

FUTURE OF NURSING™

Campaign for Action

AT THE CENTER TO CHAMPION NURSING IN AMERICA



December 7, 2016

Dear Action Coalition leaders:

As we head into year-end, we want to take a moment to thank you for all you have done to improve America's health through nursing, and look ahead together as well.

This year, we have worked to combine two significant efforts: The future of nursing based on the Institute of Medicine's recommendations; and building a Culture of Health. Clearly these two powerful movements go together. And just as clearly, integrating these concepts takes great thought and time—efforts that all of you have made, and for which we are proud and appreciative.

Thanks to you, we've had much success implementing the Institute of Medicine recommendations. Since the start of the *Campaign*, eight states have changed their laws so more people have better access to health care and an additional eight have made incremental changes toward that goal; we've made great strides in nursing education, as well. The number of nurses graduating today with a BSN (including RN-to-BSN) is higher than the number of those earning an associate degree. We're also making strides in increasing diversity. The number of minority students enrolled in advanced nursing education is now at about 30 percent. In addition, states are partnering with departments of public health and labor to tally gaps in the nursing workforce so that we can plan for the future by tracking how many nurses are working and where.

And you are collaborating with many in your communities to make clear the importance of nurses in America's health. Action Coalitions together since the *Campaign's* start have drawn support from nearly 2,200 stakeholders, including colleges and universities; health and hospital systems; businesses; state government representatives; and nursing workforce centers. What's more, you have raised more than \$21 million outside of funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Which brings us to our biggest thanks: It's gratifying to see how Action Coalitions are incorporating the Culture of Health into our crucial work on the IOM recommendations.

At the national Summit in December 2015, we started to explore ways our existing work dovetails with the Culture of Health. The creativity in these conversations continued in two meetings over the summer, as we were able to weave together how our work to implement IOM recommendations reinforces our building a Culture of Health.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to announce we will hold several meetings in the spring and summer to support your work around building healthier communities.

We have seen how nurse leaders inspire and learn from each other at these workshops, by asking questions, talking about their efforts, explaining their successes. We will also hear more about a new program being developed around sustainability, speaking publicly about the *Campaign* and building a Culture of Health. We will send details about these workshops later;

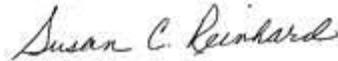
for now, we're excited to know we will be seeing and hearing from you in person.

We look forward to seeing you next year, and learning about the progress you have made to build healthier communities and advance IOM recommendations. It is thanks to your thoughtful leadership that we are building a Culture of Health through nursing.

Best regards,



Susan B. Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN
Senior Adviser for Nursing, Robert Wood
Johnson Foundation
Director, Future of Nursing: *Campaign for
Action*



Susan C. Reinhard, PhD, RN, FAAN
Senior Vice President and
Director, AARP Public Policy Institute
Chief Strategist, Center to Champion
Nursing in America