



## **Testimony of the Nursing Community Coalition**

**Prepared for the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies**

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

**Health Resources and Services Administration & National Institutes of Health**

**April 8, 2019**

*Submitted by Rachel Stevenson, Executive Director of the Nursing Community Coalition*

The Nursing Community Coalition is comprised of 62 national nursing organizations who work together to advocate and advance health care issues that impact education, research, practice, and regulation. Collectively, the Nursing Community Coalition represent Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (including Certified Nurse-Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists), nurse executives, nursing students, faculty, and researchers, as well as other nurses with advanced degrees. The Nursing Community Coalition respectfully requests that Congress continues their strong investment in nursing education and research in Fiscal Year 2020 by supporting **\$266 million for the Nursing Workforce Development programs** (authorized under Title VIII of the *Public Health Service Act* [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]), administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and **\$173 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research** (NINR), one of the 27 Institutes and Centers within the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

## Promoting America's Health Through Nursing Care

As the largest group of health professionals, with more than four million licensed practitioners in the country, nurses are integral members of the healthcare team.<sup>1</sup> Nurses and other healthcare professionals work together and consistently provide high-quality patient-centered care in all communities, especially in rural and underserved areas.

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs help meet this demand by connecting patients with care across a variety of settings, including in community health centers, hospitals, long-term care facilities, local and state health departments, schools, workplaces, and patients' homes. A prime example is through Title VIII's Advanced Nursing Education (ANE) program. In Academic Year 2016- 2017, ANE programs supported 10,537 students, including those in Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships (AENT) and Nurse Anesthetist Traineeships (NAT).<sup>2</sup> In fact, 80 percent of AENT recipients received training in primary care settings, and 75 percent of NAT recipients were trained in medically-underserved areas.<sup>3</sup>

It is imperative that we continue to promote a diverse nursing pipeline that reflects an increasingly diverse population, which bolsters positive patient outcomes. Under the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Diversity program, 4,416 students were trained in the 2016-2017 Academic Year.<sup>4</sup> All of these trainees, were from underrepresented groups and/or from disadvantaged

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<sup>1</sup> National Council of State Boards of Nursing. (2019). *Active RN Licenses: A profile of nursing licensure in the U.S. as of April 5, 2019*. Retrieved from: <https://www.ncsbn.org/6161.htm>.

<sup>2</sup> Department of Health and Human Services Fiscal Year 2019 Health Resources and Services Administration Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees. <https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/about/budget/budget-justification-fy2019.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Department of Health and Human Services Fiscal Year 2019 Health Resources and Services Administration Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees. <https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/about/budget/budget-justification-fy2019.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> Department of Health and Human Services Fiscal Year 2019 Health Resources and Services Administration Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees. <https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/about/budget/budget-justification-fy2019.pdf>.

backgrounds.<sup>5</sup>

**The Nursing Community respectfully requests \$266 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs in FY 2020, which include the following:**

- Advanced Nursing Education Program (Sec. 811), including the Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships and Nurse Anesthetist Traineeships
- Nursing Workforce Diversity (Sec. 821)
- Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention (Sec. 831)
- NURSE Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship Program (Sec. 846)
- Nurse Faculty Loan Program (Sec. 846A)
- Comprehensive Geriatric Education Program (Sec. 865)

**Establishing Scientific Basis for Quality Patient Care:**

For more than three decades, scientific endeavors funded at the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) have been essential to advancing the health of individuals, families, and communities. As one of 27 Institutes and Centers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), NINR's research projects are aimed at reducing burdensome chronic illness, improving end of life care, and promoting patient-centered care across the life continuum. NINR's Strategic Plan includes the themes of symptom science for patients with chronic illness and pain; wellness to prevent illness across conditions, settings, and the lifespan; patient self-management to improve

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<sup>5</sup> Department of Health and Human Services Fiscal Year 2019 Health Resources and Services Administration Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees.  
<https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/about/budget/budget-justification-fy2019.pdf>.

quality of life; and end-of-life and palliative care science.<sup>6</sup> From disease prevention and global health, to precision medicine and genomic studies, NINR is at the forefront of nursing science and research and training new nurse scientists to sustain the longevity and success of this important endeavor.

**The Nursing Community respectfully requests \$173 million for the NINR in FY 2020.**

We must continue to invest in the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs and NINR to strengthen the foundational care nurses provide daily in communities across the country. Thank you for your support of these crucial programs.

### **58 Members of the Nursing Community Coalition Submitting this Testimony**

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses  
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing  
American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners  
American Academy of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses  
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses  
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Nephrology Nurses Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Nursing Informatics Association  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association, Inc.  
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
American Society for Pain Management Nursing  
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing  
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators

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<sup>6</sup> National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Nursing Research. *The NINR Strategic Plan: Advancing Science, Improving Lives*. Retrieved from [https://www.ninr.nih.gov/sites/www.ninr.nih.gov/files/NINR\\_StratPlan2016\\_reduced.pdf](https://www.ninr.nih.gov/sites/www.ninr.nih.gov/files/NINR_StratPlan2016_reduced.pdf).

Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses  
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses  
Association of Public Health Nurses  
Association of Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Incorporated  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service  
Dermatology Nurses' Association  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research  
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association  
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association  
Infusion Nurses Society  
International Association of Forensic Nurses  
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Neonatal Nurses  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of School Nurses  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing  
National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers  
National League for Nursing  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties  
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing  
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society  
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
Society of Pediatric Nurses  
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates  
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society