



# 2016 Annual Report



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### **Governance highlights:**

Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center, HPCC, the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, HPNA and the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation, HPNF continue to work in synergy in support of their unified Mission Statement, ***To Advance Expert Care in Serious Illness***, and common Vision Statement, ***To Transform the Care and Culture of Serious Illness***.

HPCC in conjunction with HPNA and HPNF updated the position statement on the Value of Hospice and Palliative Certification. This is the second joint position statement. The statement was distributed at the 2016 AAHPM/HPNA Annual Assembly in Chicago, Illinois and is available on the website. This position statement was shared with all member organizations of the American Board of Nursing Specialties.

### **Leadership**

#### **2016 Board of Directors**

Susan Koff, MSN, ARNP, GNP-BC, ACHPN®, CRRN, President  
Joyce Palmieri, RN, MS, CHPN®, President-Elect  
Catherine Glennon, RN, MHS, OCN®, NE-BC, Secretary  
Stephen McGowan, MBA, Public Member, Treasurer  
Julia Aucoin, DNS, RN-BC, CNE  
Kathleen Broglio, DNP, ANP-BC, ACHPN®, CPE, FPCN  
Stacy Smith, MLS, BSN, RN, CHPPN®  
Amy Beasley, DNP, RN, CHPN®  
Kimberly Kidd, RN, CHPN®, CHPCA®  
Sally Welsh, MSN, RN, NEA-BC

### **Research**

HPCC supported funding of a \$15,000 certification research grant that was awarded in 2016 by the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation. The research grant was awarded to Barbara Head to conduct a research entitled *Work and Compassion, Satisfaction, Burnout and Secondary Trauma Among Hospice and Palliative Nurses: Does Certification Make A Difference?*

In 2016 HPNF also awarded a \$15,000 grant to Professor Anne Wilkinson PhD, M.S. to conduct a *Systematic Review of the Impact of Nurse Certification on Patient Outcomes*.

The Annual Certification Recognition Event was held on Thursday, March 10, 2016 during the Annual Assembly of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine/Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association in Chicago, Illinois. David Marshall, JD, DNP, RN, CENP, NEA-BC provided an informative presentation on *Continuing Competence in Certified Practice*. Dr. Marshall is Chief Nursing & Patient Care Services Officer at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB Health) in Galveston, Texas and Adjunct Professor at the UTMB Health School of Nursing. His talk highlighted that one of the biggest shifts in the credentialing of nurses is the shift from a focus on continuing education to a focus on the broader issue of continuing competence. He concluded improved patient outcomes are associated with specialty certification of nurses with baccalaureate and higher educational preparation.

### **Advocacy**

During the annual Certification Recognition Event, the 2016 Certificant and Employer of the year awards were presented to the following:

Joan Carpenter, MN, CRNP, ACHPN® – ACHPN® of the Year recipient  
Ann Schneidman, MS, CNS, RN, CHPN® – CHPN® of the Year recipient  
Susan O’Conner-Von, PhD, RN-BC, CHPPN® - CHPPN® of the Year recipient  
Shelly Thomas, LPN, CHPLN® – CHPLN® of the Year recipient  
Sarah Collett, CNA, CHPNA® - CHPNA® of the Year recipient  
Amy Scheu, MSH, CHPCA® – CHPCA® of the Year recipient  
Hospice & Community Care in Lancaster, Pennsylvania – Employer of the Year recipient

The Employer of the Year is selected from the HPCC Employer Supporter Program members which consists of organizations that demonstrate continuing support of hospice and palliative certification. There are 115 organizations in the program.

HPCC provided financial support and participated in the American Board of Nursing Specialties *Value of Certification Convening Meeting* held in March of 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Convening was unique in its objective, which was – to move the discussion beyond perceptions and toward specific, actionable measurable plans to build the business case for the value of certified practice. The actions from this convening meeting included:

Exploration of the identified certification benefits and prioritized them based on importance, impact, feasibility and investment of time and resources.

Identification of organizations that can potentially lend support, provide funding or take a lead in moving forward on project implementation.

### **Continuing Competence**

HPCC continues to offer seven certification exam programs: Advanced Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse (ACHPN®), Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse (CHPN®), Certified Hospice and Palliative Pediatric Registered Nurse (CHPPN®), Certified Hospice and Palliative Licensed/Practical Vocational Nurse (CHPLN®), Certified Hospice and Palliative Nursing

Assistant (CHPNA®), Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Administrator (CHPCA®), and Certified in Perinatal Loss Care (CPLC®). In 2016 there were over 2,500 new certificants.

<b>2016 CBT EXAMINATION RESULTS</b>			
<b>Discipline</b>	<b># of Testers</b>	<b># of Passers</b>	<b># of current certificants</b>
APRN	434	278	1,469
RN	2,245	1,502	10,528
Pediatric RN	26	26	210
LP/VN	184	155	811
Nursing Assistant	934	764	3,291
Administrator	98	74	292
Perinatal Loss Care	35	35	157

In 2016, the Hospice and Palliative Accrual for Recertification (HPAR) became the required recertification process for the CHPNs and CHPPNs. The HPCC Board of Directors and staff thoughtfully reviewed the process taking into account the commitment of supporting a model of continuing competence as well as feedback expressed by our certificants and employer supporters. Changes were made to the requirements and the criteria was expanded to include additional activities, some of which may be accomplished in the workplace. LearningBuilder, the online recertification platform continues to ease the process for submission of HPAR for the ACHPNs and the CHPNs.

