



**American
Red Cross**

Nursing Matters Past and Present

American Red Cross National Nursing Committee

26th Edition
Spring 2017

Nurses' Week Message from the Chief Nurse

Linda MacIntyre, PhD, RN



Happy Nurses Week! Once again we're celebrating nurses, our partners and those who support nurses in serving individuals and communities across the globe. This year I'd like to extend special thanks to all who promote well-being,

mitigate suffering and prevent loss of life. You do this in many ways:

- recruit and engage volunteers to increase the number of people served
- respond to disasters, both large and small
- develop and implement guidelines to promote safety and well-being across the organization
- promote blood donation
- support the health and mental health of individuals and families, including members of the military
- recruit nursing and health leaders with diverse backgrounds and expertise
- participate in the Home Fire Campaign
- raise funds to increase measles and rubella immunizations worldwide
- teach us how to better support individuals with access and functional needs, including those with disabilities
- advocate for vulnerable populations while recognizing their strengths
- serve as leaders and mentors
- support students in community service
- teach health and safety classes

- provide subject matter expertise on health and mental health issues
- disseminate lifesaving information through social media
- and more...

Many of you may never know how your work promoted well-being, prevented the loss of a life or mitigated suffering, yet you continue to share your talents and resources with the Red Cross. You are the unsung heroes!

Your work is important. There's an ongoing need for health professional volunteers across the organization --in Biomedical Services, Disaster Health & Mental Health Services, International Services, Service to the Armed Forces, and Preparedness Health & Safety Services. By filling Nursing Network Regional Nurse Leader open positions and recruiting Nursing Network Engagement Specialists to support them, we can recruit and engage volunteers to deliver needed services to the community. For more information about health professional volunteer opportunities, please email RedCrossNurse@redcross.org or click here to [Become a Volunteer](#).

Showing kindness and respect to every person, fostering relationships and providing care will outlast our job titles and resumes. I appreciate that you listen to the people you serve, that you share your skills and talents with the Red Cross and I'm grateful for your focus on solutions that work for all. Thank you for your dedication, service and leadership. Happy Nurses Week!

Red Cross Partners with Organizations to Help People Across U.S. Molly Dalton

The American Red Cross is partnering with various professional organizations, colleges and universities across the country to contribute to Red Cross programs and support Red Cross chapters in helping people in need.

These include the following:

- **American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine.** The partnership offers Academic Service Learning opportunities for medical students and alumni in southern Florida, focusing on the Red Cross Home Fire

Campaign.

- **Association of Occupational Health Nurses.** Members are represented on the Red Cross National Nursing Committee and on the Workforce Wellness Sub-committee. Members are encouraged to volunteer and engage nursing students in Academic Service Learning with the Red Cross.
- **Association of Public Health Nurses.** Members are represented on the National Nursing Committee.
- **Chamberlain College of Nursing.** The partnership includes Academic Service Learning opportunities and members are encouraged to volunteer with the Red Cross.
- **National Association of Hispanic Nurses.** In addition to being represented on the National Nursing Committee, the Association has helped the Red Cross with direct recruitment and provided input on how to better serve Hispanic communities.
- **National Black Nurses Association.** The NBNA is also represented on the National Nursing Committee and helped with direct recruitment as well as providing input on how to better serve Black communities. The NBNA

has also donated \$2,000 to the Measles and Rubella Initiative, shared information among various organizations and invited the Red Cross to be part of their annual conference.

- **National Association of School Nurses.** This informal agreement offers collaboration on programs and services for youth and volunteer opportunities for school nurses and youth and young adults.
- **Organization for Associate Degree Nurses.** The Memorandum of Understanding encourages members to promote Academic Service Learning with the Red Cross and encourages members to volunteer.
- **Western Governors University.** Through Academic Service Learning, the university community is encouraged to volunteer with the Red Cross. The partnership also offers education benefits for Red Cross employees and volunteers.

If you would like more information about any of these partnerships, or to learn how your organization can also help the Red Cross, [contact Red Cross Chief Nurse Linda MacIntyre](#).

