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April 3, 2020 - Volume 1, Issue 5

nursing.iowa.gov



News & Updates

COVID-19 News Headlines

With the news of COVID-19 cases on the increase every day, nurses and healthcare providers are feeling the pressure of taking care of their patients while still protecting themselves. Nurses are encouraged to make sure you are following the established guidelines from legitimate sources regarding personal protective equipment (PPE). The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has provided strategies to optimize the supply of PPE and equipment. See the webpage at this [LINK](#) for the most recent information.

Interesting News

[WE ARE OPEN!](#)

The IBON is **not receiving public visitors**, but we are open and maintaining regular operations and business.

To contact appropriate staff see this [LINK](#).

EVENTS

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) also has provided guidance to the public to sew homemade masks to assist with the expected national shortage of commercially-produced face masks. Information about the construction of sewn masks can be found at this [LINK](#).

Nurses who have concerns about PPE supplies should consult with their employers about the topic.

Service Opportunities

Nurses who are interested in assisting acute or long term care facilities that become overwhelmed during this COVID-19 outbreak or suffer a loss of staff due to illness, please follow these instructions: To create an account and a profile please go to the following website: <https://www.iaserv.org/>.

In order to assist, it is imperative that you complete the on-line profile with your nursing license information in order to be eligible for deployment to assist. Once a profile is completed in the system, you must click on SAVE then you will receive an email from "@notify2.mir3.com" that verifies you created or updated an account. You will receive notification from "iowaresponds" with information if you are being requested to deploy.

A Note of Encouragement

To my Fellow Nurses:

As the Executive Director of the Board of Nursing I want you to know that you are in my thoughts daily as we all do our part to combat COVID-19. There are those of us who will be on the sidelines fighting the battle and those of us on the frontlines. We all play an important role.

I do want to assure you the Board members and staff are working diligently to carry out the Governor's Proclamations. It is our goal to lessen the burden for you and the healthcare systems you work in. As we work to implement licensing changes we must still carry out our mission of protecting the public. I know as safe and prudent practitioners that is your goal too.

The regularly scheduled IBON quarterly meeting will be held via conference call on April 8th. The agenda may be found at this [LINK](#).

IOWA NURSE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE - CALL FOR MEMBERS

Do you have an interest in volunteering? Do you have the time to take part in a formal committee? See the INAPC announcement at the following [LINK](#)

NEW CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) OPTIONS

As of March 18, 2020, nurses may now use CE credits approved from additional sources to meet licensure renewal requirements. Make sure to take courses that meet the appropriate subject matter topics and are applicable to your practice area. Check out the list in the [655 IAC Chapter 5 Rules](#). Scroll down to section 5.2(5).

NCSBN RESOURCES

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has a COVID-19 information webpage. See the link [HERE](#)

I believe in Iowa nurses and I know that you are all going above and beyond with the care and compassion you provide to patients and residents daily. I know that you are frightened for you and your family's health and well-being, but you continue to go to work daily. I know that you are passionate about your profession. I know that you are fighting the fight wherever you are working or volunteering.

Thank you for all you are doing today and every day!

Sincerely,

Kathy

Kathy Weinberg

NCLEX Exams will resume in limited locations. See the News Release at this [LINK](#)

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