

National Nursing Assistants Week is June 16-23

CNAs are on the front line of delivering care at your facility. This June, why not celebrate them and thank them for all they do? The 34th annual National Nursing Assistants Week, sponsored by the National Network of Career Nursing Assistants (NNCNA), will be held the week of June 16-23.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Nursing Assistants: New Roles, New Goals." The NNCNA's website, cna-network.org, offers a plethora of planning tools and celebration suggestions.

CELEBRATE
YOUR CNAS



The NNCNA recommends taking the following 10 steps when planning a great celebration¹:

1. Get excited about the possibilities for honoring CNAs. Brainstorm fun, creative projects and programs that can be held in your facility or the local area.
2. Create a planning committee. This committee could also be responsible for planning staff activities throughout the year.
3. Ask the local mayor to proclaim the week to the citizens of the community. A sample proclamation to submit to your mayor can be downloaded from cna-network.org.
4. Involve as many people as possible in brainstorming ways to recognize CNAs.
5. Select and organize the week's projects and programs. The NNCNA suggests choosing projects related to the following topics: Professional Development, Care Skills, Soft Competencies, Workplace Relationships and Self-Advocacy. The organization offers a planning guide with activity suggestions.
6. Involve community leaders and public officials. In addition to signing a proclamation, your mayor and other local officials might have some celebration ideas of their own.
7. Make sure that your events are promoted to the community. Contact the newspaper, radio station and local TV stations to see if they would be interested in covering the event.
8. Promote your projects within the facility. Posters and invitations are a great way to get the word out.
9. Keep it moving to make sure everything comes together during the celebration. Develop a checklist of everything that needs to happen for each activity to be a success. Check off items as you complete them.
10. After the week is over, recap it and start planning for next year. What worked? What didn't? Write it all down and start planning next year's celebration!

How are you planning to celebrate National Nursing Assistants Week? We hope you'll visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/promedsupply) and share your ideas!

Reference

¹ National Network of Career Nursing Assistants. 34th Annual National Nursing Assistants Week. Available at: http://www.cna-network.org/naweek.htm#TEN_STEPS. Accessed March 25, 2011.