Nursing Network Builds Culture of Compassion and Commitment in Los Angeles Region

Anna Laine, Sr. Specialist, Volunteer Services

What if every volunteer at the Red Cross radiated empathy and hope? What impact would that have on the relevance, quality, reach and sustainability of our mission service delivery in the twenty-first century?

Even if the services we deliver to our communities have changed focus and shape along with the progress and development of American society, our mission still remains singular – preventing and alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies. Our mission is a mission of hope. From our founding moments to this day, health professionals of all qualifications live and embody our five guiding values – compassion, collaboration, creativity, credibility and commitment.



Attendees of a health professional town hall meeting in Long Beach, CA, on March 21 included Chief Nurse Linda MacIntyre, Cheri Larson and Anna Laine. Attendees are holding cut-out drawings of Clara Barton and a sign that reads "Allow us to Clarify, we [heart] the American Red Cross!"

As we work to strengthen our culture of engagement in the Los Angeles Region, we began building Nursing Network regional and territorial capacity in January of 2017 to actively recruit health professionals for identified high-priority positions for all lines of service with guidance and leadership support from Chief Nurse Linda MacIntyre.

This regional initiative is one element of a larger capacity-building strategy to support the adaptation process of the volunteer engagement cycle. We are evolving our regional Volunteer Services department into a center of expertise for capacity building and program development, to focus on meaningful activities that help strengthen

and engage our 50+ teams of 5,000+ volunteers in the Los Angeles Region.

Nursing Network leadership expansion is a key element in increasing our active recruitment capacity. We plan to attract more volunteers by building organizational partnerships in the health services sector.

As of April 2017, we have formed a local engagement team by appointing Nursing Network Regional Nurse Leader Cheri Larson and two Nursing Network Territory Engagement Specialists, Jane Zahn (T3 West LA) and Kristina Arellano (T4 South Bay & Long Beach, T5 East LA & Rio Hondo).

Cheri Larson, a former certified emergency nurse, has served communities in the Los Angeles Region and nationwide as a Red Cross volunteer since 1965. She serves as both a Disaster Health and a Disaster Mental Health volunteer. Over the course of decades of service to the Red Cross she has served in several leadership roles for her region - as Nursing Service Committee chairperson, Disaster Health Services coordinator and Client Services Committee member among others. She coordinated disaster nursing services with other community resources and services throughout Los Angeles County, and helped establish various health care programs.

Jane Zahn, a nurse practitioner, has worked with children with congenital heart disease and as an educator for cancer patients. Currently she is a private patient advocate working to support patients and families through complex health care issues. Zahn joined the Red Cross as a volunteer engagement project and program assistant this year and is excited about her new role.

Centennial of American Red Cross Nurses at War

One hundred years ago, on May 8, 1917, the first of fifty base hospitals organized by the American Red Cross for the U.S. Army sailed to Europe. Each unit consisted of sufficient nurses, physicians, officers, enlisted men and equipment needed to operate a 500-bed hospital.

Base Hospital #4 (Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland,

Kristina Arellano, CAN, LVN, is currently studying at the Rio Hondo College to become an RN. She has been a Red Crosser since February 2017, and is also supporting Biomedical Services as Blood Donor Ambassador and Community Outreach Specialist. Arellano has worked at Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital, Shea Rehabilitation Center and The Orchard Post-Acute Care Nursing Home. In her free time, she is an active community health advocate and activist, and has engaged in organizing various health promotion events with the American Cancer Society and Hacienda La Puente Unified School District since 2005. As a bilingual Spanish speaker, Kristina Arellano will be a great asset to the Los Angeles Region Nursing Network engagement team.

The regional Nursing Network engagement team was officially launched March 21 – 23 by Cheri Larson, Jane Zahn and Anna Laine of the local Red Cross leadership team and Chief Nurse Linda MacIntyre from national headquarters, with a presentation to the regional senior leadership team, two health professional town hall meetings in Long Beach and Santa Monica, and a presentation to the Regional Volunteer Advisory Council. Together, the health professional town hall meetings attracted over 40 participants from all lines of service.