Following a thorough review of all HPCC certification programs the HPCC Board of Directors made a decision that beginning on January 1, 2018, the Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center will no longer offer the Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Administrator (CHPCA) or Certified Hospice and Palliative Licensed Nurse (CHPLN) examinations to new applicants. The last opportunity to earn either the CHPCA or CHPLN as a new credential through examination is December 31, 2017. HPCC will continue to offer a recertification process for individuals who have obtained and maintained these two credentials.

A lower than expected number of examination candidates over the past several years has made these programs difficult to maintain. We have 314 total individuals with the CHPCA certification over nearly 10 years of the program, and applications have lowered the last several years. We have over 1,000 CHPLN certificants in 12 years of the program, and applications have dropped in this program as well.

Those who are currently certified as a CHPCA or CHPLN, or who earn these credentials by December 31, 2017, will be able to renew and maintain them through the Hospice and

Palliative Accrual for Recertification (HPAR) process as long as the individual certificants continue their recertification as scheduled.

**Operational**

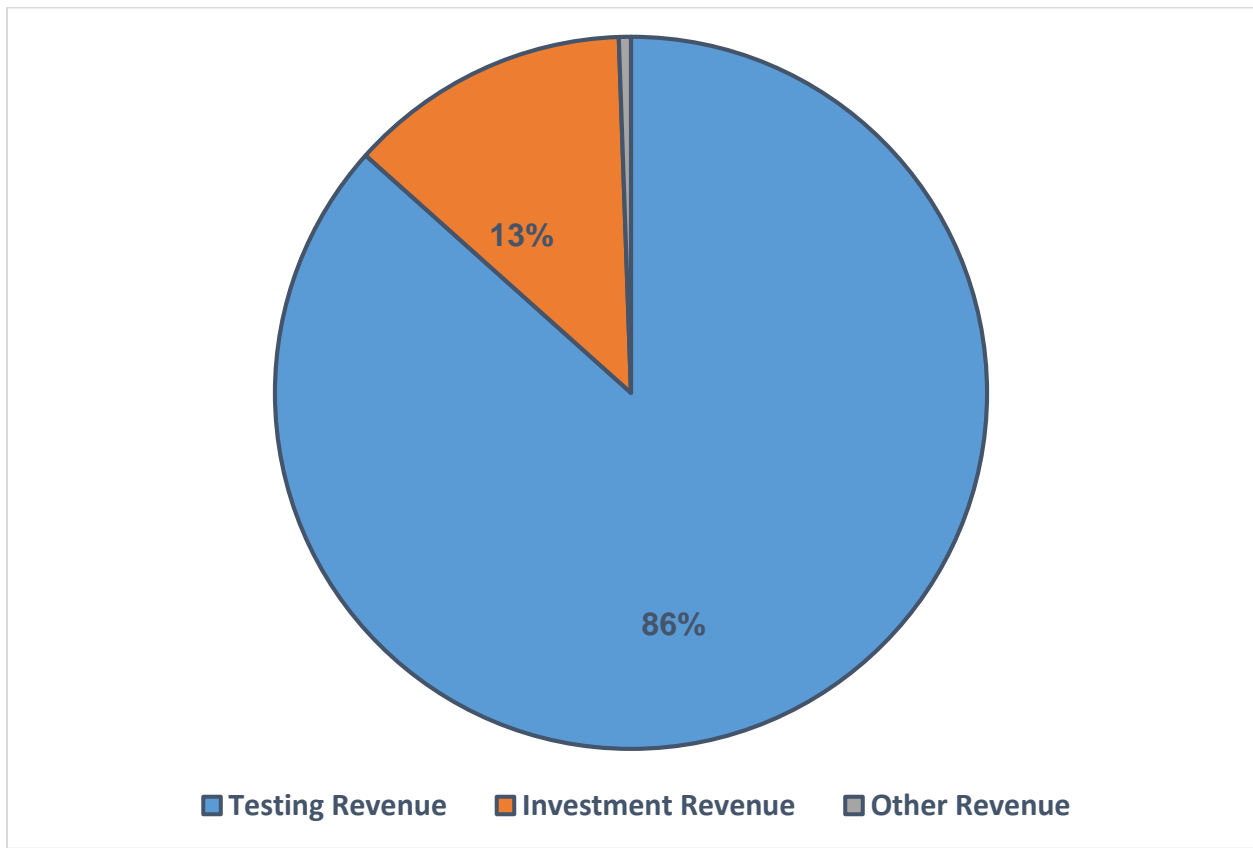
National office staff continue to implement technological changes to access information and networking communities through the website for HPNA members and HPCC certificants. A Certification Community was established this year to provide a discussion platform for individuals interested in certification.

The seven Examination Development Committees continue their work meeting several times a year, face to face and/or by Webinar to write and approve items for each respective exam, establish test forms, review exam results and test taker comments, and perform an annual review of the respective Candidate handbook.

The Employer Partner Program exceeded the HPCC goal of three (3) new agreements. There were seven (7) new agreements signed for a total of \$109,000 and 342 new certificants.

**2016 HPCC Financials:**

Revenue



**Expenses**

