**Financial Incentives Awarded to Maryland Nurse Faculty to Promote Best Practices in Nursing Education**

Baltimore, Maryland – (May 17, 2023) – Maryland’s Higher Education Acting Secretary Dr. Sanjay Rai today announced $170,000 in awards for 34 full-time nurse faculty at 15 higher education institutions in Maryland to promote best practices in nursing education.

“As technology in the medical field becomes more advanced, programs like this are keeping Maryland nursing educators ahead of the curve by learning state-of-the-art applications and implementing best practices in the classroom,” said Acting Secretary Rai. “This in turn creates a pathway to success, positively impacting our future nurses in Maryland.”

Each of the 34 nurse faculty who received the Academic Nurse Educator Certification awards will receive $5,000 to complete the professional development and continuing education requirements to maintain their Certified Nurse Educator credential, which is a symbol of expertise in the specialty practice of nursing education.

The Maryland Higher Education Commission Nurse Support Program II provides funding for the awards, which is based on faculty who demonstrated excellence as an academic nurse educator through achieving and maintaining the National League for Nursing Certified Nurse Educator credential. The recipients were nominated by their own institutions, which included nine community colleges and six universities throughout Maryland:

● Anne Arundel Community College

● Carroll Community College

● Community College of Baltimore County

● Cecil College

● Chesapeake College

● College of Southern Maryland

● Frederick Community College

● Johns Hopkins University

● Montgomery College

● Notre Dame of Maryland University

● Prince George’s Community College

● Salisbury University

● Stevenson University

● Towson University

● University of Maryland, Baltimore

“The Certified Nurse Educator credential is an outstanding achievement for nurse faculty and demonstrates a commitment to the highest standards for nursing education,” said Dr. Laura Schenk, Nurse Support Program II Grant Administrator. “Maryland is well positioned to continue increasing the number of certified nurse educators in the state from 237 to 300 by 2025, supporting quality nursing education and student success.”

For more information on the Nurse Support Program II, go to <https://nursesupport.org/nurse-support-program-ii/grants/statewide-initiatives/-academic-nurse-educator-certification-anec-/>

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