



Corrections and Community Supervision

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ANTHONY J. ANNUCCI
Acting Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Staff

FROM: Anthony J. Annucci, Acting Commissioner

DATE: May 4, 2021

SUBJECT: Nurses Month

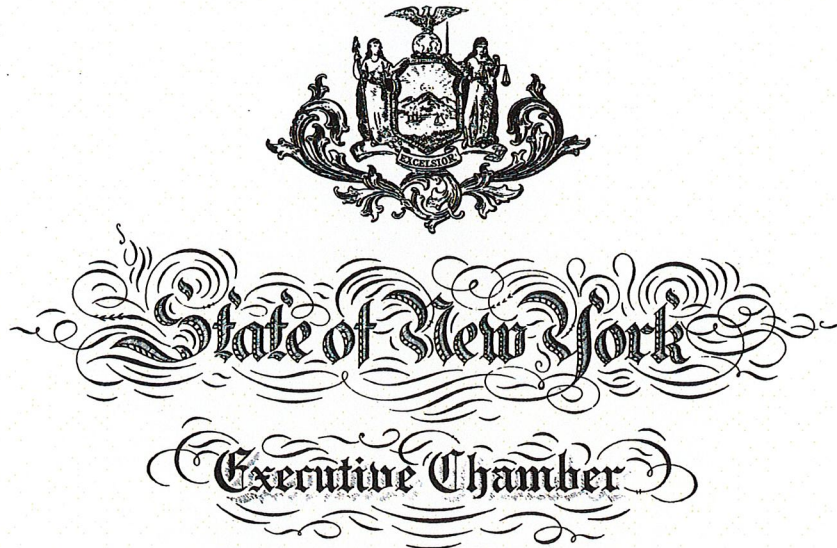
Governor Andrew Cuomo has proclaimed May 2021 as Nurses Month.

As we celebrate May of 2021, as Nurses Month, we would like to thank our dedicated, hardworking professional Nurses, who greatly contribute to the health care delivery system of our correctional facilities. Nurses play a pivotal role in the overall health of our state and nation. Nurses continue to perform their essential duties in this especially challenging time. Now more than ever, they leave their homes and families each day knowing the risks they face while on the job, yet they do so selflessly, to provide care.

Nursing is an honorable profession, which many consider to be the heart and soul of the health care system. Nursing continues to be one of the most trusted professions, providing high standards and a strong sense of public service for over 150 years. Each year, the demands on Nurses increase as patient care becomes more complex and the needs of the health care system expand. The current pandemic further compounds the essential needs for nursing services.

Please join me in honoring Nurses, not only during the annual observance, but also throughout the year. These dedicated professionals work tirelessly to care for the under-custody population and to keep our correctional facilities safe. As we continue to navigate this unprecedented time together, we thank all DOCCS employees, who have risen to the occasion to keep our facilities and area offices running. We could not carry out the Department's mission without them.

Attachment



Proclamation

Whereas, the finest examples of humanitarian spirit, caring, and compassion are found among the family of New Yorkers and, as we enter the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, we reflect upon the suffering and loss the virus has brought to humankind this past year, with over 147 million cases and over 3 million deaths globally; millions more have recovered thanks to the remarkable dedication and abilities of our respected medical professionals – especially the community of nurses who are at the front lines of protecting and preserving human life with impressive strength, expertise, and sacrifice; and

Whereas, this health crisis has magnified the heroic work carried out by the global community of nurses and their immeasurably critical role in caring for those with COVID-19, and the World Health Organization has extended its 2020 declaration of the International Year of the Nurse to 2021, and the American Nurses Association (ANA) has also extended the traditional observance of National Nurses Week to a month-long period of recognition, and we humbly take this opportunity to express appreciation and support for nurses working in all areas who show courage and compassion under the extremely difficult and demanding circumstances of this pandemic; and

Whereas, Nurses Month highlights the critical role this community of healthcare professionals has in our society and in our lives, well reflected in the theme, “Nurses Make a Difference,” and this health crisis has shown the world that these words indeed ring true; and

Whereas, on a daily basis, nurses are essential to the health and care of people, and in New York State this community is comprised of 336,149 Registered Professional Nurses which include 31,663 licensed Nurse Practitioners and 315 certified Clinical Nurse Specialists; under their direction are the 69,349 Licensed Practical Nurses in this state who hold many levels of expertise and proficiency; in addition, there are 1,282 New York State Licensed Midwives, many of whom are also nurses who use the title “Certified Nurse-Midwife” or “Nurse-Midwife,” having completed registered nursing and midwifery education; and

Whereas, we thank the thousands of nurses from across our state and nation, and beyond, who came out of retirement to generously volunteer their service and provide care to their fellow human beings, and others who were deployed by the federal government, dutifully stepping forward in this unprecedented time in our history to help New York State meet overwhelming medical needs; and

Whereas, as the largest component of our statewide and nationwide healthcare community, more than ever, we support and recognize our nurses as they demonstrate courage and compassion under extremely challenging circumstances – whether it is working endless days and long shifts under the physical and emotional duress of the COVID-19 pandemic or performing vital daily care, the impact nurses have on the health and well-being of our communities and people is incalculable; and

Whereas, May 12th marks the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, founder of the science of professional nursing, and we take this opportunity to honor and thank all nurses practicing in our state and nation who uphold the “Nightingale Pledge” of 1893 and stand firmly as the cornerstone of patient care in all settings, whether acute care or community settings; today, we are grateful for the thousands who answered the call to this profession, who continue to meet unparalleled challenges, knowing that it takes extraordinary individuals in these extraordinary times to compassionately tend to our fellow human beings until their final moment, and thankfully help countless others return to good health;

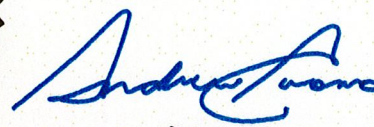
Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 2021 as


NURSES MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty seventh
day of April in the year two thousand twenty-one.


Governor


Secretary to the Governor
Melissa DeRosa