

JUNO CONNECTION



CHARMAINE TEODORO

SUPPORT groups are not only for the recovering; for professionals, they are important sources of information pertaining to industry news and events. They can also serve as a wellspring of contacts for mentors, people whom you can tap for professional advice and even career opportunities. The reach of a support group allows you to broaden your knowledge about your industry and gain access to information and programs that will enrich your current knowledge and skillset.

For healthcare workers, these support groups come in various forms: associations, alliances, federations, etc.—basically organizations that focus on your field. They can be general and specialized, and a few of them have requirements that go beyond the membership fee. As you fulfill your day-to-day duties as a nurse, physical therapist, occupational therapist or caregiver, keep in mind that there are always ways to become a better healthcare worker. One way is to be part of a group and be exposed in an environment where your ideas about the industry and interest for it will be nurtured and

Organizations you need to know as a healthcare professional

strengthened.
American Nurses Association (ANA)
www.nursingworld.org
 Considered as the only full-service professional organization that represents the interest of more than 2.5 million nurses nationwide, the ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice and promoting nurses' rights in the workplace. The organization aims to project a positive and realistic view of nursing and lobbies for healthcare issues that affect nurses and the general public to Congress and regulatory agencies.

American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
<http://www.apta.org>
 Promoting advancements in physical therapy practice, research and education, the American Physical Therapy Association represents 72,000 members. It envisions that by 2020, physical therapy will be provided by doctors of physical therapy. The APTA provides a mentoring program as a benefit to its members. It is designed to assist students and new PTs with career, clinical and professional issues. The Association's consulting service provides access to a wide range of information on practice management and competitive rates through a consultant, to

PTs who aim to start their own practice.
American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)
<http://www.aota.org>
 Established 92 years ago in 1917, the AOTA advocates for the interests and concerns of occupational therapy practitioners and students all over the US; it currently has 39,000 occupational therapists, occupational therapist assistants, and occupational therapy students residing in the continental US, US territories and other parts of the world. Like other professional associations, it promotes the skills development of its constituents while also advocating for better access to healthcare services for consumers.
National Association of Healthcare Assistants (NAHCA)
<http://www.nahcares.org/>
 A valuable membership association for caregivers, the NAHCA was founded by former certified nursing assistants who have moved up the nursing home management ladder. The founders believed that the backbone of the nursing home profession are nursing assistants; true to that conviction, the association aims to improve the quality of care provided in these nursing homes, elevating the professional stature and work performance of nursing assistants.

gain similar benefits that these organizations offer. A few of them are: National Athletic Trainers' Association, American Chiropractic Association, American Dental Association, American Dental Assistants Association, American Dietetic Association and the American Association of Pharmacy Technicians.
 If your profession is not listed here, visit us at <http://blog.junohealthcare.com> to find a complete list of health professional associations.

 Charmaine Teodoro is the Senior Vice President of JUNO Healthcare Staffing, a group of companies that recruit RNs, LPNs, CNAs and allied healthcare professionals and deploys them to healthcare facilities on a full-time, part-time, per diem or travel assignment. It also sponsors foreign-trained RNs for immigration to the US. JUNO has offices in New York, and in New Jersey where it offers homecare services.
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 (Advertising Supplement)

Walmart brings savings for frighteningly fun Halloween Saturday night

Moms can outfit their children for less than \$10

BENTONVILLE, Ark.—For the first time since 1998, Halloween falls on a Saturday and Walmart is set to serve trick-or-treaters and families looking for unbeatable prices during this once in a blue moon occasion.

Every year on Halloween, parents look forward to dressing their children in costumes and taking them to trick-or-treat at night. Many families also enjoy decorating their homes with Halloween props and handing out candy to trick-or-treaters. For this special occasion, Walmart has all the essentials for a fun and safe Halloween. Walmart has the costumes, candy and decorations to fit every budget. Parents can have their children trick-or-treat-ready for less than \$10 – with a \$7 costume, \$0.94 treat tote and \$1 light stick for safety.

"It's been more than a decade since Halloween landed on a Saturday, and we anticipate more people will have the chance to celebrate," said Amy Wyatt-Moore, Walmart spokesperson. "We want them to feel confident that they can depend on Walmart to have affordable selections to help them create the spooky and fun atmosphere they want."

Costumes for the Entire Family

Whether it's finding popular costumes for kids or adult and couples costumes, Walmart has the latest trends for Halloween at a low cost.

This Halloween, children's costumes will reflect the latest video games and summer blockbuster movies and Walmart offers a full range of popular licensed costumes at unbeatable prices. For boys, you'll see Optimus Prime, Bumble Bee and Megatron from *Transformers* as well as Snake Eyes, Duke and Storm Shadow from *G.I. Joe*. Parents can purchase the same quality licensed boy costumes that sell for around \$20 at specialty stores for only \$12 at Walmart.

For girls, expect to see Dorothy from the *Wizard of Oz* (70th anniversary) and Alex from *Wizards of Waverly Place* (Walmart exclusive). Walmart also carries costume classics like princesses, witches, pirates, fairies and goblins.

For adults, couples costumes are popular this year. Expect to see

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Petitions by Green Card Holders:

The Second Preference, F-2A (Spouse and minor children (below 21 years old) of green card holder) moved forward by 2 months and 14 days from June 1, 2005, to August 15, 2005.

The Second Preference, F-2B (unmarried sons and daughters, over 21 years of age, of green card holders) moved forward by 14 days from May 1, 1998, to May 15, 1998.

Petitions by Employers:

The Third Preference (professionals and skilled workers) of Employment-Based Petitions (Labor Certification) priority date remained the same at June 1, 2002. The priority date for unskilled (other) workers also remained the same at June 1, 2001.

Each month, the Visa Office of the State Department publishes the priority dates for that particular month. This means that visas (or green cards) would now be available for persons whose priority date is earlier than the cut-off date listed below. If your priority date was "current", but retrogressed (or became "unavailable") before your immigrant visa was issued (or before you adjusted status in the US), you would have to wait until it becomes current again.

Michael J. Gurfinkel is licensed, and an active member of the State Bar of California and New York. All immigration services are provided by, or under the supervision of, an active member of the State Bar of California. Each case is different. The information contained herein (including testimonials, "Success Stories," endorsements and re-enactments) is of a general nature, and is not intended to apply to any particular case, and does not constitute a prediction, warranty, guarantee or legal advice regarding the outcome of your legal matter. No attorney-client relationship is, or shall be, established with any reader.

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