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Survey Reveal Nurses, Case Managers' Continuing Education Needs, Preferences

Huntington, NY...

Mullahy & Associates, LLC (Huntington, NY, www.mullayassociates.com), a leading provider of case management training and advisory services, recently conducted a survey of nurses, case managers and related professionals to assess their continuing education (CE) needs and preferences. The survey found a group of professionals who recognize the need for continuing education and have preferences as to how they receive their CE courses.

When asked, what their personal goals for an educational experience were, over 73% of the survey respondents expressed "to earn CE credits for their RN, SW or Case Manager Certification." When asked, what level of education would be most helpful, almost 59% said "information to maintain certification."

According to Catherine Mullahy, president of Mullahy & Associates, "It was clear to us from these and other responses in our survey, that medical professionals involved in case management realize the importance of continuing education to maintain their credentials. We found it also interesting that when it comes to investing in their continuing education, 82% of those surveyed indicated that they pay for this education."

As to how nurses and case managers preferred learning, 50% of the survey respondents selected on-site instruction or webinars as their top choices of educational format. When presented with five states as potential locations for off-site educational programs, New York earned top billing as most desirable at 41%, followed by Florida (19%), Illinois (17%), California (15%) and Texas (8%).

Perhaps the only somewhat controversial finding came in response to the question, "is some level of continuing education required or desirable for achieving a promotion or increased compensation," to which over 55% responded, "No."

"I find it a bit disarming that professionals in a field where there are so many changing influences for which they need to be prepared, from medical technologies, demographic and multicultural factors, increases in various diseases, and regulatory issues, not to mention the continued complexities of health insurance and health care reform, that there isn't a direct correlation between an individual's continuing education and their career advancement and earning potential," said Mullahy. "It would be nice to believe everyone wanted to keep their skills and knowledge current, but sometimes it's necessary to provide some incentive especially when you consider that patients' well-being is at stake."

For more information about this survey or to learn about Mullahy & Associates' continuing education programs, visit: www.mullahyassociates.com

