



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Health Alliance and Northern Kentucky University
Address Cincinnati's Nursing Shortage**

Cincinnati--The Health Alliance has contributed \$100,000 in salary support for Northern Kentucky University's School of Nursing. This is in addition to the \$50,000 they contributed during the previous school year and is part of a two-year partnership intended to increase the supply of nurses in the Cincinnati area. The goal is to increase enrollment of new nursing students at NKU to 125 to 130 students by September 2002.

Other highlights of the partnership include:

- scholarships that require recipients to work in Health Alliance hospitals upon graduation
- tutoring program for first-year students to increase retention
- access to hospital training classrooms for skills laboratory teaching.

Bob Griffith, senior vice president of human resources for the Health Alliance, said, "We believe our partnership with NKU will bring positive changes to our community by increasing the number of nurses caring for local patients." Margaret Anderson, chair of NKU's Department of Nursing, sees the arrangement as a benefit for both organizations. She said, "The money we receive will allow us to hire full-time clinical teaching staff, develop the tutoring program and develop new clinical placements for our students. The Health Alliance will benefit by making scholarships available to students who commit to the Health Alliance as their place of employment."

The Health Alliance has developed partnerships with other local schools with nursing/health care programs including: The Christ Hospital School of Nursing, The University of Cincinnati School of Nursing, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, and more.

The Health Alliance is an integrated health care delivery system that includes The Christ Hospital, The University Hospital, The St. Luke Hospitals, The Jewish Hospital, The Fort Hamilton Hospital and the physicians of Alliance Primary Care.