

Ways To Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Breakthrough to Nursing

Establish a Breakthrough to Nursing Committee at your school or state chapter.

Focus chapter programs on recruitment of underrepresented populations in nursing — invite nurse speakers from these groups to address students and faculty.

Work with your school or state Image of Nursing Committee to promote a positive image of the nursing profession to the public.

BTN chairpersons can meet during the annual NSNA convention or the MidYear Conference to share activities and ideas. Time is set aside at both meetings for this purpose.

Organize a state or chapter level contest for BTN.

Plan for your BTN project to continue from year to year.

Write junior and senior high school principals and counselors to inform them of the nature, purpose and goals of the BTN project; propose a role that each school may play in implementing the project.

Offer involvement in high school career days.

Encourage nursing students to write letters to their high school guidance counselors letting them know how much they are learning

in nursing school, and that they are available as resources to potential nursing students.

Update guidance counselors about nursing and requirements for entrance into nursing school.

Arrange to be placed on the agenda at a guidance counselor association meeting, and show the BTN video as part of your presentation.

Explore ways that school nurses can become involved in BTN.

Organize with local hospitals and community nursing agencies to have a career day for junior and high school students.

Organize a BTN fundraiser to provide funds for tutoring students with academic needs.

Focus on retention as well as recruitment of students, and establish study and peer support groups.

Encourage minority students to get involved in BTN projects and to serve as role models and mentors for other students.

Think of creative ways to recruit "second-career" individuals into nursing and to increase the involvement of community agencies, clinics, and hospitals in the BTN project. ☺