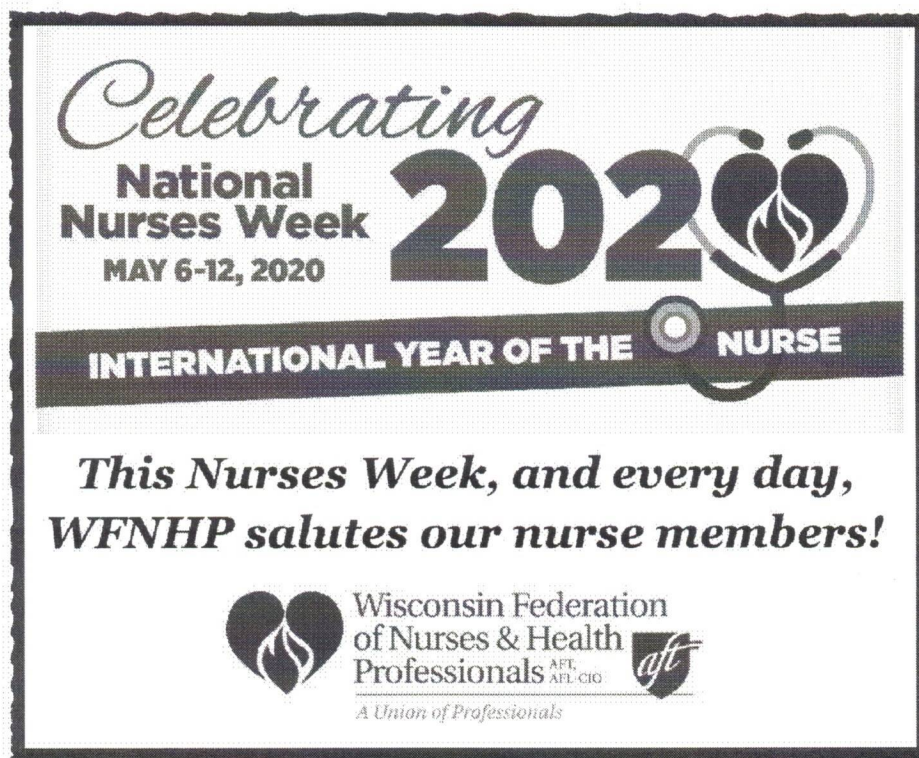


Happy Nurses' Week - Pay Us, Protect Us, Take Actions That Respect Us

From: Jeff Weber, WFNHP President & Jamie Lucas, WFNHP Executive Director (jlucas@wfnhp.org)

To: jenq0001@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2020, 07:00 PM CDT



Dear Scott,

Happy Nurses Week! This year, nurses deserve more than trinkets and plaques and newspaper ads. 2020 is the year of the nurse, and our union is demanding more. **Don't just thank us. Pay us and protect us. Take actions that respect us.**

Here's what you can do: [Write your legislator by clicking here](#) and tell them why nurses and all healthcare workers deserve basic protections during this pandemic. We need hazard pay, PPE, medical coverage, and childcare.

Nurses and healthcare workers are on the front lines of this battle, and the health of our community depends on your ability to do your jobs. As wealthy [corporate healthcare executives irresponsibly join the call to](#) reopen our society, their employees at the bedside are still in dire need of support, including hazard pay, adequate protective equipment and infection control policies, no-cost medical coverage and testing for COVID-19 illnesses, and childcare. Almost two months ago, [WFNHP made these demands public](#) and thousands of Wisconsinites have signed on to show their support. Unfortunately, those in a real position to take this important action have failed to do so in full.

According to state tracking of COVID cases, roughly 13% to 17% of all confirmed cases have been healthcare workers. This is consistent with national trends, and it should be alarming. Nurses are heroes, not martyrs. If we don't protect nurses, and it's clear we're not doing well enough just by those numbers, then there will be nobody left to care for our community. That means the virus spreads more. That means people die. Protecting nurses and healthcare workers protects everyone.

Since this pandemic hit and the world around us began to shut down, nurses and healthcare professionals have put themselves in harm's way to care for their patients. Nurses have done so without adequate PPE. They show up despite the changing recommendations from health agencies due to supply chain issues rather than science. As one ICU nurse put it, "I change in my garage or strip down on my front porch and go right into the shower after work. I don't know what I might be bringing home to my family. I don't have a choice."

