



September 13, 2010

Julie Sochalski, PhD, RN, FAAN
Director
Division of Nursing, Department of Health and Human Services
5600 Fishers Lane
Parklawn Building, Room 9-35
Rockville, MD 20857-0001

Dear Dr. Sochalski:

On behalf of the Nursing Community, a forum of professional nursing organizations representing over 850,000 Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), nurse faculty, nursing students, and nurse researchers, the undersigned organizations write to congratulate you on your new leadership position as the Director of the Division of Nursing at the Bureau of Health Professions. Your accomplished career in health policy and your expansive expertise related to the intricacies of the nursing workforce makes you an outstanding addition to the Health Resources and Services Administration.

With the implementation of healthcare reform being at the forefront of the Administration's agenda, we are confident that your knowledge and experience will help inform efforts to expand the health profession's workforce to focus on the unique contributions of RNs and APRNs. For years, the Nursing Community has collectively advocated to increase funding for the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII, of the Public Health Service Act) to address the nursing shortage and most recently worked to see the Title VIII programs reauthorized through the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act*. We stand ready to support the Division's efforts to advance the Title VIII programs so that they effectively support the supply and distribution of nurses in the most underserved areas.

The members of the Nursing Community look forward to working with you on various issues impacting nursing education, practice, recruitment, and retention. Over the years many of the Nursing Community members have enjoyed working in collaboration with you on a variety of initiatives, so please let us know how we can be of assistance in your new role. Congratulations again on this new leadership position for the nursing profession!

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
American Academy of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American College of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Asian American and Pacific Islander Nurses Association
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Association of Forensic Nurses
International Nurses Society on Addictions
International Society of Psychiatric Nurses
National American Arab Nurses Association
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations
National Gerontological Nursing Association
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Visiting Nurse Associations of America
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society