Role and Responsibility: Advise, Advocate for and Take Action to Involve Nurses in the Red Cross Mission and in Corporate and Business Line Goals

Membership
Membership on the National Nursing Committee (NNC) includes American Red Cross national headquarters nurse/non-nurse leaders from all business lines, (Biomedical, Disaster, International, Preparedness Health & Safety and International Services) as well as external leaders in health and mental health-related professions. The committee includes chair Carmen Kynard, vice chairs Donna Dorsey and Barbara Nichols and chief nurse Linda MacIntyre.

Members of the National Nursing Committee
Carmen Kynard, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, NP-C, MBA, Chairperson
Donna M. Dorsey, RN, MS, FAAN, Vice Chair of Sustainability
Barbara Nichols, DHL, MS, RN, FAAN, Vice Chair of Integrated Services
Linda MacIntyre, PhD, RN, Chief Nurse, American Red Cross
Jose Alejandro, RN-BC, PhD(c), MBA, CCM, FACHE
Harold Brooks, Senior VP International Services, American Red Cross
Lynn Crabb, MS, CEM
Amy B. Daly, MPH, CHES
William M. (Bill) Darr, Esq.
Marie O. Etienne, DNP, ARNP, PLNC
Susan B. Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN
Jean Johnson, PhD, RN, FAAN
Laurie Willshire, MPH, RN
Valerie Cole, PhD,
Lisette Osborne, RN-BC, MSN, CHEP
Tony Procaccio, BS, SBB, MBA
Joy Reed, EdD, RN, FAAN
Rossana Segovia RN, MS, OHNP-C, COHN-S
Kate Spence, BA, Nursing Student Representative
April Wood, RN, BSN, CEN, NREMT

Mission
The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.
The Past

The National Nursing Committee (NNC) was established in 1910, with Jane Delano as its first chair. The NNC supported and guided nursing involvement in all Red Cross services. Over time, the NNC was eliminated and then reestablished and has functioned continuously since 1992. The Committee is chaired by a volunteer nurse leader who is partner to the Red Cross chief nurse.

In 1998, the Office of the Chief Nurse became more autonomous and additional staff members were added. From 1998 to 2007, the NNC set strategic goals, created the State Nurse Liaison (SNL) network and oversaw the integration of SNL into the field structure. The chief nurse position was eliminated in 2008 and the NNC was charged to support then chair of Nursing Vivian Littlefield in maintaining a nursing presence in the Red Cross under volunteer leadership. The NNC advocated for the reestablishment of the chief nurse position, which occurred in 2009. In 2012 Nursing was realigned under the Office of Volunteer Management.

The Present

The NNC is actively working to promote and guide nursing involvement across all business lines. Efforts are under way to reconnect nursing to the evolving, changing field structure and to assist chapters and units to build capacity through nursing resources. Additionally, the NNC is working to promote engagement of nurses, mental health providers and other health professionals across all business lines, reflecting the diverse communities the Red Cross serves.

Interested in becoming a Red Cross volunteer? Visit http://www.redcross.org/support/volunteer. For more information about nursing, you may also contact your State or Divisional Nurse Leader at http://www.redcross.org/support/volunteer/nurses/regional-nurse-network.

The Future

Working from an NNC Blueprint for Action that aligns American Red Cross nursing with Institute of Medicine Future of Nursing recommendations, the committee continues to promote the revitalization and integration of Red Cross Nursing at national headquarters and in the field, and supports the chief nurse in reestablishing strong nursing leadership in all business lines. The NNC supports nursing recruitment, retention and partnerships that represent the communities served by the Red Cross; pursues creative activities to meet community and public health needs; and engages nurses, mental health providers and other health professional volunteers to meet mentoring and leadership opportunities across the organization.