

Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC) Report

January 9, 2023 Meeting

Executive Summary

Last month, SCRC members discussed the need to create supply chain talent and talent pipelines. This month Jeremy Strong, Vice President Supply Chain at Rush University System for Health, provided an overview of their [Earn and Learn program](#) with council members. More on the program, supply shortages and updates can be found in the full Council report below.

▲ Rush Health's Earn and Learn Program

Last month, SCRC members discussed the need to create supply chain talent and talent pipelines. This month Jeremy Strong, Vice President Supply Chain at Rush University System for Health shared their [Earn and Learn program](#) with the council members. Below are some of the program highlights. The overview was recorded and is being edited to make available to the SCRC.

- Existing HR employment pipelines were not bringing the number of potential candidates into the organization as anticipated.
- In reviewing their hiring practices they identified the following; hire individuals based on who they are “on paper”, candidates strength during the interview process, and that training occurs once the candidate is hired.
- A new philosophy came as a result of this review, “let’s train people to get jobs.”
- Rush worked with community non-profits who have experience within the community and understand some of the hurdles:
 - [Urban Strategies](#)
 - Tollman Family Foundation
- The 10-week program is broken down into two components; first they cover “power skills” which include communication, customer service, basic analytics and professionalism. The remaining weeks cover supply chain specifics including buyer roles, inventory management, and distribution center tech roles.
 - The program is held in-person, at an off-site location and is scheduled from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - Participants receive a stipend. Childcare, transportation services and lunch are also provided.
 - There are 20 participants in their first cohort.
- When the cohort concludes, there is a direct interview process at both Rush and their prime distributor. Rush is also working with local area hospitals and Amazon’s distribution center to coordinate direct interviews for programs participants.

▲ Supply Shortages and Disruptions Update

Council members were asked if there were any PPE or other supply shortages that could be tied directly to the current COVID outbreak in China. The group shared that at this time there were no shortages associated with the recent outbreak. Two contributing factors discussed were; current PPE inventory reserve levels health care organizations have established over the course of the pandemic, and a number of manufacturers have diversified manufacturing to reduce their reliance on the Chinese market.

▲ SCRC Watch List – Raising awareness to growing supply shortages

- Last month, the discontinuation of fetal scalp electrodes (FSE) by Philips was discussed. Symmetric Health Solutions has generated a report (attached) of potential substitutes for both the electrode and cables. Their report contains basic product information and the Primary UDI-DI for each device which means it has an entry in the GUDID. Reach out to [Symmetric Health Solutions](#) directly if you have any questions.

▲ Miscellaneous Notes

- AORN and AHRMM are exploring panel presentations with peri-operative and supply chain leaders to discuss best in class practices between these two key departments. Some of the ideas discussed include communications, reduction of time clinicians are engaged in supply chain activities, supply shortages and disruptions and clinically acceptable substitutes. Other ideas/successful practices are welcomed. **Please email me if your organization has a best in class story to tell.**
- Included in today's email is a reminder regarding the FDA's Critical Medical Device List Survey for Healthcare Providers. *Note, the survey close date has been extended to January 31st at 5:00 pm EST.*
- A reminder that our meeting cadence is now monthly. Meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of the month with our next meeting planned for February 13th.

About the Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC)

The Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC) convenes 88 supply chain and health care leaders from across the health care field with the goal of understanding the extent and impact supply shortages and disruptions are having within the hospital and patient care settings, as well as a capturing and documenting solutions to these challenges. Information collected during these calls is drafted into a report and shared with AHA, AHRMM and Professional Management Group (PMG) leaders, the White House Response Team, various Federal Agencies and the broader health care field. *The content of this report represents information, strategies and solutions from SCRC members but does not necessarily reflect policy positions of the AHA.*