COVID-19 has fundamentally changed the face of the health care workforce. The pandemic has strained hospitals, impacting caregivers’ well-being and resulting in many leaving their hospital jobs. The AHA has been collecting resources around three categories to assist organizations in their efforts to plan for the post-COVID workforce future: apprenticeships, team-based models of care and community partnerships.

Hospitals and health systems are trusted organizations and anchors in their communities, yet developing and sustaining a strong health care workforce cannot be achieved by these groups alone. Community partnerships, particularly those with community colleges to increase the health care workforce pipeline, are prevalent as a result of the additional strain placed on hospitals and health systems during COVID-19. The following are prime examples of how hospitals and health systems can work with other trusted community organizations to solidify the future of the health care workforce.

“GIVE HER A REASON TO STAY” CAMPAIGN

This campaign is a call to action for businesses, organizations, health care institutions and individuals to find and act on specific ways to support women in medicine due to disproportionate impacts as a result of the pandemic.

THE GLOBAL NURSING SHORTAGE AND NURSE RETENTION

This International Council of Nurses policy brief outlines the stressors, both pre- and post-COVID, as well as actions to fill the gaps in the nursing workforce.

LLCC, MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM ANNOUNCE PLANS TO ADDRESS NURSING SHORTAGE

With support from MHS, LLCC will admit 90 additional students per year to the college’s associate degree nursing program, for a total of 215 new nursing students annually.

STRENGTHENING THE ENTRY-LEVEL HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE: FINDING A PATH (HHS)

This HHS report assesses gaps in the existing health care workforce, challenges facing the entry-level health care workforce (EHCW), current EHCW training programs and contexts where they are used effectively, and potential strategies and policy opportunities to strengthen the EHCW.

NORTHERN LIGHT MAINE COAST’S SPRING COMMUNITY APPEAL LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

Maine Coast Hospital partners with Maine Community College to bolster nursing and medical assistant staff to alleviate a crucial shortage of these professionals.
IC RECEIVES MAJOR GRANT INVESTMENT IN NURSING PROGRAM

This grant will support the placement of more than 1,000 nursing professionals into future jobs in the region by enhancing the training equipment available to registered nurses, certified nursing assistants and licensed practical nurses.

ST. MARY’S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA 3+2 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

In educational collaboration with Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences, Saint Mary’s offers an accelerated five-year program for PAs.

HOW ONE SACRAMENTO HEALTH PROVIDER IS BUILDING UP THE LOCAL WORKFORCE PIPELINE

Recognizing that long-term unpaid training is a major roadblock for many new mothers in the Black community, WellSpace has unveiled the Assuring Neonatal Kinship and Health (ANKH) as a back-to-workforce pipeline to get more sister-advocates into the field and onto WellSpace’s payroll. With a grant from Bank of America, Porteus is paying for the necessary 12 months of accreditation employment for 25 women who will ideally join its prenatal and perinatal programs.