Strategies for Recruiting and Retaining Nursing Talent



Covid Impact

- COVID-19 raised stress levels for recruiters
- Candidates faced with the fear and stress

Covid Statistics

- Healthcare recruiters stress increased 75%
- 52.4% of candidates inquire about COVID-19 safety measures
- Candidates with families want accommodations/flexibility

Shortage of Healthcare Workers in the U.S.

The shortage concern is not new:

- By 2025, shortage of 400,000 home health aides
- By 2025, shortage of 29,400 nurse practitioners
- By 2025, shortage in other healthcare professions
- Baby Boomer generation requiring more medical care
- People are living longer

Additional Reasons

- 1/3 of RNs retiring in 10 to 15 years
- The 65+ population will increase 48% by 2032
- Physicians reaching retirement age w/Baby Boomers
- Doctors and nurses are freelancing
- 57% of workers applying to new jobs

Consequences of Healthcare Worker Shortage

- Rural areas have more healthcare shortages
- Healthcare workers need extensive training/specific qualifications
- Negative patient experiences
- Poor HCAHPS scores
- Overall decrease in quality of care

Nurse Shortage

- High demand for BSNs
- Demand for nurses keeps increasing
- Need 200,000 new nurses a year
- More nurses needed in acute care areas
- Nurses move to specialized areas rather than primary care

Strategies for Restoring the Healthcare Workforce

- Promote public health and preventative measures
- Attract more nurses to primary care roles
- Provide online healthcare degrees and certificates
- Increasing policy initiatives supporting HR development
- Collecting reliable data for health databases
- Increase healthcare workers voice on legislation/policies

Bad Hiring Decisions ———— 80% Turnover

Harvard Business Review

- High employee turnover = Company devastation
- Bad hire cost replacement = 30% of a singular annual salary
- Bad hire can be as high as...
 - 2-5X a singular employee's annual salary

Employee Engagement Questions

- Is employee engagement effective?
- Best way to increase employee engagement?
- Should we focus on pre/post hiring?

What Makes a Candidate Likely to Stay?

- Candidates personal experiences influence on retention?
- Can proper screening help w/employee retention?
- Should recruiters focus on quality hires?

Possible Interview Questions

- Why did you apply for this position?
- How satisfied are you with...
 your career right now, and why?
- Explain a time you experienced burn-out.
- What caused the burnout?
 How did you handle it?
- What are the...

largest sacrifices you have made thus far for your career?

Possible Interview Questions

- How important is your career to you?
 Has that impacted your decisions thus far?
- Name [3] main reasons for leaving a former job?
- What are your strengths?

Tracking Results/Analytics

- Ex: Superb performer, but leaves in <1 month
- Data is your greatest ally
- Reducing turnover must be deliberate
- Must collect data as you go
- Analytics are worth the cost

Recruitment Marketing/DEI

- Digital marketing increase = Recruitment marketing increase
- Technology continues to change the game
- Recruiters must stay agile
- Healthcare recruiters must increase diversity

Talent Acquisition/Human Resources

- Constantly improve employer branding via social recruiting
- Increase employer branding on social media platforms
- Create engaging campaigns to increase recruitment/attract applicants
- Look at current applicant tracking system
- Ensure application forms are easy to use
- Ensure job descriptions are top notch

Talent Acquisition/Human Resources

- Utilize employee referral programs
- Make a great first impression during interview process/shadowing
- Improve interviewing process
- Communicate constantly with candidate(s)
- Constantly improve the onboarding process
- Get and receive feedback

Internal Mobility

- Talent Management
- Is there a succession plan?
- Internal job postings
- Company newsletter
- **■** Emails

The Good News

■ By 2024...

healthcare industry to add 3.8 million new jobs

■ That's nearly 40% of all job growth!

Hartford Healthcare

- Constantly promoting company statement and culture
- Highlighting nursing professional development
- Yearly review of... benefits and employment engagement programs
- Yearly compensation reviews