

VOLUME 6 ISSUE NO. 3 | OCTOBER 2022

# THE ERGONOMOMIC ECHO



Quarterly newsletter of the MCHP Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program



## OCTOBER IS MEDICAL ULTRASOUND AWARENESS MONTH!

"MEDICAL ULTRASOUND AWARENESS MONTH (MUAM) IS HELD ANNUALLY IN OCTOBER TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY AND THE ROLE SONOGRAPHERS PLAY IN HEALTHCARE" (SDMS, 2022, PARA. 1).

A 2021 study conducted by the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography stated that by 2024, the U.S. will need an additional 27,600 sonographers, an increase of 24% over three years (Murphey, 2021). The field of sonography is growing exponentially, and there is no slowing down in site! You all do important, meaningful work that you should be incredibly proud of.

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**MCHP**  
Maine College of  
Health Professions

# AWARENESS LEADS TO STAFFING...WHICH LEADS TO SAFETY!

*THE MORE AWARE OUR POPULATION IS OF SONOGRAPHY AS A CAREER, THE SAFER OUR DEPARTMENTS WILL BE*

In our state and all around the country, there is a dire need for experienced sonographers. Unfortunately, a staffing crisis can mean many things such as limited access to care for patients, decreased revenues for facilities, and limited measures in place to help keep sonographers safe in the workplace. Many facilities have turned to travelers to help fill these departmental voids. While travelers are an excellent asset to any department, they are not a long-term solution. Increasing awareness about our profession and the rewards that come with it will attract those to our field that have always wanted to become sonographers and even those who have never heard of us before! Planning ahead and constantly forecasting the sonographers needed to fulfill patient demands while keeping the current team healthy and safe is a must in our staffing climate. Without some forethought, injuries will increase, patients will suffer, and departments might find themselves in a hole too big to get themselves out of.

## ***Interested in Sponsoring a Student to Become a Sonographer in Your Department?***

Benefits of sponsoring a student:

- Guaranteed employment
- Better long-term return on investment than hiring a traveler
- Quicker transition into professional role
- Supporting growth opportunities for employees

**If this is something your department is interested in, please contact:**

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Staying safe and healthy in the workplace is key to a long, healthy, successful career. Take it upon yourself to prioritize self-care, regardless of how busy your department may get. Take the extra 30 seconds per patient throughout the day to set up your room correctly; it could mean the difference between years in your career.

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