



# 2026 Opportunity & Impact in Nursing Summit



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**Strengthening Legal and Organizational Response  
Pathways for Healthcare Workers Experiencing  
Workplace Violence: A Collaborative Model Between  
Nurses and Commonwealth's Attorneys**

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## Workplace Violence in Healthcare Settings

**5x**

5-12x more likely to become victims. [8]

**60%**

Up to 60% of victims don't report, with the highest under-reporting among those who identify as gendered, ethnic, or religious minoritized groups. [3,4]

**175%**

There is a 175% rise in workplace violence with the highest concentrations in psychiatric or skilled nursing facilities. [1,5,8]

**\$18.27  
Billion**

Workplace violence in the healthcare setting is costing \$18.27 Billion. [1,8]

# Its not just about safety, it's a matter of life and death

- 34% of violent deaths among healthcare teams were homicide, but 52% we victims of suicide. [1]
- In 2020 Davidson et al., showed that cumulative trauma and lack of support increase suicide risk among nurses. [6]
- A 2023 Lancet Public Health Study found that workplace violence isn't just a safety issue, it increases the risk of suicide later in life [7]





Prevention is important  
but protection after an  
incident is what shapes  
long-term safety



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# Steps to Safety

- Build real alliances with local officials and Commonwealth's Attorneys because safety requires a system, not a silo.
- Design response pathways that reduce cognitive load because after violence, victims don't have the executive function to get help (this may be why so many go back to the floor, that is rote memory)
- Disseminating the knowledge widely because safety shouldn't depend on how much practice environment can afford.
- Normalizing and promoting the importance of the reporting process.
- Data isn't the goal. Insight is. Numbers only matter when they change what we do next.



# Strategic Collaborations

- Share the information about workplace violence in healthcare settings.
- Educational Opportunities
- White Paper
- Educations/Simulations
- Data Collection and Dissemination



# We strive for SAFETY



- S – Secure the scene
- A – Alert leadership
- F – Full physical & mental scan
- E – Engage with support
- T – Tell your story (Report)
- Y – Your resources for aftercare (3-5 days later)



# SAFETY is everyone's right

Make the Connections

Teach your legislators

Empower your teams

Use the data

Dissemination

Free & in the public domain  
Professional Organizations  
Healthcare Facilities, Clinics,  
Schools and Agencies

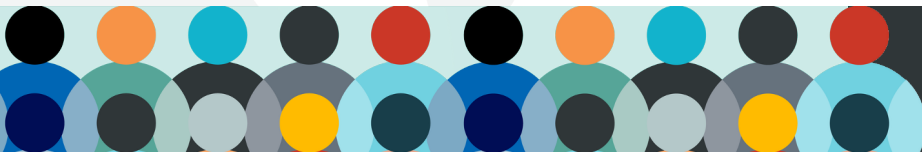


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# Thank You!

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