

For Immediate Release

Samueli Institute Signs On To World-Wide Health Initiative

Alexandria, VA —June 11, 2007—The Samueli Institute, today, joined signatories from more than 40 nations, across all 6 continents in supporting the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health (NIGH). The NIGH is proposing two United Nations Resolutions for an “International Year of the Nurse” [2010] and a “UN Decade for a Healthy World” [2011-2020].

“Nurses, in their role as patient advocates are experts on the shortcomings of a cure-focused health care system and natural innovators as a result. As the predominant workforce in our hospitals and communities, they continue to have a tremendous influence on quality of life issues that affect patients and families, on workplace wellness strategies and on other health promoting activities,” said Dr. Wayne Jonas, president and CEO of the Samueli Institute and a longstanding advocate for a model of health care delivery that incorporates both healing and curing approaches.

To support ongoing innovation in the area of optimal healing environments, the Institute launched the OHESM Program in the spring of 2005 to determine how theory about healing translates into real world practice. Dr. Jonas explains, “We are collaborating with health care systems to study the impact that optimal healing environments may have on improving quality of care and safety for patients, increasing patient satisfaction with their health experiences and recruiting and retaining health professionals, especially nurses.”

In the Institute’s statement of support, Barb Findlay, a registered nurse and vice president of the Optimal Healing Environments Program at the Samueli Institute supports NIGH because she says “it recognizes the role nurses are playing as catalysts for transforming healthcare. Across America and internationally, we meet nurses during the course of our research who are serving as champions for the creation of optimal healing environments where they work, teach and lead.”

The Samueli Institute’s aim is to articulate a complete framework of actionable practices and evaluation methods that , if implemented, would lead to more cost-effective, efficient organizations in which the environment truly facilitates healing and where nurses are fully supported to reconnect to the mission at their professional roots – the mission of caring.

About the Samueli Institute

The Samueli Institute is a non-profit, medical research organization supporting the scientific investigation of healing processes and their application in health and disease. The Institute’s mission is to explore the scientific foundations of healing and to apply that understanding in medicine and health care. The Institute is one of an elite group of organizations in the nation with a track record in both complementary and alternative medicine (CAM), healing relationships and military research.

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