



## 2014 Annual Report

The year of 2014 was a year of change for the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses (NBCHPN®) now known as the Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center (HPCC). The new name was unveiled in October of this year as a result of our collaboration with our affiliate organizations, the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) and the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation (HPNF). The new name reflects the organizational commitment to continuing competence and fulfilling its mission. The acronym enhances the synergy of the three organizations (HPCC, HPNA and HPNF) and creates a stronger brand identity.

### **Governance highlights:**

A Joint Board Retreat (Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center, HPCC - formerly the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses; the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, HPNA and the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation, HPNF), held January 2014 in Miami, Florida. The Boards facilitated discussions of branding and imaging and by the close of the weekend, agreed to a unified Mission Statement, ***To Advance Expert Care in Serious Illness, and a common Vision Statement, To Transform the Care and Culture of Serious Illness.*** This work then led to revision of the logos and design and launch of a unified website offering single sign on for all constituents. A major objective of joint strategic planning was to develop even more synergy among the three organizations and to enhance value for the constituents (members, certificants and donors) of each of the organizations.

The Pillars of Excellence adopted by the HPCC Board of Directors are Competence, Leadership, Advocacy and Research.

The new HPCC logo was revealed in October with the launch of the Advancing Expert Care Campaign and the new combined website [www.advancingexpertcare.org](http://www.advancingexpertcare.org). The Advancing Expert Care Campaign includes:

1. Ongoing evaluation and research into the educational needs of hospice and palliative professionals;
2. The design of programs, courses, and curriculum to advance expert care in serious illness;
3. Advancing research into best practices of hospice and palliative care, while supporting and developing palliative nurse researchers;
4. The development of nursing leadership programs at the local and national levels;
5. Enhancing nursing competence through certification; and
6. The creation of programs to support and increase the number of nurses and other professionals certified in hospice and palliative care.

*The Alliance for Excellence in Hospice and Palliative Nursing*, a 501c3 corporation was disbanded and the Joint Strategy Council was initiated. This Council is comprised of two representatives of each organization (HPNA, HPCC and HPNF) and the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer. The council meets quarterly, is not a decision making body, and has a purpose of aligning the work of the 3 organizations for greater impact and outcome.

## **Leadership**

### **2014 Board of Directors**

Kathie Kobler, MS, APN, PCNS-BC, CHPPN<sup>®</sup>, President  
Susan Koff, MSN, ARNP, ACHPN<sup>®</sup>, CRRN, President-Elect  
Julie Holman, LPN, CHPLN<sup>®</sup>, Secretary  
Stephen McGowan, MBA, Public Member, Treasurer  
Judy Friedrichs, MS, RN, FT, CPLC<sup>®</sup>, Director  
Julia Aucoin, DNS, RN-BC, CNE, Director  
Joyce Palmieri, MS, RN, CHPN<sup>®</sup>, Director  
Denise Stahl, MSN, RN, ACHPN<sup>®</sup>, Past-President  
Jennifer Gentry, ANP, ACHPN<sup>®</sup>, HPNA President, Ex-Officio

On September 17, 2014, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released a new report *Dying in America: Improving Quality and Honoring Individual Preferences Near the End of Life*.

This consensus report finds “that improving the quality and availability of medical and social services for patients and their families could not only enhance quality of life through the end of life, but may also contribute to a more sustainable care system.” HPCC, HPNA and HPNF released a joint message to the IOM in response to this important report.

## **Research**

The Annual Certification Recognition Event was held on March 13, 2014 during the Annual Assembly of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine/Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association in San Diego, California. Melissa Biel gave an inspiring presentation on Measuring the Impact of Certification. She provided a current overview of research completed and/or underway that has focused on improving outcomes and consumer protection through specialty nursing certification. Melissa works with the American Board of Specialty Nursing Certification (ABNS) and chairs their research committee. Dr June Lunney, PhD, RN, represents HPCC on that committee.

ABNS through the support of participating member organizations including HPCC worked with the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators (NDNQI) to study the impact of certification on patient care. The results of these studies validated known findings and served as a foundation for future work in the field.

## **Advocacy**

During the annual Certification Recognition Event, the 2014 Certificant and Employer of the year awards were presented.

Kerstin McSteen, RN, MS, ACNS-BC, ACHPN® – ACHPN® of the Year recipient  
Amanda Broyles, RN, BSN, CHPN® – CHPN® of the Year recipient  
Diane Parker, MSN, NE-BC, CHPN®, CHPPN®- CHPPN® of the Year recipient  
Ottamissiah Moore, LPN, BS, CHPLN®, WCC, CLNI – CHPLN® of the Year recipient  
Lori Yosick, LISW-S, CHPCA® – CHPCA® of the Year recipient  
Hospice of Northwest Ohio – Employer of the Year recipient

The Employer of the Year is selected from the HPCC Employer Supporter program which consists of organizations that demonstrate continuing support of hospice and palliative certification. There are 120 organizations in the program.

## **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 2014 there were over 3,500 new certificants.

<b>Number of Certificants by Program</b>	
<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Total Certificants</b>
ACHPN®	1,072
CHPN®	11,340
CHPPN®	196
CHPLN®	957
CHPNA®	3,585
CHPCA®	286
CPLC®	86

December of 2014 was the launch of a new online platform for recertification.

LearningBuilder is an easy-to-use format to record information for the HPAR (Hospice and Palliative Accrual for Recertification) application.

CHPNs have 2 options to renew certification in 2015:

- Sit for the exam in 2015 during one of the four testing windows.
- Submit a Hospice and Palliative Accrual for Recertification (HPAR) online application through LearningBuilder. HPAR is renewal through contact hours and professional development activities.

ACHPNs must use the HPAR option.

All ACHPNs and those CHPNs who choose the HPAR renewal for 2015 will use LearningBuilder rather than the former paper HPAR process. This new process allows more time for accrual of points and submission

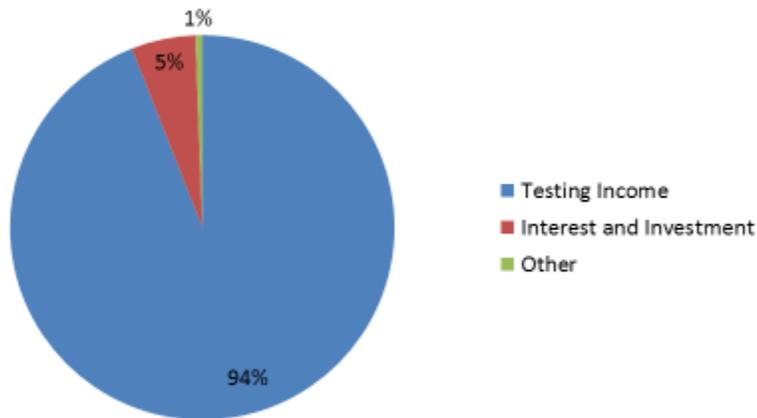
**Operational**

National Office converted to SharePoint Office product to enhance work flow.

Organizational technology implementation began in spring 2014 for the HPNA member and HPCC certificant portal development and new website.

**2014 HPCC Financials:**

Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center  
2014  
Revenue



Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center  
2014  
Expenses

