

May 6 -12, 2021

National Nurses Week

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS

An Association of essential heroes

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6 and ends on May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday. First observed October 11–16, 1954, National Nurses Week honors the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's mission to Crimea, where she and a team of nurses improved the unsanitary conditions at a British-based hospital, reducing the war death count by two-thirds.

At this time last year, the State of California declared a state of emergency, imposing lock-down measures that required non-essential workforce personnel to stay at home. Many industries, including restaurants, retail, entertainment, and sporting, halted operations. Our collective goal was to flatten the curve—to slow the infection rate of the novel and deadly coronavirus. We needed to reduce the death toll and preserve the state's medical resources and personnel to avoid further unimaginable death counts.

During this national/global health and economic crisis, nurses risked their health and well-being to tend, mend, nurture, and support our most important commodity—human life. We are all familiar with the imagery and stories of our heroes as they labored around the clock fighting for and comforting patients in their most desperate hours of need and isolation.

The California Association of Psychiatric Technicians is an organization of heroic individuals who maintained their indispensable role as 24/7 frontline healthcare workers during the coronavirus pandemic. Psych Techs reported to work inside our state's prisons, hospitals, and developmental centers where the virus ran rampant, inflicting many patients, inmates, residents, and staff.

During this National Nurses Week, we must acknowledge more than ever our amazing nurses as heroes. Nurses are a precious and limited resource, and their self-sacrifice has shown the world the best of humanity. CAPT celebrates and honors the individuals who have dedicated their lives to the nursing profession, a principled discipline characterized by compassion, commitment, and deep respect for life and personal dignity.

Psych Techs are nursing professionals who provide enhanced care, treatment, and quality of life for individuals suffering from mental illness and developmental disabilities, an undertaking worthy of special recognition and respect. CAPT is grateful to all our Psych Techs for their heart of compassion, service, and commitment to others.



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