## **RN-BSN: CCNE Accreditation for Homestead Schools**



Homestead Schools in Torrance has been offering RN-to-BSN Completion program as part of post-licensure educational pathway for nurses for the past 3 years. The landmark Institute of Medicine (IOM) study, "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health" recommends that nurses must achieve higher levels of education and training "through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression." Although the report encourages nurses, regardless of their initial preparation, to continue their

education throughout the course of their careers, one of the important goals of this report is to have 80% of nurses prepared with at least a BSN degree by 2020.

According to a 2008 HRSA report, only 50% of nurses hold a BSN or higher and only 16% of all nurses return to school for further schooling beyond their initial education.

To attempt to reach the goal set by the IOM report, nurse educators must not only produce more nurses entering into practice, but also encourage those prepared at the associate degree/diploma level to return to school sooner and in greater numbers than ever before. Several recent studies have identified barriers, such as lack of time for studying, the pressure of family obligations, the unavailability of a seamless transition from one program to another, and few incentives from employers as reasons they do not return to school. However, encouraged by the IOM report, employers are increasingly providing positive and negative incentives for ADN/diploma-prepared nurses to return to school, ranging from educational benefits for employees to preferential hiring for new BSN graduates. (For further information, see RN-to-BSN Education: The Imperative for Rapid Change by Susan Sportman, PhD, RN, ANEF, Director, Academic Consulting Group.)

Recently the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) granted accreditation to the baccalaureate degree program in nursing at Homestead Schools, Inc. for 3 years, extending to December 31, 2020. The accreditation action is effective as of February 27, 2017.

Many RNs out of inertia keep putting off taking this important step to advance their careers. Without an advanced degree they're more likely to be passed over for promotion or denied plum assignments. Do not let this happen to you. We've an easy, convenient class schedule that lets you work around your job hours. Every one of the RNs who has graduated from our program has come back and told us how quickly the year passed and how much happier they are that they decided to join the program.

So call today. (310) 791-9975. Speak to George Dayrit, our admissions officer, to make an appointment to visit the campus and meet with our director of nursing. Homestead Schools is located at 23800 Hawthorne Blvd., Ste 200, Torrance, Calif.