



December 4, 2017

Sophia Russell, DM, MBA, RN, NE-BC  
Captain, Nurse Corps, US Public Health Service  
Director, Division of Nursing and Public Health  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear CAPT Russell,

On behalf of the Nursing Community Coalition, we would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Director of the Division of Nursing and Public Health within the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). We look forward to working with you and your staff as you lead a department that is vital to ensuring healthcare services reach those who live in America's most rural and underserved areas.

The Nursing Community includes 58 members that are the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession. We believe that the healthcare delivery system should be one that promotes wellness, advances research through scientific discovery, and provides timely access to care across the continuum. With over four million licensed registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, and nursing students, the profession embodies the drive and passion to continually improve care for patients, families, and communities.

For years, our coalition has worked with the Division of Nursing and Public Health and HRSA to ensure its pipeline programs support provider education and training with the goal of ultimately increasing access to affordable, high-quality care. We stand ready to help advance HRSA initiatives that aim to maximize the role of all providers in the healthcare team.

The unique partnership the Nursing Community coalition has created with our members allows our national organizations to unite on shared agendas and to promote America's health through nursing care. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you directly and share our collective priorities. In the meantime, if the Nursing Community can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact the coalition's Executive Director, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto at [smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu) or at 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

*Promoting America's Health Through Nursing Care*

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