"Nursing is a progressive art such that to stand still is to go backwards."
- Florence Nightingale

Those words came from the founder of modern nursing nearly two centuries ago. They still ring true for me and for nurses around the world today. Florence Nightingale’s devotion to life-long learning to better care for others is one of the many reasons why the World Health Organization has designated 2020 as the International Year of the Nurse, which is also the 200th year since her birth.

As nurses, we have a chance to make a huge difference in the lives of our patients and their families every day across all settings. So CVPH and Alice Hyde Medical Center are proud to join the worldwide effort celebrating the work happening in hospital rooms, primary care offices, health clinics, home care, nursing homes, schools and anywhere else nurses provide care and leadership in the North Country and beyond.

From saving lives to making a patient smile, there are amazing and inspirational moments involving individual nurses and nursing teams at CVPH every day. We’re already sharing some of those incredible stories through programs like CVPH People and the Difference campaign. We'll continue to do that. And we can't wait to feature even more stories showcasing the dedication, talent and compassion of our nurses.

You'll hear about how these successes in nursing are transforming patient-centered care across our region.

One of the many great things about being a part of this organization is that providing the best care and patient experience possible is truly a team effort. Our nurses know their work contributes to the greater good. Every person at CVPH understands they play a significant role in shaping positive outcomes.
In fact, many of the stories you’ll hear throughout the year will be the result of nurses working with other departments to provide better care for our patients and the community.

Our nurses will have a chance to take part in the fun. We’re asking nurses to celebrate each other and give everyone a glimpse of what it’s like to be a nurse at CVPH by sharing what defines them as individuals and as teams in their respective areas. I’m sure many of their stories, pictures and videos will bring a smile to your face and remind you of a positive experience you have had with a nurse.

any of our nurses were born and raised in northern New York. We went to school here and are now part of the way we care for our community. We share our culture, strengths and vulnerabilities. And we have devoted our lives to helping those who also call this beautiful region home. That’s why we’re asking the community to join us in celebrating the Year of the Nurse.

We have a great team. But this goes well beyond our organization. Did you know that nearly half of the global health workforce is made up of nurses? They are often the first and sometimes the only health professional that people see. The quality of their initial assessment, care and treatment is vital.

Many nurses will tell you they are just doing their job. The impact of a nurse, though, is greater than what they can even imagine. I hope you’ll join us in celebrating these health professionals everywhere, as we recognize the Year of the Nurse at CVPH along with others celebrating nursing around the world.

With head, hands and heart,

MSN, MBA, RN, CNS-BC, CENP
Chief Nursing Officer