

SUN Patients and Families First Challenge

Purpose

In response to the call for a more caring, better coordinated health care system that emerged from the Government of Saskatchewan's recent Patient First Review, SUN's Patients and Families First Initiative was created. According to SUN President Rosalee Longmoore, *"Nurses put patients first – that's what we're here for. We also know the system often fails patients. SUN's Patients and Families First Initiative is designed to support nurses, patients, and members of the public who are trying to change the system. Our goal is to take the ideas of our members and patients and implement them to improve service and deliver the best possible care in a way that patients want and need."* Along with the SUN Patients and Families First Initiative, a Patients and Families First Team was formed, which involved dedicating a senior Director, Professional Practice Officers, a Research and Policy Analyst, and administrative support, to the aim of supporting registered nurses and their efforts to improve patient outcomes and monitor patient safety.

As part of the Patients and Families First Initiative, SUN is launching the "Patients and Families First Challenge." The purpose of the "Patients and Families First Challenge" is to encourage and support patients, members of the public, patient advocacy groups, and SUN members in developing and testing sustainable innovations that will improve patient-centred care. This Challenge addresses the need to give a voice to patients and empower frontline nurses to optimize quality care by inviting proposals from patients, members of the public, patient advocacy groups, and SUN members to develop their ideas for improving patient-centred care in Saskatchewan.

What's Included

The SUN Patients and Families First Challenge is designed to stimulate the creation of innovative patient-centred health care services, use of technology, interventions, etc. This applies to all areas of health care delivery and nursing practice, including chronic disease management, health promotion, accident or illness prevention, patient safety, or other "Patients and Families First Innovations" that improve access, service, or quality of patient care or health services. There are two awards - one for patients, members of the public, and patient advocacy groups - and one for SUN members and SUN member-led nursing groups. Both awards will be judged based on patient-centredness, spreadability, sustainability, impact, degree of collaboration achieved, and originality.

Patient-centred care is broadly defined as: high quality health care services that are driven by the best interests of patients and families. This must be the core value for all aspects of care planning and delivery.

Eligibility

There are two awards - one for patients, members of the public, and patient advocacy groups - and one for SUN members and SUN member-led nursing groups. Any Saskatchewan patient or resident may apply for the “patient” award, and any SUN member may apply for the “SUN member” award.

(Exclusions include: SUN staff members, SUN Board of Directors, the external advisory committee, and immediate family members of the previous groups).

Application Process

Applications for the SUN Patients and Families First Challenge must be submitted on or before February 28, 2011 using the SUN Patients and Families First Challenge Application Form. In order to successfully qualify, all required sections of the form must be completed in full. Be sure to provide a clear and detailed account of the innovation within the space provided on the form; this can be handwritten and mailed in, or submitted electronically. If assistance is required in the application process, or at any other stage of the Challenge, please contact: Kathe Lerner, (306) 525-1666.

Submit applications to: Kathe Lerner at: kathe.lerner@sun-nurses.sk.ca or mail to:

Kathe Lerner, Patients and Families First Team
Saskatchewan Union of Nurses
2330 2nd Avenue
Regina, SK S4R 1A6

Assessment Process

Assessment of applications will be conducted by an external advisory committee including representatives from the public, patients, patient advisory groups, nursing associations and academics, and Health Quality Council. Once the closing date is met, applications will be scored in accordance with the judging criteria and a list of the 10 most successful applicants will be released. These 10 ideas will be presented at an ‘Innovation Conference’ sponsored by SUN and its collaborators.



Patients and Families First Challenge Application Form

Please check one category:

\$10,000 Award - Patient/member of the public/patient advocacy group

\$10,000 Award - SUN member/SUN member-led nursing group

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Phone Number (Home): _____ (Work/Other): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Location or community where innovation is being implemented: _____

Note: This award is limited to Saskatchewan residents.

DESCRIPTION OF IDEA/INNOVATION

The award will be judged according to the following criteria: Patient-Centredness – 10%, Originality – 10%, Collaboration – 20%, Impact – 20%, Spreadability – 20%, Sustainability – 20%.

This form must be used to submit your idea or innovation.

Provide a brief description of the idea or innovation.

Describe how the idea or innovation will contribute to advancing patient-centred care.

Detail the process used to test the idea or innovation and the outcome. If testing is impractical, detail the process that could be used for testing.

Describe how the idea or innovation may be made sustainable and spreadable.

List those who would share the award (the award may be shared with other health providers or patients).

Note: All innovations that will undergo testing must be tested and independently verified between December 9, 2009 and February 28, 2011. Please contact SUN's Patients and Families First Team for more information.

Terms and Conditions

If you are selected as a contest winner, you agree that SUN may publicize your name, likeness and a description of the work you did to win the contest. This information/material may be used for commercials, speaking engagements, publication in SUN's newsletter (SUNSpots) and other printed materials, as well as in presentations,

videos, PowerPoints and on SUN's web site. Apart from the prize associated with being selected as a winner, SUN shall not be obligated to compensate you in any way for use of the information/material and/or for such publicity.

Two \$10,000 cash prizes will be awarded. If one of the winning entries is submitted by more than one individual, the \$10,000 cash prize will be divided among the participants who submit the winning entry (as named on the original entry form). In addition, SUN shall provide each member of the winning team (as named on the original entry form) all necessary travel expenses associated with attending the Patients and Families First Conference, to be held in the Spring of 2011. As a condition of receiving any cash prize, the winners will be required (unless, in SUN's opinion, extenuating circumstances exist) to attend the Patients and Families First Conference, to participate in a media conference, and to be available for interviews after accepting their awards.

I agree to the terms and conditions as outlined:

Signed _____ (signature)

_____ (printed name)

Dated _____

Deadline for applications is February 28, 2011.