These conditions are hazardous. Aldi, Target, and other corporations have respected their frontline staff. Nurses deserve this. Send your email now to your legislator and demand action. It's the best Nurses' Week gift in the world - respect, protection, and dignity for you and your family.



Here's another thing you can do: You can nominate a hero of your choice to win a free dinner or books by sending a video, image or message that includes your thanks; or you can nominate yourself by sending a message to your community about how you miss them.

Thank a Hero right now by nominating a nurse —or nominate yourself!

Thanks for all you do this week and every other week.

In solidarity,

Jeff Weber, RN, WFNHP President

Jamie Lucas, WFNHP Executive Director

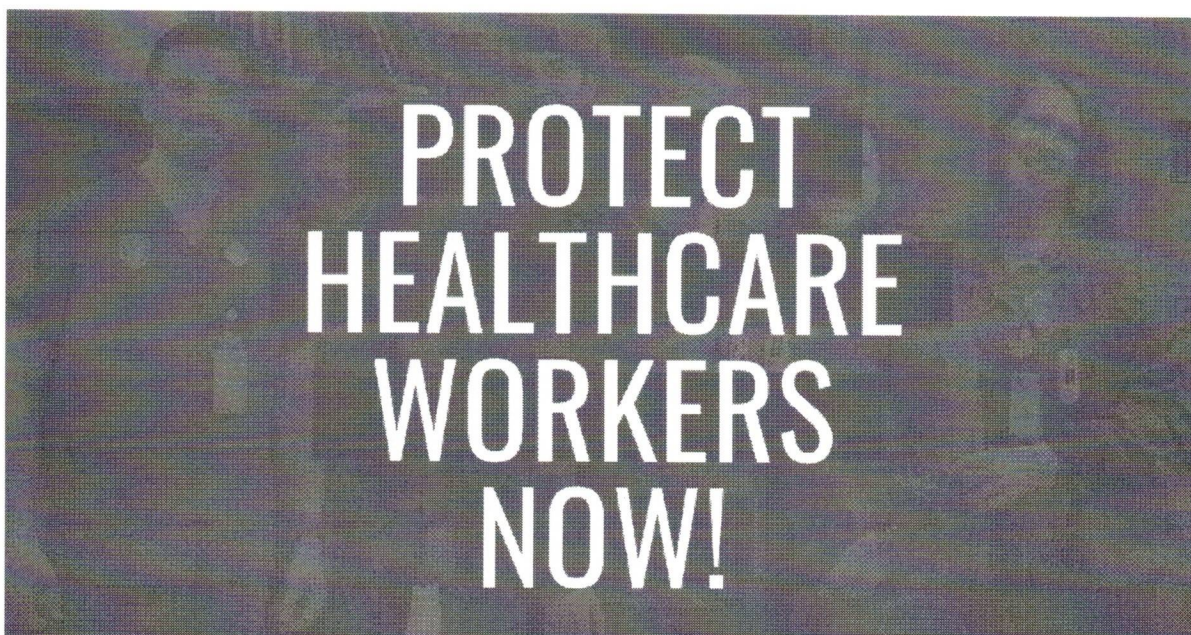
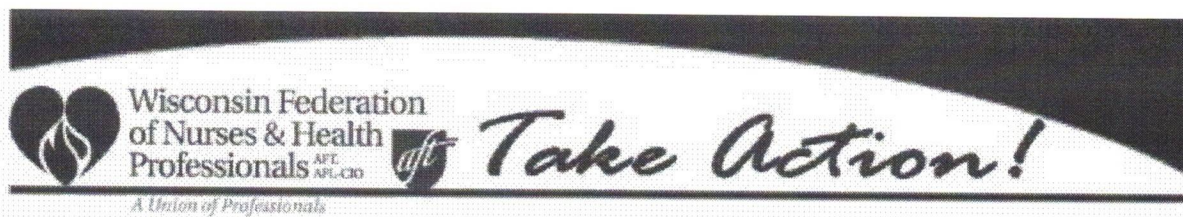
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URGENT: Tell Your Legislators to Support the Healthcare Heroes Bill

From: Jeff Weber, RN - WFNHP President (jweber@wfnhp.org)

To: jenq0001@yahoo.com

Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020, 07:15 PM CDT



Dear WFNHP Member,

We can't wait any longer: Your needs should be the law.

