



January 20, 2022

Carole Johnson
Administrator
U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Administrator Johnson:

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), we congratulate you on your role as Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and welcome the opportunity to work with you and your staff.

As you know, nurses and nursing students are currently serving on the frontlines in the fight against COVID-19 by educating, tracing, testing, vaccinating, and boosting communities nationwide. We at AACN have a vested interest in supporting this work, as our 840 member schools are preparing over 560,000 nursing students for the workforce. Given the critical role nurses play in addressing public health emergencies and providing evidence-based care, we look forward to continuing to work with our colleagues at HRSA to ensure that nurses are engaged in the national dialogue on protecting the nation's health and improving health care.

As the collective voice for academic nursing, AACN serves as the catalyst for excellence and innovation in nursing education, research, and practice, especially in rural and underserved communities. Our Federal Policy Agenda reflects our core policy values of sustainability, innovation, and inclusivity. We believe these principles are essential for strengthening and sustaining our nation's health.

We have worked closely with your staff on Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs and look forward to continuing our partnership. As you begin your work to set priorities please know that we are here to connect you with nursing leaders, researchers, and policy experts who offer critical insights. We welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss how we can assist in your work. If we can be of any assistance, please contact AACN by reaching out to Dr. Colleen Leners, Director of Policy at cleners@aacnnursing.org, or Rachel Stevenson, Director of Government Affairs at rstevenson@aacnursing.org.

Sincerely,

Susan Bakewell-Sachs, PhD, RN, FAAN
Board Chair

Deborah E. Trautman, PhD, RN, FAAN
President and Chief Executive Officer

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