The engagement team will launch operationally in May 2017, by participating in Rio Hondo College’s recruitment fair to recruit graduating student nurses as Red Cross volunteers. By expanding the Los Angeles Region’s Nursing Network through engagement team outreach, we hope to increase nurses’ and other health professionals’ involvement in the region, which will help us build a culture of compassion and commitment in our communities.

Jean Shulman, RN

Ohio) embarked with chief nurse Grace Allison and 62 nurses for service at No. 9 General Hospital in Rouen, France. Base Hospital #5 (Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts) sailed three days later. Carrie



Carrie Hall

Hall led the nurses assigned to No. 11 General Hospital in Dannes-Camiers and No. 13 at Boulogne. Chief Nurse Janet Christie directed the nurses at Base Hospital #2 (Presbyterian Hospital, New York, New York). Other chief nurses who sailed soon after included Daisy Urch, Base Hospital #12 (Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois), Julia Stimson, Base Hospital #21 (Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri) and Margaret Dunlap, Base Hospital #10 (Pennsylvania University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania).

General John J. Pershing and the American Expeditionary Forces (A.E.F.) had yet to arrive to arrive in Europe but these six units provided



Julia Stimson

immediate relief for the medical services of the British Expeditionary Forces. From this group, Julia Stimson became chief nurse of American Red Cross in France and then director of nursing service of the A.E.F. The chief surgeon of the A.E.F.

appointed Carrie Hall as the chief nurse of American Red Cross in Great Britain. She later replaced Stimson as chief nurse of the American Red Cross Nursing Service in France.

How were nursing personnel ready for service one month after America's entry into World War I? Under the direction of Jane Delano, Red Cross nursing preparedness plans with the War Department began years before the Army decision in 1916 to use Red Cross nurses for the military. Delano is said to have written the following statement, which was included in the *Manual for the Medical Department, United States Army, 1916*, also referred to as the "War Manual" that laid out regulations for the Army:

"The enrolled nurses of the American National Red Cross Nursing Service will constitute the reserve of the Army Nurse Corps, and in time of war or other emergency may with their own consent be assigned to active duty in the Military Establishment."

Jane Delano, who served as the second superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps from 1909 until 1912, maintained excellent relationships with the military. She had the complete respect of Col. Jefferson Kean, Director General of Military

Relief. His assistance helped create Delano's vision for the role of American Red Cross nurses. However, her small staff could not handle the volume of work required to increase enrollment of the Nursing Service. She recruited several outstanding nurse administrators to meet the needs of the Army, Navy and the Red Cross as America entered the war.

Wisely, she encouraged Clara Noyes, the superintendent at Bellevue, to accept the position of director of the Bureau of Nursing. She wrote to Noyes in early 1916, "We must have a strong woman in Washington! There is too much at stake now to take any chances and I feel in my very soul that you are the person for the place." In another note, "There is a tremendous piece of organization work to be done and your country certainly needs you! I am trying to be patient, for I am sure you will do what is best, but you cannot know how many times a day I long for your cool judgement and wise counsel."

Finally, Delano prevailed and Noyes arrived in



Clara Noyes

Washington in September 1916 and began her remarkable career with the Red Cross Nursing Service. She organized the nursing staff for the base hospitals and maintained the rosters, provided public health nurses for cantonment service, and supplied outdoor uniforms and equipment for Red Cross and Army nurses. She made several trips a week to New York City to support the nurses leaving for France.

In January 1917, the Nursing Service moved into the new American Red Cross National Headquarters. Jane Delano's offices were in the southwest corner of the first floor, overlooking the garden.

Vashti Bartlett agreed to assist Noyes and to create a plan for the standardization of surgical dressings for the military. Anna Kerr, a close friend of Delano, handled the examination of all enrollment applications. Lucy Minnigerode covered the special

units needed for Commissions to Europe and the War Department. She became the superintendent of nurses of the U.S. Public Health Service in December 1918 but still worked closely with the Red Cross.

