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Nine Kaiser Permanente staff members complete Pathways to LVN Program in Fontana

Nine Fontana area Kaiser Permanente staff members recently became Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) when they completed the Pathways to LVN Program.

The program, a partnership between Kaiser Permanente, San Bernardino County Workforce Investment Board and Chaffey Community College, is an 18-month curriculum that provides an educational opportunity for qualified Medical Assistants to become Licensed Vocational Nurses.

A graduation was held in their honor on Jan. 30 at the Kaiser Permanente Palm Court facility in Fontana. Rep. Gloria Negrete-McLeod spoke at the event, as did San Bernardino County Supervisor Gary Ovitt. Representatives for a number of other elected officials were also on hand to present the graduates with certificates.

In January of 2010, the Kaiser Permanente Fontana Medical Center partnered with the San Bernardino County Workforce Investment Board and Chaffey Community College to start the first Pathways to LVN Program in the county. Since then, six classes of Kaiser Permanente employees have completed the program. The program is an 18-month/three-semester curriculum that provides an educational opportunity for qualified Medical Assistants to become Licensed Vocational Nurses. The program targets employees who live in the county.

LVNs play a vital role in the outpatient primary care setting. Together, the Provider, RN, LVN and Medical Assistant team enhance the delivery of care to Kaiser members. The role of the LVN is to perform technical tasks such as medication administration and wound care. The LVN's licensed scope of practice will also allow them to cosign MD orders, manage patient messages, and further participate in Kaiser Permanente's clinical goals and initiatives



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