Dear Colleague,

Marquette University College of Nursing (MUCN) received a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Grant from the Nurse Education, Practice and Retention (NEPQR) funding mechanism. The title of the grant is *Promoting Minority BSN Student Success*. This grant was designed, in part, to help meet the needs of an increasingly diverse population by providing more minority nurses representative of this diversity to provide culturally competent care. Generally, the project objectives address admission strategies that increase minority BSN student enrollment at MUCN, retention strategies that support minority BSN students to be successful and graduate, and parent-focused programming that further enhance student support.

Retention efforts will include opportunities for professional nurses to mentor our students. We believe mentoring is a valuable component to ensure the success of our students. The role of the mentor is to serve as a role model, share knowledge, provide direction, inspire, encourage, and promote professional development. The benefits of being a mentor include helping students develop leadership skills, connecting with a nursing student interested in personal growth, promoting a sense of “giving back”, and most of all having a rewarding experience that is pivotal to the effective development of future nurses.

The Project BEYOND team is inviting you to share your knowledge and expertise to help nurture and cultivate our BSN students. We are asking you to make a **minimal commitment** of one contact per month (via phone, email, or in person) with a mentee. **To become a nurse mentor, please complete the attached form.** This form is also available on the Project BEYOND website: [http://www.marquette.edu/nursing/project-beyond/documents/BEYONDmentorinformationform.pdf](http://www.marquette.edu/nursing/project-beyond/documents/BEYONDmentorinformationform.pdf). You may email **gloria.rhone@mu.edu**, fax to 414-288-1939, or mail to:

Marquette University College of Nursing  
Attn: Gloria I Rhone, MSN, RN  
P.O. Box 1881  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881

We look forward to collaborating with you on this rewarding opportunity to make a positive impact in the investment of the future generation of nurses.

Sincerely,  
The Project BEYOND Team:

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