For the past two months, WFNHP has been fighting for **hazard pay, PPE, free childcare, PTO forgiveness and covered medical costs** for COVID-19 medical treatment for all healthcare workers. Most employers have taken half-measures towards providing these things, winning some real protections for some members. However, we need standards in place that protect and recognize every healthcare worker. That's why we are actively pushing for the introduction and passage of the "**Healthcare Heroes**" legislative package.

[Click here to send a letter to your legislators and the Governor!](#) Ask them to support this commonsense legislation and tell them why nurses and all healthcare workers deserve basic

protections during this pandemic. Your experience and perspective is going to make the difference.

A public health emergency like this requires a coordinated public health solution. A private, competing, corporate health infrastructure disincentivizes the cooperation we need to keep healthcare workers and patients safe. Together, though, we can come together and write the rules that we need by passing this legislation.

Write your legislators today. Tell them: "Don't just thank us. Pay us and protect us. Take actions that respect us. Support the Healthcare Heroes legislation."

Again, thank you for all you do. We know this is a difficult time and we will keep fighting for the respect and protections you deserve.

In solidarity,

Jeff Weber, RN - WFNHP President

Jamie Lucas, WFNHP Executive Director

P.S. Don't forget to "like" our [WFNHP Facebook page](#) to receive more up-to-date information on a timely basis.

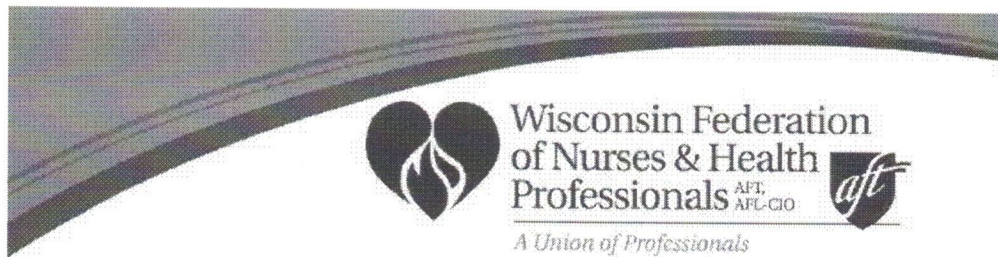
Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](#). To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from Wisconsin Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals, please [click here](#).

Your Union's COVID-19 Update to Members 5/8/20

From: Jamie Lucas, WFNHP Executive Director (jlucas@wfnhp.org)

To: jenq0001@yahoo.com

Date: Friday, May 8, 2020, 10:15 PM CDT



Dear WFNHP Champion of the Frontline –

How are you doing? Are you safe and healthy? Do you need anything? Also, happy Nurses' Week! This year is the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife! Celebrate with this Facebook profile picture frame. Then, let us know how your employer celebrated Nurses' Week this year by replying to this email. In case you missed it, we issued a statement that got some attention: This year during Nurses' Week, healthcare professionals deserve better than trinkets and ads in the paper. Our union members are on the frontlines of this pandemic, so: **Pay us. Protect us. Take actions that respect us.** Read it in full here.

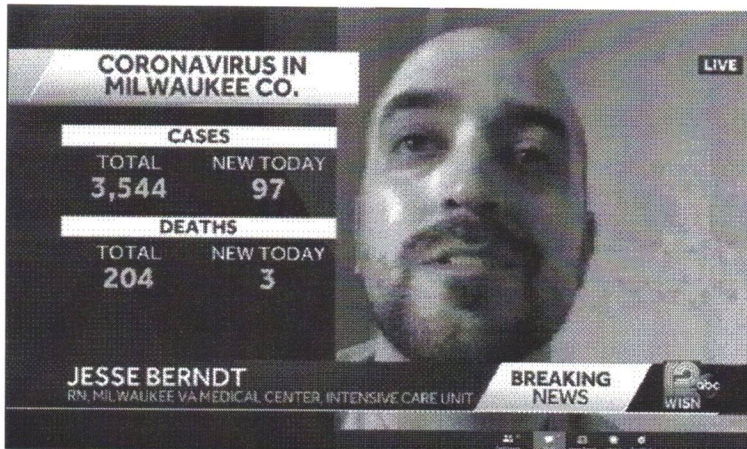


Use the AFT "Nurses Week 2020" Facebook profile picture frame

This will be your weekly update on all things COVID-related and our efforts to protect our members, all healthcare workers, our patients, and our communities. If you have needs, thoughts, comments, or suggestions, let us know. Respond to this email. Now, for the updates:

