



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
LANSING

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR.  
LT. GOVERNOR

May 6, 2009

Dear Friends:

May 6<sup>th</sup> begins the observance of National Nurses Week, and we want to say a special word of thanks to you, Michigan's 152,000 nurses, for your dedication to the health and well-being of the citizens of Michigan. Your commitment to the nursing profession and to those for whom you care is second to none.

The 2008 annual Gallup Honesty and Ethics poll measuring public opinion on the most trustworthy and respected profession once again revealed nurses taking the top slot. The fact that nurses continue to rank highest on this list year after year is a testament to the nursing profession. You have earned it because of your hard work and commitment to the people you serve.

The nursing profession fulfills society's need for highly educated individuals who embrace and act according to a strong code of ethics, especially when entrusted with the health care of individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations. You especially deserve recognition for your service in the face of the nation's nursing shortage. Thank you for the many additional hours of care that you put in to assure that patients receive the highest quality care.

Whether you teach new mothers how to care for their infants, tend to patients in the hospital, monitor communicable diseases within your community, help diabetic children in school, teach our nursing students, or are nurse researchers contributing to the knowledge base and scientific breakthroughs, each one of you makes a profound difference in the lives of Michigan's nearly 10 million residents.

We pledge our continued support to address the nursing shortage in Michigan. And we are confident that together with all stakeholders in health care, we will be successful in meeting the nursing care needs of this great state.

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, it is our pleasure to recognize you for your many contributions to the advancement of health care. And again, please accept our heartfelt thanks during National Nurses Week and know that your tireless efforts are most deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor

John D. Cherry, Jr.  
Lt. Governor