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**Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Board of Directors Shares 2016-2018 Strategic Plan**

CHICAGO (July 28, 2016): The Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) held a strategic Summit this spring – **The Future of Patient-Centered Rehabilitation Care** – to review existing strategy and develop the ARN 2016-2018 strategic plan.

At the Summit, ARN sought input from experts in relative fields, including: Lynn D. Burkett, MBA BSN RN ONC, The Reading Hospital and Medical Center, National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses; Anne Deutsch, PhD RN CRRN FAHA, RTI International, Northwestern University, Rehabilitation institute of Chicago; The Honorable J. Phillip Gingrey, MD; District Policy Group at Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP; Robyn Grant, MSW, The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care; Cynthia Jacelon, PhD RN-BC CRRN FGSA FAAN, University of Massachusetts School of Nursing; and Pam Roberts, PhD OT/L SCFES FAOTA CPHQ FNAP, Cedars Sinai Health System.

The Summit focused on in-depth discussions related to healthcare quality, health policy and care transitions affecting rehabilitation and rehabilitation nursing. Settings and roles represented by ARN members included academia, research, clinical practice, case management, long-term care, IRF and SNF settings, home care, administration and improvement, and private practice.

Based on the day-long Summit, followed by a two-day Strategic Planning meeting, ARN has committed to the following strategic goals for the next three years:

- 1) **Transitions of Care:** ARN will ensure the rehabilitation nurse plays an essential role in facilitating appropriate person-centered transitions across the post-acute care (PAC) continuum.
- 2) **Rehabilitation Nursing Practice:** ARN is the leader in the integration of evidence-based rehabilitation nursing interventions across the PAC continuum.

ARN already has taken the lead in its field with regard to the IMPACT Act, having hosted two out of four in a series of IMPACT Act webinars. The next webinar – *Scoring Items for Skin Conditions* – will be held August 9, at 2 pm Eastern/1 pm Central.

- 3) **Resourcing the Vision:** ARN prioritizes programs and activities to ensure resources are consistent with strategic and operational aspirations.

Hosting the Summit, prior to our Strategic Planning meeting, allowed the ARN Board of Directors and Staff to look beyond the organization to tap into trends affecting rehabilitation, as well as take stock of where the organization is to determine where we want to go and what is feasible. The ARN Board and Staff are committed to the new strategic plan and will utilize it as a blueprint to help address our most pressing challenges.

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Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN)

ARN is a professional healthcare association dedicated to promoting and advancing professional rehabilitation nursing practice through education, advocacy, collaboration, and research to enhance the quality of life for those affected by disability and chronic illness. For more information about ARN, please visit www.rehabnurse.org or call 800.229.7530.