

**As Reported in the Mass Senior Care E-News Update: December 22, 2011**

**Health Care Professionals from Across Settings Attend Care Transitions Education Project Kickoff Meeting**



As reported earlier this year, the Massachusetts Senior Care Foundation was chosen as one of eleven foundations nationwide to receive funding from Partners Investing in Nursing's Future (PIN) for its Care Transitions Education Project (CTEP), an initiative to equip more nurses to lead and improve care transitions across care settings. On Wednesday, December 14th over 100 nurses across care settings and academia convened in Holyoke for the CTEP kickoff meeting. The meeting built on last year's Care Transitions Symposium, where professionals from across the health care continuum addressed the challenges of care transitions, and introduced how CTEP incorporates the themes and ideas from the Symposium. *Pictured above,*

*CTEP Coordinators Kelly Aiken, Laurie Herndon and Carolyn Blanks.*

After welcoming remarks by Massachusetts Senior Care Foundation Executive Director **Carolyn Blanks**, **Laurie Herndon**, Director of Quality at the Foundation, spoke about the vision of the Massachusetts Strategic Plan For Care Transitions and stressed that the success of Massachusetts' landmark efforts to reform the health insurance and payment systems are dependent on treating patients across the continuum of care seamlessly and effectively. Herndon reviewed other effective Massachusetts care transitions initiatives, but indicated that statewide results throughout the healthcare profession will require a transformational change in practice and education. *Pictured above right, attendees identify which part of the Care Transitions Infrastructure they represent.*



**Kelly Aiken**, CTEP Project Director and Director of the Regional Employment Board of Hampden County, then presented an overview of the Care Transitions Project. CTEP is a three year grant designed to contribute to regional and state efforts to reduce hospital readmissions, enhance the quality of patient-centered care and reduce overall health care costs through improving care transitions. The first year of the project will focus on the development of a standard care transitions curriculum to pilot and evaluate on a regional basis and then disseminate statewide.



An interactive session was led by **Kathleen Scoble**, Director and Chair of the Division of Nursing at Elms College, and **Jena Adams**, Care Transition's Education Project Coordinator. Individual groups, comprised of professionals from different health care settings, focused on a different skill (such as teamwork) and perspective (such as patient/family member) and worked to identify the most important attitudes to ensure effective transitions and any attitudes that might prove to be an obstacle. Project leaders will review and use the information as they develop the CTEP curriculum.

For more Information contact [Kelly Aiken](#).