In addition to the difficult projects, Clara Noyes dealt with a few amusing uniform issues. Julia Stimson wrote to her, "The white uniform is most unpractical. The night nurses put them on with aprons and caps, then don raincoats and rubbers, carry an umbrella in one hand and a lantern in the other and start on their rounds from one tent or hut to another. By morning you should see the caps . . . and their white skirts, after they have gone splashing through the sticky yellow mud!"

Although Jane Delano recommended a gray work uniform for practical purposes, the military

insisted that the classic white uniform be the standard. As the nurses arrived in France and discovered there were no facilities for keeping the white uniforms clean, the Surgeon General's office acquiesced and permitted the adoption of gray uniforms.

Delano happily instructed Noyes to order the gray dress for all nurses, at home and abroad. Warfare caused

difficulties in delivering the shipments. Twice submarines sunk merchant steamers carrying uniforms to Europe. Boots, slickers, raincoats and the outdoor uniforms with ulster coats became the



The outdoor uniform for American Red Cross nurses.

In Memoriam - Dr. Linda Spencer

Dr. Linda Spencer, PhD, MPH, RN, a 2001 recipient of the Red Cross Florence Nightingale Medal, the highest honor bestowed on a nurse by the International Committee of the Red Cross/Red Crescent (ICRC), passed away in November in Georgia after a brief illness.



A retired U.S. Army Nurse Corps Colonel, she spent decades working in various areas of public health both in the United States and in

most appreciated items as the war progressed. The nurses sent many notes to thank the Red Cross for their wardrobes. One nurse wrote, "When we fall into bed at night with hands and feet numb with cold, we bless you for giving us sleeping bags and warm pajamas. Many times when I have been lonely, heart-sick, soul-weary, the sight of my equipment has brought me new courage."

On April 30, 1917, Clara Noyes addressed the Twentieth Annual Convention of the American Nurses Association and said, "As I stand facing you tonight, under the shadow of war, we know not what we as nurses shall be called upon to do. We know however that our Red Cross Nursing Service exists but for one purpose, the reserve of the Army and Navy Nurse Corps in time of war . . . It must be written upon the pages of history for all times that our Red Cross nurses were prepared, that in this war our soldiers at least were not neglected and that they were properly nursed."

Eight days later the first contingent of nurses embarked for Europe.



American nurses arriving in Brest, France.

international settings. Dr. Spencer served as the American Red Cross State Nurse Liaison for the state of Georgia, provided international health services on four continents and headed the Red Cross International Nursing Task Force as well as serving as co-chair of the Georgia Disaster Health Services Committee. She also spent two years with the International Red Cross based in Russia where she directed Russian Red Cross home health nurses using the American Red Cross

Foundations for Caregiving.

She served on the condolence team for the Red Cross after the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995 about which she had this to say, "The bombing was a shock to this heartland state and I took on one of the most difficult roles I've ever had in my career. I served as a nurse on the Red Cross condolence team. I visited the homes of victims and offered a wide variety of services to grieving families. It was tough to make those visits but I knew we had something important to offer them."

Dr. Spencer retired from Emory University's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, where she was clinical associate professor. In addition to her years with the International Red Cross in Russia, she also carried out assignments with the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control, American Leprosy Mission and U.S. State Department.

Dr. Spencer worked in Nigeria, Liberia, Zambia, Ivory Coast, Indonesia, Pakistan, Georgia and



Linda Spencer was awarded the Florence Nightingale Medal in 2001.

Iraq, training Kurdish nurses in Iraq after the first Gulf War. She was a consultant to the U.S. Army Center for Disaster and Humanitarian Assistance Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. Since 2001, she focused her work on the role of the public health nurse in

emergency preparedness. In 2010, she observed, "Nursing interventions differ from country to country, but public health nursing is the same anywhere in the world. I have found my work in the United States and around the world to be very fulfilling. I'm traveling less, but I'm trying to put my energy into preparing the next generation of nurses to work in public health." Her most recent endeavor was nurse education in China in 2014.

