

February 2015 President's Letter

Wow! 2014 was a year of change and accomplishments! Working with Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) and Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation (HPNF), we developed a shared vision and mission. We changed our name to Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center (HPCC). We also rebranded our organizations with a common logo, a new website (www.advancingexpertcare.org), and implemented new and enhanced information technology systems.

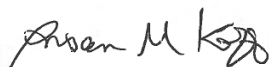
There is increased interest and demand, by both professionals and lay persons, for quality palliative care and hospice programs and services. We are challenged by regulations, mergers, closures and workforce limitations. There are also enormous opportunities for skilled, knowledgeable, competent hospice and palliative care certificants. HPCC continues to administer seven different certification programs. We have over 18,000 certificants!

Recertification processes and criteria were integrated into our Continuing Competence Model. These are aligned with other specialty nursing certification program organizations. LearningBuilder was launched. Situational Judgment Exercises are a component of recertification point accrual for both ACHPN and CHPN certificants. As we utilize these programs and assess their functionality, we anticipate adjusting them and making improvements.

If your employer does not financially support your certification, recertification or attendance at the Annual Assembly or Clinical Practice Forum, remember that scholarships are available through HPNF.

Certified Nurses Day is Thursday, March 19th. We recognize our certificants and all those doing the valuable work that we do each and every day. We each have a story of someone who inspired us to become who we are and do what we do. Who will you knowingly or unknowingly inspire this year? Take time on March 19th to acknowledge yourself and other certified colleagues.

I am truly honored by the privilege to serve as your 2015 President and look forward to the achievements in the year ahead.



Susan Koff, MSN, ARNP, GNP-BC, ACHPN, CRRN
HPCC President