Dear Excela Nurses,

As our nation pauses to recognize you during National Nurses Week, we would like to convey our profound gratitude and deepest appreciation for all that you do for our patients and their loved ones. Nowhere is the strength of human touch more evident than in the healing hands of our nurses.

This week traditionally salutes nurses for their clinical skills, compassion and care they provide. This year, even more than ever, we believe you are to be acknowledged for the ever-expanding role you play, not only in providing essential healthcare services across our system, but actively driving the evolution of the nursing profession and how healthcare is delivered.

You have demonstrated ongoing leadership in identifying strategies to improve clinical practices across the spectrum of care and for assuring the most personalized patient experience. You play a critically important role in not only determining how we do things, but in what we do and why we do it. And all you do is for the betterment of those we mutually serve.

For decades, nurses have been recognized as the most trusted profession. As nurses respond with skill and selflessness to the challenges of the pandemic, the citizens of our country realize more deeply those essential contributions. Nurses step forward and take action in the time of need serving with knowledge, skill and compassion.

Nursing is certainly not for the faint of heart. Nursing is for those with character, strength and purpose.

Please take the time to reflect upon the remarkable difference you make for so many each and every day. As we celebrate the Year of the Nurse, you should take great satisfaction and pride in knowing that you are creating and strengthening the legacy of professional nursing and more importantly, setting a new standard of excellence in nursing for those who follow.

Congratulations to each of you during this celebratory week. Take a moment to enjoy the feeling of accomplishment that you and your colleagues deserve.

Sincerely,

Helen K. Burns, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN
Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer

John M. Sphon
Chief Executive Officer

Excela Health