**Summary Report of Survey Visits Conducted by Contract Program Evaluators and Board Staff
June, 2012 – August, 2013**

Summary:

This report presents the positive effects upon the total number of nursing program survey visits completed during a fifteen (15) month period when contract program evaluators were employed to assist Board Staff in providing overdue program visits. The first table lists survey visits conducted by five (5) contract program evaluators during the time period. An additional table lists survey visits conducted by Nursing Consultants for Education. The total number of programs visited was eighty-six (86).

Background:

- Rules 214.4(c)(4) and 215.4(c)(4) state that nursing education programs shall be visited at least every six (6) years unless accredited by a Board-recognized national nursing accrediting agency.
- There are ninety-nine (99) vocational nursing programs and one hundred thirteen (113) professional nursing programs in Texas. A total of ninety (90) approved nursing education programs hold national nursing accreditation, leaving a total of one hundred twenty-three (123) approved programs to be visited by Board staff at least every six (6) years. This does not include survey visits needed to new program sites and to programs with sanctions or problems.
- Because of the influx of proposals for new programs during the past eight (8) years as well as the increasing number of programs with sanctions, Board Staff have devoted more time to new programs or to programs experiencing problems. By 2012, the backlog of programs needing a regular six-year survey visit was approximately sixty (60) vocational programs and twelve (12) professional programs. (Some of these visits related to approval changes.)
- During June and July 2012, the practice of contracting survey visits was piloted and found to be successful.
- Five (5) qualified program evaluators from various regions in the state were chosen through the RFP contract process and began providing services in August 2012. By the time the contracts had ended on August 31, 2013, they had conducted seventy (70) survey visits, constituting a "survey blitz" across the state as well as a giant step toward meeting the requirement for all approved programs to receive a survey visit (See Table #1). In addition, Board Staff also conducted sixteen (16) survey visits during this time period (See Table #2).

Evaluation of the Use of Contract Program Evaluators:

- Board Staff sent an online survey to all programs visited by the contract program evaluators in September 2013. Thirty-three (33) programs responded to the five (5) question survey.
- Results from the survey are provided in the following table:

Question	Percentage Satisfied	Percentage Dissatisfied
#1. Contact and guidance by Program Evaluator	94%	6%
#2. Preparedness of Program Evaluator	97%	3%
#3. Suggestions and Recommendations made by Program Evaluator	97%	3%
#4. Requirements and Recommendations Fair and Helpful	94%	6%
#5 Positive Experience for program and administration	97%	3%

Anecdotal comments from program directors:

- "This was an awesome experience. The Program Evaluator was kind and helpful while helping us find ways to improve our program. She also put me in contact with some helpful resources."
- "The visit was conducted very professionally as well as very personable."
- "The visit was a great experience for us; the Program Evaluator was very thorough. She requested information prior to the visit so we were prepared. She visited the clinical sites and spent time with the students. The exit interview with the administration was excellent since most of them had never experienced a survey visit. The recommendations that were made will enhance our program and make it more successful."
- "The survey visit itself was helpful and provided the program with great feedback; however, the report of the survey visit has not been received yet."
- "The Program Evaluator made suggestions that helped us improve. When will our next visit be?"
- "The Program Evaluator represented the Texas BON professionally and she made the survey a learning experience for the whole faculty and staff."
- "The Program Evaluator put my faculty and myself at ease. I am very glad she came for our site visit."
- "I am very appreciative of the interest our Program Evaluator took in preparing to visit our program. She was extremely down-to-earth and was very helpful in explaining the specific things she was looking at."
- "The Program Evaluator was very helpful and straightforward. She offered several needed suggestions and answered all my questions honestly. She is very professional but approachable which I fully appreciate."

Several programs would like to have received written feedback on the visit earlier. Board Staff had to wait until the report was submitted by the Program Evaluator, review the report, and dialogue with the Evaluator before providing the draft report to the program. This delayed some programs from receiving the reports earlier.

Following many of the survey visits, Board Staff also received many positive comments from program directors about the experience.

