

VA Celebrates National Nurses Week May 6-12

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the nation's largest single employer of nurses, joins the American Nurses Association in honoring America's nurses dedicated to saving lives and maintaining the health of millions of individuals, including our nation's heroes, during National Nurses Week, May 6-12.

This year's Nurses Week theme is "Ethical Practice. Quality Care." and VA health care facilities throughout the country will pay tribute to the more than 90,000 nurses who Mountain Home VA Healthcare System Director Charlene Ehret describes "as the compassionate backbone of VA's world-class health care system."

Annually, National Nurses Week begins on May 6, marked as Nurse Recognition Day, and ends on May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder of nursing as a modern profession.

National Nurses Week is devoted to highlighting the diverse ways in which registered nurses, the largest health care profession, work to improve health care. From bedside nursing in hospitals and long-term care facilities to the halls of research institutions, state legislatures, and Congress, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession is meeting the expanding health care needs of American society and its veterans.

For more about VA nurses, contact the Mountain Home VA Healthcare System at 423-926-1171 or 877-573-3529, or check the Web at <http://www.va.gov/nursing/>.