



January XX, 2014

ADDRESS

Dear RADM Nessler,

On behalf of the **XX** undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community coalition, we sincerely thank you for your steadfast dedication to improving America's health during your tenure as the Chief Nurse Officer (CNO) of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS). Collectively, our organizations represent nearly one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse faculty, researchers, and students, and are committed to promoting efforts that advance our profession and the health of our nation.

We are honored and grateful to have had you serve in this highly-regarded role. Your extensive career prior to assuming the role of the CNO of the USPHS has undoubtedly shaped the knowledge and expertise you brought to this leadership position. As the CNO, your guidance was critical to informing public health nursing priorities for the Surgeon General and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

This was readily apparent in your work as the chair of the task force that released the first Federal Public Health Service Nursing (FPHSN) Strategic Plan. The strategies outlined in the plan align with the goals of the U.S. Surgeon General's 2011 report, *National Prevention Strategy- America's Plan for Better Health and Wellness* and also compliments specific plans within HHS, non-HHS agencies, and Tribal health programs. Your collaboration with these entities will continue to propel the priorities set before the USPHS to advance models of care that focus on improving population health, wellness, and prevention.

Moreover, due to your guidance and direction, individuals serving in the Nurse Corps will continue to provide high-quality care for communities across the nation so that we may maximize our healthcare resources while aiming to minimize costs.

Again, thank you for your commitment and servitude to our profession, and more importantly, to America's patients through strengthening our public health infrastructure. If our organizations can be of any assistance, please contact Convener of the Nursing Community, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,