

# COVID-19

## Weekly Digest



May 8, 2020

### Academy Actions



#### Academy Launches a Special Video Series in Honor of Nurses Month

On May 6 (Nurses Day), Academy President **Eileen Sullivan-Marx**, PhD, RN, FAAN, shared **remarks to celebrate** nursing's continued commitment to care especially in light of the pandemic. Since 2020 has been declared by the World Health Organization as the International Year of the Nurse & Midwife, Nurses Week has been extended to **Nurses Month** and each week features a different theme designated by the American Nurses Association. [View Dr. Sullivan-Marx's video.](#)

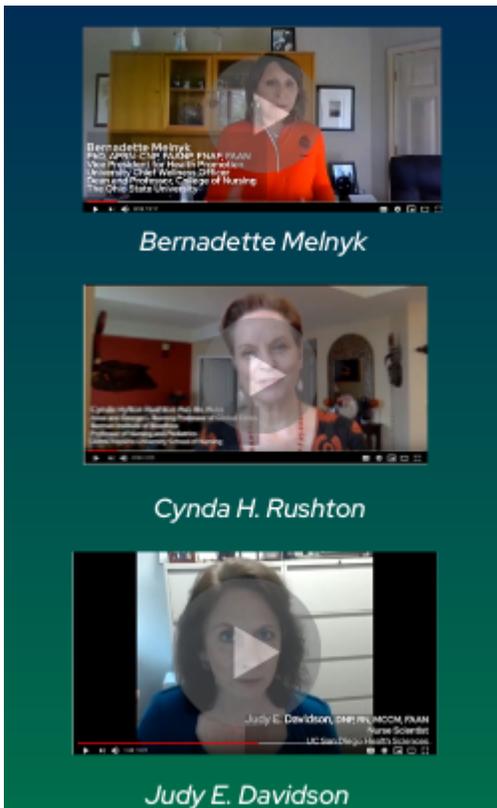
To highlight this week's theme, **self-care**, the Academy released videos providing insights from three leading experts on ways to promote nurse wellness as a priority to improve public health.

[View video](#) - **Bernadette Melnyk**, PhD, APRN-CNP, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN, Vice President for Health Promotion, University Chief Wellness Officer, Dean and Professor, College of Nursing, Professor of Pediatrics & Psychiatry, College of Medicine, The Ohio State University

[View video](#) - **Cynda H. Rushton**, PhD, RN, FAAN, Anne and George Bunting Professor of Clinical Ethics, Berman Institute of Bioethics, Professor of Nursing and Pediatrics, John's Hopkins University School of Nursing

[View video](#) - **Judy E. Davidson**, DNP, RN, FCCM, FAAN, Nurse Scientist, University of California San Diego Health Sciences

Visit [www.aannet.org/yearofthenurse](http://www.aannet.org/yearofthenurse) for more information. New videos, content, and resources will be added weekly throughout the month of May.



## Academy Signed on to a Joint Letter Urging Emergency Supplemental Funding for Infant and Young Child Feeding Delivered

The Academy signed onto a [letter](#) with other healthcare organizations urging Members of Congress to support \$10 million in supplemental funding to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for infant and young child feeding in emergencies in the next COVID-19 relief package. The coronavirus has put many health disparities in the national spotlight. One of which is the that the pandemic is compromising the initiation and establishment of breastfeeding, disproportionately impacting communities of color and those who are otherwise marginalized. This \$10 million in funding would provide immediate trauma-informed infant and young child feeding relief for these families and communities.

## Connect Fellow to Fellow through the [COVID-19 Discussion Forum](#)

To help facilitate Fellow-to-Fellow conversations around the pandemic, we have created a private [COVID-19 Discussion](#) forum. This is an opportunity for you to share your stories, photos, videos, anecdotes, resources, and other pertinent information with each other and the Academy staff. *Please contact [Austin Hunte](#) with questions or if you need help accessing the site.*

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## From the Front Lines

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**Colleen Leners**, DNP, APRN, FAANP, FAAN, Director of Policy at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, and many other volunteers around the DC area have signed up to [join DC's Medical Reserve Corps](#). Dr. Leners shared that she has tested over 200 residents during her service to date. "I am in a position to give back to my community as there is no greater time to do so and my employer is very supportive." She joins approximately 5,000 other licensed volunteers to perform nasal swabs used for coronavirus testing and to conduct health screenings. The DC Medical Reserve Corps is still looking for [volunteers](#) to aid in their efforts to combat the coronavirus. Nurse volunteer, **Lauren Inouye**, MPH, RN, says,

"There's an old adage 'once a nurse, always a nurse' and that's definitely true."

(Photo: [WJLA](#))

## News & Updates from Organizations

**ABC7** held a virtual and interactive town hall on the impact of COVID-19 on the African American community, "[Race and Coronavirus: A Bay Area Conversation](#)," on May 4th. **Monica McLemore**, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN was a featured panelist.

The **American Geriatric Society** [issued](#) a position statement: "Allocating Scarce Resources in the COVID-19 Era."

**Be Well Indiana** [released](#) some important information on managing mental health during the global pandemic as well as some video [resources](#).

In a **Buffalo Business First** [article](#), **Eileen Sullivan-Marx**, PhD, RN, FAAN, **Julie Fairman**, PhD, RN, FAAN, and **Peter Buerhaus**, PhD, RN, FAAN provide expert insights on how "COVID-19 changes nursing, resurrects discussion of public health needs."

The **Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research (FNINR)** [published](#) an interview with **Tener Goodwin Veenema**, PhD, MPH, MS, RN, FAAN about her experience with combatting COVID-19. For more stories, please visit their [website](#).



