

AACN's

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Your Inside Track to Federal Policy



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AACN Proud Supporter of the NINR Science of Caregiving Summit

On August 7-8, AACN attended *The Science of Caregiving: Bringing Voices Together* Summit, hosted by the [National Institute of Nursing Research](#) (NINR) and its [partners](#). The Summit convened five plenary sessions featuring perspectives across the spectrum of caregiving, from experts in research, advocacy, clinician, education, and caregiver communities.



Panelists discussed the importance of educating nurses to work with caregivers, developing research that drives policy, and integrating caregivers into the health system. [Judy Woodruff](#), Anchor and Managing Editor of PBS NewsHour, gave a compelling keynote speech on her role as a caregiver for her son, who was born with spina bifida. She spoke of her family's dependence on the nurses who assisted her son and called for the country to "do a better job in appreciation for caregivers."



As various acute and chronic conditions increase with our aging society, the need for caregiving services continues to put high demands on family members, which are providing more than 90 percent of long-term care for older adults. AACN recognizes that primary caregiving often falls to family members, and nurses are the unifying bridge in care coordination. The association continues to advocate for nursing practice, research, and education that supports person- and family-centered care.



Senate Confirms Slate of HHS Nominees

On August 3, the Senate confirmed several Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nominees before leaving Washington for August recess. Following the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee's approval of five appointments, the full Senate [confirmed](#) [Jerome Adams, MD, MPH](#), to serve as Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, [Lance Allen Robertson, MPA](#), to serve as Assistant Secretary for Aging, [Robert Kadlec, MD, MS](#), to serve as Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and [Elinore F. McCance-Katz, MD, PhD](#), to serve as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use. [Brett Giroir, MD](#), nominated to serve as Assistant Secretary for Health, has yet to be confirmed.



2018 Student Policy Summit Registration and Sponsorship Opportunities

Registration for the 2018 AACN Student Policy Summit (March 25-27) will open on **October 11, 2017**. The Summit is a three-day conference held in Washington, D.C. and is open to 200 baccalaureate and graduate nursing students enrolled at an AACN member institution. Students attending the Summit will learn from policy experts in nursing and healthcare about nursing's role in professional advocacy. Detailed information regarding [sponsorship opportunities](#) is available online. For more information, visit the [Summit's website](#), which will be regularly updated.