Conclusion:
Employing contract program evaluators, providing orientation and guidance to them, and consulting with them has been a very effective way to manage the workload involved in regular program evaluation and may be considered in the future. Board Staff have been able to reconnect to many programs in the state who are doing well, but have not had a survey for many years.

This report is for information only. No action is required.

Table 1
Nursing Program Survey Visits Conducted Using Contract Program Evaluators
June 2012 – August 2013

Date	Program	Location	Type of Program	Program Evaluator
June 12, 2012	Grayson College	Van Alstyne	VN	Gayle Varnell
July 24, 2012	Kilgore College	Kilgore	VN	Gayle Varnell
July 31, 2012	Trinity Valley	Kaufman	VN	Gayle Varnell
August 2, 2012	Trinity Valley	Palestine	VN	Gayle Varnell
September 17, 2012	Texas A&M Commerce	Commerce	BSN	Robin Caldwell
October 15, 2012	Platt College	Dallas	VN	Robin Caldwell
October 22, 2012	Panola College	Carthage, Center	VN	Gayle Varnell
October 31, 2012	Universal Health Services	Fort Worth	VN	Robin Caldwell
November 6, 2012	Tyler Junior College	Tyler	ADN	Gayle Varnell
November 7, 2012	Tyler Junior College	Tyler	VN	Gayle Varnell
November 19, 2012	Lamar State College	Port Arthur	ADN	Robin Caldwell
November 19, 2012	Blinn College	Brenham	VN	Robin Caldwell
November 20, 2012	Blinn College	Bryan	VN	Robin Caldwell
November 27, 2012	Hill College	Hillsboro	ADN	Robin Caldwell
November 28, 2012	Hill College	Hillsboro	VN	Robin Caldwell
December 11, 2012	Coastal Bend College	Beeville	ADN	Robin Caldwell
December 12, 2012	Coastal Bend College	Beeville	VN	Robin Caldwell
January 28, 2013	Angelina College	Lufkin	VN & MEEP (2)	Gayle Varnell
January 28, 2013	Laredo Community College	Laredo	VN	Beverly Skloss
January 29, 2013	Angelina College	Lufkin	ADN	Gayle Varnell
February 26, 2013	Texarkana College	Texarkana	VN	Gayle Varnell
March 4, 2013	Clarendon College	Pampa	VN	Robin Caldwell
March 6, 2013	Concorde Career College	Dallas	ADN	Gayle Varnell
March 11, 2013	Temple College	Temple	VN	Robin Caldwell
March 12, 2013	Temple College	Taylor	VN	Robin Caldwell
March 18, 2013	Paris Junior College	Paris	VN	Gayle Varnell
March 19, 2013	Texas State University	Round Rock	MSN - FNP	Gayle Varnell
March 26, 2013	Northeast Texas Community College	Mt. Pleasant	VN	Gayle Varnell
March 27, 2013	Northeast Texas Community College	Mt. Pleasant	ADN	Gayle Varnell
March 28, 2013	Brazosport	Lake Jackson	VN	Beverly Skloss
April 5, 2013	Southwest Texas Junior College	Uvalde	VN	Beverly Skloss
April 11, 2013	Frank Phillips College	Borger	VN	Susan Wilkinson