**The George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health** [released](#) a "[Health Care Worker Survey COVID-19 Survey](#)." This survey is intended to identify the policies and practices that led to exposure and to identify the best practices to protect the nation's healthcare workers.

**Health Affairs** [published](#) an article, "Protecting Incarcerated People In The Face Of COVID-19: A Health And Human Rights Perspective," which highlights the risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19 in jails, prisons, and immigration detention centers.

The **History Factory Plugged In** [podcast](#) featured **Arlene Keeling**, PhD, RN, FAAN where she discusses the history of nursing and why we celebrate National Nurses Day, International Nurses Day, and International Nurses Week.

The **International Council of Nurses (ICN)** [released](#) a statement, "ICN calls for data on healthcare worker infection rates and deaths." ICN has learned that "**at least 90,000 healthcare workers have been infected, and more than 260 nurses have died**" fighting the coronavirus.



The **International Journal of Care Coordination** [issued](#) a call for papers on "Strengthening the health system response to COVID-19."

**Johns Hopkins University & Free Learn** is [offering](#) a free course: "COVID-19: Effective Nursing in Times of Crisis." The course will identify key characteristics of COVID-19 and their effect on vulnerable populations; evaluate approaches to strengthening health systems; reflect on the impact of public health crises in your context; describe the characteristics of effective healthcare interventions; and much more.

The **Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved** [published](#) an article, "The African American Petri Dish." The essay "amplifies the insidious nature of the novel coronavirus (resulting in COVID19) and its ubiquitous spread, which disproportionately and adversely affect the health and well-being of people of color."



The **Kaiser Family Foundation** [published](#) an article, "Lifting Social Distancing Measures in America: State Actions & Metrics." KFF also [released](#) a policy brief, "Low-Income and Communities of Color at Higher Risk of Serious Illness if Infected with Coronavirus." For more information, please visit the [Coronavirus Policy](#)

[Watch page.](#)

The **National Academy of Medicine (NAM) & the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)** released a [recorded webinar](#): Helping People with Addiction Stay Connected During COVID-19. In addition, NAM [released another webinar](#): Supporting Clinician Well-Being During COVID-19. Academy President, **Dr. Eileen Sullivan-Marx**, was a featured speaker who shared her experience building student resilience at NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing. For more information, please visit the [NAM website](#).

The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)** [published](#) a blog, "Caring for Mental Health in Communities of Color During COVID-19." For more coronavirus information, please visit their [website](#).

The **World Health Organization** [released](#) guidelines for frontline PPE use. This [graphic](#) provides a visual illustration of the guidelines.

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## Federal Government Response

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### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)

- CDC [released](#) a [new video](#): *Certifying Deaths Due to COVID-19*.
- CDC [launched](#) a national viral genomics consortium to better map SARS-CoV-2 transmission.
- CDC continues to [update](#) data on the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the US.

### Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Activity

- CMS [issued](#) new guidance requirements for the notification of confirmed and suspected COVID-19 cases among residents and staff in nursing homes.
- CMS is [allowing](#) healthcare systems and hospitals to provide services in locations beyond their existing walls to help address the urgent need to expand care capacity and to develop sites dedicated to COVID-19 treatment.
- CMS [updated](#) multiple fact sheets that summarize changes made through regulatory actions in response to COVID-19. In addition, CMS [issued](#) a memo to state survey agency directors to ensure clinical laboratories can respond to the crisis.
- CMS [continues to hold calls](#) with clinicians, hospitals, other facilities, and states in an effort to keep stakeholders updated on COVID-19 efforts. Find [more general information](#).

## Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- HHS [issued](#) a statement, "HHS Awards More than Half a Billion Dollars Across the Nation to Expand COVID-19 Testing." HHS has delivered nearly \$583 million to 1,385 HRSA-funded health centers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and eight US territories to expand COVID-19 testing.

## Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- FDA [released](#) a statement, "FDA Continues to Combat Fraudulent COVID-19 Medical Products."
- FDA [released](#) a revised policy on antibody tests, "Insight into FDA's Revised Policy on Antibody Tests: Prioritizing Access and Accuracy."
- FDA [issued](#) "Emergency Use Authorization for Potential COVID-19 Treatment." The authorization of the drug *remdesivir* follows the NIH clinical trial shown to shorten recovery time in some patients.

## National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- NIH [announced](#) a new study to determine incidence of novel coronavirus infection in US children.
- NIH Director's Blog on "[Study Finds Nearly Everyone Who Recovers from COVID-19 Makes Coronavirus Antibodies](#)" and "[The Prime Cellular Targets for the Novel Coronavirus](#)."

## National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

- NIAID [released](#) a blog, "New NIAID Study Examines Immune Responses in People Hospitalized with COVID-19."

## National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)

- Acting Director Tara A. Schwetz [released a statement](#), "Appreciating Nurses' Vital Role in Health Care and Research."

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## Happy Mother's Day!

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The **Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center (BHERC)**, founded by **Shirley Evers-Manly**, PhD, RN, PHN, FAAN, continues its "[Operation Love](#)" outreach this Mother's Day weekend, providing homeless families in Washington, DC and Baltimore with underlying health and psychosocial condition who have been severely impacted by the pandemic a Mother's Day meal or grocery box with two weeks of food and healthy recipes.

This weekend, in celebrating Nurses Week, all donations are honoring Academy Living

Legend, **Bernardine M. Lacey**, PhD, RN, FAAN, who started the first nurse-operated homeless clinic, the D Street Shelter, in Washington, DC.

*(Photo: Dr. Lacey embracing Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson at the 2019 Academy Transforming Health, Driving Policy Conference.)*



(Source: [Buster Olney via Twitter](#))

COVID-19 Resources

Policy News

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