Holly Fischer, JD
Supervising Attorney	Jodi Crowe, JD
Adjudication Coordinator/Legislative Liaison	Tom Dilling, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Anita DiPasquale, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	David Geiger, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Rebecca Green, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Julia Hilty, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Nick Siniff, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Phalyn Williams, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Michael Wise, JD
Program Administrator/Supervisor	Margo Pettis
Administrative Professional	Peggy Carrier
Administrative Professional	Rose Ferguson
Administrative Professional	Cynthia Gossard
Administrative Professional	Brandon Kerlee
Administrative Professional	Melissa Malone
Administrative Professional	Carol Polanski
Clerk (Intermittent)	Emily Fischer
Advanced Practice Compliance Agent	Keeley Harding, CNP
Compliance Agent	Dennis Corrigan, RN
Compliance Agent	Janelle Freeman, RN
Compliance Agent	Diana Harris, RN
Compliance Agent	Melissa Knauss, RN
Compliance Agent	Pamela Morse, RN
Compliance Agent	Amy Sala, RN
Compliance Agent	Brian Torrence, RN
Enforcement Agent	Timothy Fulk
Monitoring Agent	John Cover
Monitoring Agent	Monique Holokai-Kane, RN
Monitoring Agent	Catherine Kessler
Monitoring Agent	Susan Mann Orahood, RN
Monitoring Agent	Marion Wilson, RN
Monitoring Agent	Richard Young, RN

Licensure, Certification, and Continuing Education

Program Manager	Lesleigh Robinson, RN
Initial Licensure Supervisor	Karen Scott
Renewal Supervisor	Brenda Murphy
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Cheryl Brown
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Tami Earles
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Debra Fulk
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Ruchi Grewal
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Melody Gullion
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Glenda Nunamaker
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Alisan Riemenschneider
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Brandy Smith
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Terry Tietz
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Ebony Turner
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Karen Unroe
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Angela White
Administrative Professional	Toni Notturniano
Clerk (Intermittent)	Rachael Audsley

Education, Practice, and Administration

Program Manager	Lisa Emrich, RN
Nursing Education Surveyor	Jody Hostetler, RN
Nursing Education Surveyor	Cathy Learn, RN
Nursing Education Surveyor	Kristie Oles, RN
Nursing Practice Consultant	Jennifer Wheeler, RN
Administrative Professional	Stephanie Sharp
Fiscal Officer	Kathy King
Fiscal Specialist	Katha Bloomer
Clerk (Intermittent)	Karla Edgerton
Clerk (Intermittent)	Lydie Kisula