

Session 4

Mary Grant : I was wanting to ask how you make the financial link of our positions to the overall cost of health care. Does it cost money, save money, for whom and how?

How about looking at staffing models in other countries (i.e., Japan, Denmark, etc.)?

Zina Gontscharow: Of course, we realize that the positions we advocate for have financial implications for the cost of care. At the same time, we understand how important nurses are to the health care delivery system and the provision of high-quality care to patients. Resources and support for nurses ensure they are able to provide needed preventative care that often yields savings to the health care system. The value of the nurse is critical and investments to realize that are vital.

As we continue our work on safe staffing in facilities across the country, we welcome members to share models and approaches, here and abroad. Approaches that have yielded real results and are replicable are helpful for us to highlight to policymakers as we look to make real progress on safe staffing.