

Presidential Call to Action 2015-2017

Influence to Advance Global Health & Nursing



Sigma Theta Tau International
Honor Society of Nursing®

INFLUENCE TO ADVANCE GLOBAL HEALTH AND NURSING

The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) represents nurses, the single largest group of healthcare professionals in the world. The World Health Organization estimates that there are 19.3 million nurses and midwives woven into every element of healthcare worldwide. Now is the time for nurses to leverage our expertise to influence the health of the world's people and to advance the profession through advocacy, policy, philanthropy, and lifelong learning.



Influence through Advocacy

As advocates, nurses achieve positive outcomes for those we serve. The need has never been greater for the voice of the nurse to be heard. Through the use of knowledge, expertise, and relationships, nurses advocate for and lead change to improve global health. Across all settings, professional practice roles, and cultures, nurses are uniquely positioned to advocate for the rights, health, and safety of populations they serve and to advance the profession worldwide.

Develop Advocacy Expertise

- Know the wisdom you bring to the advocate role through your expertise, strengths, values, and experience.
- Partner with an advocacy mentor to advance your skills.
- Use advocacy tools and training resources.

Engage in Advocacy

- Engage in advocacy in areas of need that align with your professional and personal interests.
- Engage in interprofessional collaboration to improve health at the local, regional, national, and international levels.
- Disseminate materials focused on world health days to foster engagement in health initiatives (examples include Earth Day, World TB Day, World Health Day, World No Tobacco Day, and World Asthma Day).

Foster Advocacy Partnerships

- Serve in elected/appointed positions in practice/academic settings to advocate for the profession, and on community and not-for-profit boards focused on health issues.
- Promote involvement with advocacy groups that serve target populations (for example, UNICEF, March of Dimes, and the Alzheimer's Association).
- Lead health impact assessments in your environment and advocate for system improvement opportunities.

Influence through Policy

Nurses in every setting must embrace our responsibility to engage in shaping policy. Health policy impacts how decisions are made and resources are allocated in every aspect of healthcare and the communities we serve. STTI calls on its 135,00 members to contribute their leadership, scholarship, and research expertise to advance health policy.

Engage in Policy Initiatives

- Embrace opportunities to create, influence, evaluate, and change health policy within your practice environment, professional organizations, health associations, and community.
- Cultivate relationships with stakeholders in advancing a policy agenda.
- Apply current evidence and patient testimonies to develop policy messages that inform legislators, ministers of health, and the public (for example, white papers, position statements, and personal correspondence).
- Use technology resources to influence ministers of health, legislators, and policy-shapers (for example, e-advocacy, social media, blogs, and online networks).
- Offer testimony for public hearings at the local, regional, national, and international levels that address health issues.

Lead Policy Change

- Serve in leadership roles in organizations that develop, direct and implement health policies. Seek appointment to boards, commissions, and health departments to address local health needs.
- Review policy-related documents via Sigma Theta Tau International and the Virginia Henderson Global Nursing e-Repository.
www.nursinglibrary.org
- Engage in local policy initiatives related to the Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing (GAPFON). www.gapfon.org
- Stay informed about STTI's global leadership initiatives, including our involvement with the United Nations (U.N.).
- Participate in activities that advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals
- Recognize and celebrate the influence of professional nurses in leading policy change.

Influence through Philanthropy

Volunteering and charitable donations will advance and sustain STTI leadership and research resources for nurses improving the health of the world's people. Our commitment to global health is realized as we serve populations in more than 90 countries. Through sharing our stories and inspiring those whom we have served, we can influence philanthropy to fulfill our mission.

Contribute Time and Talent

- Volunteer to mentor the next generation of nurse leaders.
- Continue the tradition of celebrating STTI's annual Founders Day (5 October) with 90 minutes service as a volunteer at organizations that align with your passion.
- Engage in community health service projects and chapter membership events.

Generate Charitable Donations

- Commit to an annual donation to the to the Sigma Theta Tau International Foundation for Nursing.
 - The Future Fund helps to make possible new STTI initiatives, such as the Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing.
 - The Leadership Fund provides membership subsidies to new inductees or members from around the world seeking financial assistance for their dues.
 - The Research Fund helps to increase research grant funding.
- Embrace the STTI Foundation's Chapter Giving Club by encouraging your chapter to donate \$1.00 per Member annually.
- Advocate on behalf of the STTI mission.
 - Share how you benefit professionally from your chapter and international involvement with STTI.
- Encourage colleagues, family, friends and others to make a charitable donation to the STTI Foundation in your honor.
 - Honor a mentor or mentee with a donation on the occasion of International Nurses Day or Founders Day.
 - Celebrate a chapter leader or influential member by making a Chapter Giving Club gift in that person's honor.

Influence through Lifelong Learning

Dynamic lifelong learning leads to advancement in nursing practice. As we build upon our capacities as professional nurses, we influence the transformation of global health. Conducting a positive inventory of strengths and opportunities for continued development and advancement enhances our scholarship, leadership, and service. STTI supports every member's lifelong learning by offering resources and engagement with Society initiatives.

Develop Personally and Professionally

- Practice lifelong learning.
- Engage in appreciative inquiry to assess learning opportunities.
- Pursue learning experiences to optimize your professional influence.
- Map your career path to identify and achieve long-term professional goals.
- Integrate personal wellness into your work-life balance and professional endeavors.
- Pursue advanced education and certifications to optimize your value and contributions to global health.

Use STTI Resources

- Take advantage of online continuing education offerings.
- Use the STTI Career Center as an online resource or for in-person mentoring opportunities at STTI events.
- Engage in STTI/Chamberlain College of Nursing Center for Excellence in Nursing Education (CENE) initiatives.
- Participate in the STTI Leadership Academies and Institutes.



Please join me in embracing the 2015-2017 Presidential Call to Action and expanding STTI's influence through advocacy, policy, philanthropy, and lifelong learning.

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