Dr. Spencer is survived by her husband, Max Morrow. She will be remembered by the thousands of people whose lives she touched through her service, teaching, and friendship during a lifetime dedicated to nursing and humanitarian contributions.

WGU Education Discount Available Through June 30

Anita Wolfe

Western Governors University offers special benefits to Red Cross employees and volunteers. For a limited time, April 17 – June 30, 2017, you'll receive a 5% tuition discount, a scholarship offer

and an application fee waiver. This offer is valid for all degree programs, including nursing/health professions, business, IT or teaching. Available here: WGU.edu/redcross.

Nurse-Led Campaign to Help Save Children's Lives: Give to the Measles and Rubella Initiative Today

The American Red Cross National Nursing Committee (NNC) has committed to garnering support for the American Red Cross Measles and Rubella Initiative with a goal of raising \$50,000 in the next year to help eradicate measles by the year 2020.

[What is the Measles and Rubella Initiative?](#) It was created in 2001 by the American Red Cross, United Nations Foundation, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF and

World Health Organization to help control the spread of measles and reduce measles-related deaths. Over the last 15 years, the American Red Cross and its Initiative partners have helped to vaccinate two billion children in 88 developing countries.

Because of these efforts, there has been a 79% decrease in deaths from measles. Nevertheless, *315 children die daily from measles complications*. The goal is to eradicate measles in

the world by 2020.

Nurses give their time every day as Red Cross staff and volunteers, helping children and adults throughout the US and the world. Help the NNC demonstrate that nurses also put their finances where their ideals and values are, by supporting this nurse-led campaign. Make a contribution to the Measles and Rubella Initiative today by going

to

<https://www.crowdrise.com/nurses-working-together-to-stop-measles-and-rubella> and clicking on “Donate”. As of early May, \$3,600 has been collected toward the \$50,000 goal. We thank the National Black Nurses Association for their donation of \$2000!

Support the Humanitarian Work of the Red Cross with a Charitable Gift Annuity

Candace Roosevelt, MAN, MBA

You do a wonderful thing when you make a gift to the Red Cross, but what if you could also help yourself at the same time? You can, with a charitable gift annuity. Many friends of the Red Cross say they wish they could do more to support important Red Cross programs, but feel they can't give up any income. A gift annuity, in which you retain payments for your life, may enable you to make a larger gift than you thought possible. A gift annuity also entitles you to an income tax charitable deduction, but more importantly, allows you to be part of nationwide Red Cross efforts to help those in need.

A charitable gift annuity is simply a contract between you and the Red Cross in which you exchange a gift of cash or securities for the receipt of guaranteed fixed payments each year for the rest of your life and/or the life of a loved one. With a gift annuity, you can:

- Receive fixed payments for life at attractive payout rates;

- Take an immediate tax deduction;
- Enjoy tax-free income for a portion of your annual payments;
- Minimize capital gains taxes if you fund your gift annuity with appreciated securities; and
- Know the personal satisfaction of supporting the many programs of the Red Cross.

For more information about establishing a charitable gift annuity, please contact Candace Roosevelt, Gift Planning Officer, at 617-274-5247 or Candace.roosevelt@redcross.org.

AMERICAN RED CROSS National Nursing Committee Heritage Committee Members: Vivian Littlefield, Chair; Elizabeth Kazmier, Editor; Donna Jensen, Associate Editor; Committee Members/Contributors: Molly Dalton; Donna Dorsey; Marie Etienne; Linda MacIntyre; Candace Roosevelt; Cheryl Schmidt; Jean Shulman; Jean Van Voorhis



Help us get in touch with and recognize other current and former Red Cross Nurses!

Please send the email, phone, and address of your friends and colleagues to us at RedCrossNurse@redcross.org. Share this newsletter via email, Facebook, Twitter and your preferred social media. Link to <http://www.redcross.org/support/get-involved/heritage-program> and click on the “Nursing Matters – Past and Present” link.

Thank you!