ACES EXPRESS
ADVANCING CARE EXCELLENCE FOR SENIORS

Strategic Partner Toolkit
Become a Strategic Partner

Approximately 50 percent of patients in both hospital and ambulatory care settings are over 65 years of age and more than 90 percent of residents in nursing homes are seniors. Older adults are the core business of health care and represent more and more of the population.

In January 2015, the NLN launched ACESXPRESS, a year-long digital campaign composed of new free ACE.S resources. Developed to deliver concise implementation strategies and opportunities for peer-to-peer communication and collaboration to address challenges and implement best practices in gerontology, ACESXPRESS provides a unique opportunity to engage nurse educators in a rich ongoing discussion about the state of geriatric care. Using our collective experiences, the NLN and its stakeholders can foster a community that implements improved care practices within the specialty and across the nation.

Ways to Participate as a Strategic Partner

- Publicize your partnership with the NLN by posting a co-branded campaign icon on your website. The NLN will return the gesture by posting your organization’s logo, website address, and boilerplate on the campaign microsite.

- Access the ACESXPRESS Social Media Toolkit for easy ways to implement campaign promotions into your organizations existing social media marketing plan.

- Access the ACESXPRESS Communications Toolkit for press release, email messaging, and other social media post templates.

- Rally your colleagues and students to participate in any of the five upcoming ACESXPRESS Twitter Chats.

- Contact the NLN to request co-branded advertisements to be utilized on your website, in your organization’s digital marketing collateral, and/or on your social media accounts.
A Brief ACE.S Overview

Since its launch in 2011, a diverse pool of educators, caregivers, and health care workers have accessed the National League for Nursing’s Advancing Care Excellence for Seniors (ACE.S) free geriatric resources. The ACE.S project emphasizes coordinating care during significant life transitions for older adults, which is fundamental to providing competent, individualized, and humanistic care.

With ACE.S, the teacher and student use evolving evidence-based geriatric knowledge, technology, and best practices to encourage a spirit of inquiry and provide competent care for the older adult. ACE.S is an important step in assisting students and faculty to use nursing judgment and situational decision making to observe, interpret, respond, and reflect based on the nurse’s knowledge and the older adult or caregiver’s expectations.

The three-year ACE.S grant, funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation, is a collaborative effort between the National League for Nursing and Community College of Philadelphia (CCP); Laerdal Medical Corporation provides support to develop simulations and unfolding case studies. ACE.S also received funding from the Independence Foundation of Philadelphia, CCP’s local funding partner. The Hearst Foundations has provided funding to disseminate ACE.S across the academic spectrum.

Learn more about ACE.S funders

Highlights

- Since 2011, 28 ACE.S workshops have been held across the United States; workshop attendees represent more than 2000 faculty from 48 states in 735 nursing programs.

- Due to its adaptable nature, the ACE.S framework was leveraged in 2013-2014 to secure funding for the development of Advancing Care Excellence for Veterans (ACE.V) and Advancing Care Excellence for Alzheimer’s Patients (ACE.Z).

- The National League for Nursing has awarded nine NLN Hearst Foundations Excellence in Geriatric Education Awards to recognize schools of nursing that demonstrate exceptional instruction and innovation in this key area of nursing education.

- With the support of our corporate partners, Laerdal Medical and Wolters Kluwer Health, the ACE.S Unfolding Case Scenarios were adapted to develop vSim for Nursing Gerontology. This series has been designed to simulate real nursing scenarios and to develop clinical decision-making skills, competence, and confidence in nursing students.
Testimonial

Putting ACE.S to Work at Mira Costa College
Sue Simpson, professor of nursing and health education at Mira Costa College in San Diego, uses the ACE.S model in her gerontology course. She wove the lessons she learned at a 2012 workshop into the curriculum to create a more realistic course on geriatric nursing. A key element was crafting composite patients with specific ailments who were then recorded by volunteers from the college’s music and theater department. The audios “gave personality and a basis for discussion” for the students in the classroom. Simpson and her colleagues created their own ACE.S-modeled case study, the story of Mr. Oshi.

Mr. Oshi is a first-generation Japanese patient scenario with detailed cultural issues, family dynamics, and health issues. The music department recorded Mr. Oshi’s voice and a student actor (comes in to play Mr. Oshi’s son. Simpson uses audio, visual, virtual, and live simulations to help students “take knowledge and apply it.”

Students speak highly of the experience:

“When I encounter geriatric patients in my clinical experiences, the voices of Henry Williams and Mr. Oshi resonate in my head. I am attentive and sensitized to the geriatric population’s unanticipated changes in health, caregiver roles, family dynamics, comorbidities, cultural considerations, and financial concerns. Overall, I believe I am a better nurse because of your efforts to integrate these simulation scenarios into our curriculum.”

Michelle Grabel, RN, Class of 2013

“I thoroughly enjoyed the audio series utilized in lecture. Because our class was structured in such a way that we were working through case studies as part of our lecture, the audios made this process come alive. I find I learn better when I can identify a condition with a patient that I have had, and in a way the audios provided that patient for me. One of them made me cry.”

Shannon Shoemaker RN, Class 2013
Contact an NLN Representative
For more information about the ACESXPRESS campaign and becoming a strategic partner, contact:

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About the National League for Nursing
Dedicated to excellence in nursing, the National League for Nursing is the premier organization for nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education. The NLN offers professional development, networking opportunities, testing services, nursing research grants, and public policy initiatives to its 40,000 individual and 1,200 institutional members. NLN members represent nursing education programs across the spectrum of higher education, and health care organizations and agencies.

For more information, visit: http://www.nln.org

About the Hearst Foundations
The Hearst Foundations are national philanthropic resources for organizations working in the fields of culture, education, health, and social services. The Hearst Foundations identify and fund outstanding nonprofits to ensure that people of all backgrounds in the United States have the opportunity to build healthy, productive, and inspiring lives.

For more information, visit: http://www.hearstfdn.org/.