Date	Program	Location	Type of Program	Program Evaluator
April 12, 2013	Amarillo College	Amarillo	VN	Susan Wilkinson
April 12, 2013	Alvin Community College	Alvin	VN	LeAnn Wagner
April 17, 2013	Odessa College	Odessa & Monahans	VN (2)	Susan Wilkinson
April 18, 2013	Sam Houston State University	Huntsville	BSN	LeAnn Wagner
April 25, 2013	Howard College	Big Spring	VN	Susan Wilkinson
April 25, 2013	Houston Community College	Houston	ADN	LeAnn Wagner
April 25-26, 2013	South Texas College	McAllen	VN	Beverly Skloss
May 2, 2013	Sul Ross University	Alpine	VN	Susan Wilkinson
May 2, 2013	Lone Star College - CyFair	Cypress	VN	LeAnn Wagner
May 17, 2013	Valley Baptist Medical Center	Harlingen	VN	Beverly Skloss
May 22, 2013	ITT Technical Institute	Richardson	ADN	Robin Caldwell
June 3, 2013	Wharton County Junior College	Wharton	VN	Beverly Skloss
June 4, 2013	Weatherford College	Weatherford	VN	Robin Caldwell
June 10, 2013	North Central Texas College	Gainesville	VN	Robin Caldwell
June 11, 2013	San Jacinto College North	Houston	VN	LeAnn Wagner
June 18, 2013	Texas State Technical College West Texas	Sweetwater	VN	Susan Wilkinson
June 18, 2013	Lone Star College - Tomball	Tomball	VN	LeAnn Wagner
June 19, 2013	Dallas Nursing Institute	Dallas	VN	Gayle Varnell
June 19, 2013	Joe G. Davis	Huntsville	VN	LeAnn Wagner
June 20, 2013	Dallas Nursing Institute	Dallas	ADN	Gayle Varnell
June 24, 2013	Schreiner University	Kerrville	VN	Robin Caldwell
June 24, 2013	South Plains College	Levelland, Reese Center, & Plainview	VN (3)	Susan Wilkinson
June 25, 2013	Abilene Christian University	Abilene	BSN	Susan Wilkinson
June 25, 2013	Houston Community College	Houston	VN	LeAnn Wagner
June 27, 2013	Kaplan College	Corpus Christi	VN	LeAnn Wagner
July 23, 2013	Teamwork Services	Grand Prairie	VN	Gayle Varnell
August 6, 2013	Fortis Institute	Grand Prairie	VN	Gayle Varnell
August 7, 2013	El Paso Community College	El Paso	VN/MEEP	Susan Wilkinson

Date	Program	Location	Type of Program	Program Evaluator
August 8, 2013	Anamarc College	El Paso	VN	Susan Wilkinson
August 15, 2013	Concorde Career Institute	Arlington	VN	Gayle Varnell
August 28, 2013	Lee College	Baytown	VN	LeAnn Wagner
August 29, 2013	Lone Star College - Kingwood	Kingwood	VN	LeAnn Wagner
August 29-30, 2013	South Texas College	McAllen	ADN	Beverly Skloss

Total Visits Conducted by Contract Program Evaluators: 70

Table 2
Nursing Program Survey Visits Conducted by Nursing Consultants
June 2012 – August 2013

Date	Program	Location	Type of Program	Consultant
June 7, 2012	Texas State Technical College	Harlingen	ADN	Janice Hooper Virginia Ayars
June 8, 2012	University of Texas at Brownsville	Brownsville	BSN	Virginia Ayars Janice Hooper
June 12, 2012	Grayson College	Van Alstyne	VN	Robin Caldwell Training for Gayle Varnell
July 2, 2012	Fortis Institute	Grand Prairie	VN	Robin Caldwell
July 12, 2012	Quest College	San Antonio	VN	Virginia Ayars
December 5-6, 2012	San Jacinto College South	Houston	VN	Janice Hooper
December 6-7, 2012	San Jacinto College South	Houston	ADN	Janice Hooper
December 10, 2013	Career Point College	San Antonio	ADN	Virginia Ayars Sandi Emerson
March 6, 2013	Wayland Baptist University	San Antonio	BSN	Janice Hooper Sandi Emerson
March 18, 2013	University of Texas Permian Basin	Odessa	BSN	Janice Hooper Kristin Benton
March 27, 2013	St. Philip's College	San Antonio	VN	Janice Hooper Sandi Emerson
March 28, 2013	St. Philip's College	New Braunfels	VN	Janice Hooper Sandi Emerson
April 22-23, 2013	Lamar State College Port Arthur	Port Arthur	ADN	Sandi Emerson Virginia Ayars
May 22, 2013	American Medical Institute	Houston	VN	Virginia Ayars Sandi Emerson
June 19, 2013	College of the Mainland	Texas City	VN	Janice Hooper
August 7-8, 2013	Army Practical Nursing Program	San Antonio	VN	Sandi Emerson Virginia Ayars

Total Visit Conducted by Board Staff: 16