FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Pennsylvania school nurses gather at LCTI for conference
More than 200 nurses expected to attend annual event

SCHNECKSVILLE, Pa. | Hundreds of school nurses from across Pennsylvania are gathering this week at Lehigh Career & Technical Institute for an annual conference.

Voices of School Health VI is scheduled 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. both Monday, Aug. 11, and Tuesday, Aug. 12. Workshops are planned 8:15-11:45 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday then 8-11:30 a.m. and 12:15-3:15 p.m. Wednesday.

This marks the sixth year that the Lehigh County School Nurses Advisory Board has put on Voices of School Health at LCTI. Organizer Donna Tercha said 236 school nurses—about 70 more than last year—registered for the event.

It’s the first time the conference has drawn more than 200 participants. “They keep coming back,” she said. “It’s been very successful.”

Most attendees hail from Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton and other eastern Pennsylvania school districts, but some are coming in from central Pennsylvania, Tercha said. “We’re drawing people from the Camp Hill and Shenandoah Valley school districts,” she said.

Tercha, who serves as a Catasauqua Area School District nurse, attributes the conference’s growing popularity to three things: relevant workshop topics paired with knowledgeable presenters, a scarcity of comparable events in the commonwealth and reasonable registration rates.

This year’s workshop topics include suicide prevention, heroin abuse prevention, concussion management and EpiPen training. Slated to speak are Chris Ferry and Jason Savenelli, of KidsPeace, Lisa Fiore and Lisa Wolff, of Center for Humanistic Change, James Reidy, of Northampton Community College and Beth Anne Bahn, of the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

The epinephrine auto-injector training and certification, to be led by Bahn, is especially popular this year because of a new law governing the storage and use of EpiPens in Keystone State schools, Tercha said.

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“She’s very well respected in our field,” Tercha said of Bahn. “She tells us all of the things that are new for school nursing this year; everything we need to know. She’s a big draw for us.”

NOTE: Please contact Precious Petty if you are a member of the media interested in attending the conference. Interviews with Donna Tercha, other event organizers or presenters can be arranged.

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About Lehigh Career & Technical Institute

Lehigh Career & Technical Institute is Pennsylvania’s largest career and technical school. Founded in 1971, LCTI each year provides more than 45 skills-based programs of study, as well as academic instruction for about 2,700 students from 10 of Lehigh County’s public high schools. LCTI also offers industry-relevant training and credentials for adults working in the Lehigh Valley and beyond. The school’s state-of-the-art facilities encompass 450,000 square feet on a 47-acre campus in the Schnecksville section of North Whitehall Township. Visit lcti.org for more information about LCTI.