Let's pass the Healthcare Heroes Act. You deserve **hazard pay, childcare, PPE, and medical coverage** during this pandemic. You can send a letter to your legislators and the Governor to demand they pass the Healthcare Heroes Act and provide you with each of those basic protections. Even as the CEOs of

Ascension Wisconsin, Advocate Aurora, Children's, and Froedtert all push to open the economy soon, we know that we're not at all in the clear as a society. It's a shame these same CEOs didn't immediately provide you with hazard pay, childcare, PPE, and medical coverage. It's a shame nobody's stepped up to provide all these things to healthcare professionals. Obviously, it's up to us to bring about the change we need. We can do this if we act together. **So, click here, and take action for yourself, your families, and your coworkers.**



WFNHP leader opens up to the public on Nurses' Day on what it's like to work on a COVID unit. Jesse Berndt, RN, works on the ICU and cares

for COVID patients. During the daily Milwaukee County and City joint COVID-19 update press conference, our union was asked if we could help highlight the amazing work our nurses do every day on this day of national recognition. Enter Jesse, who shared the sobering realities of being up close to this insidious virus that non-healthcare professionals don't see. Long shifts, no breaks, uncomfortable masks and PPE, and being surrounded by death and loss - these are among the things that make this such a difficult time to be a healthcare professional. What is commonplace to you can be eye-opening to others. For this service and the work our nurses do every day, the Mayor and County Executive offered their thanks and wishes to all nurses for a happy Nurses' Day and Week. St. Francis was also highlighted, as cameras went on the unit to capture the happenings on the COVID unit at our community hospital.

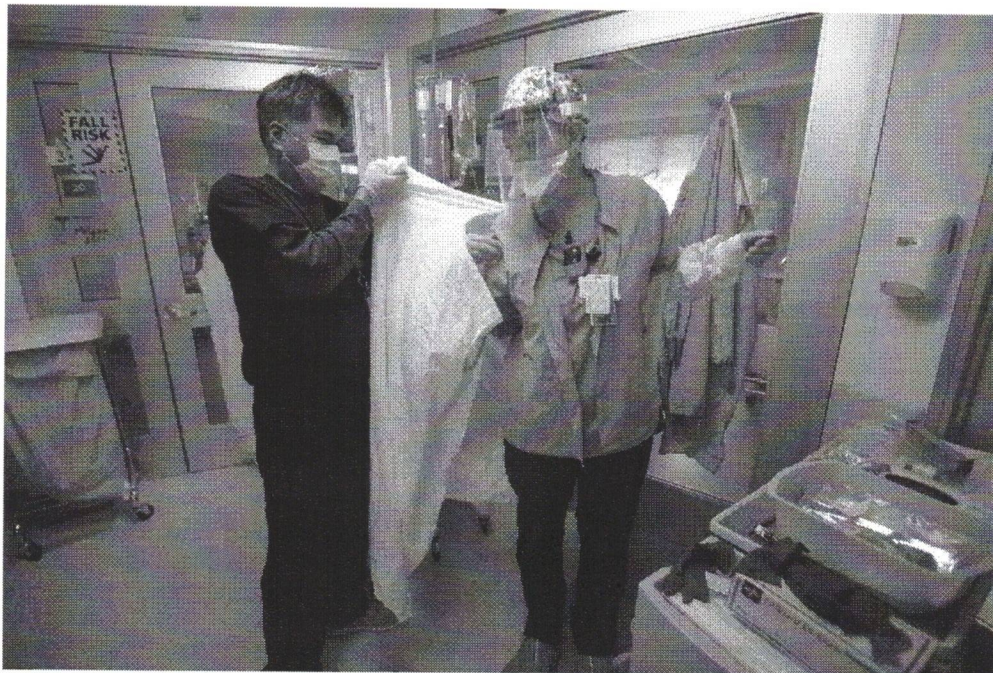


Photo by Mike De Sisti, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Another victory?! Hazard pay, or at least a pay incentive, is rumored to be offered at the Milwaukee VA. There are no details other than a vague message from administration that incentives and retention awards will be offered to certain staff. This is a great move that would likely not have happened at all without a consistent, concerted effort! However, some employers still need to come around. WDL has stayed silent on this matter. Froedtert has pulled their plan back, reportedly. Ascension has not yet acted, and they cannot quite get a clear handle on scheduling in certain areas of the hospital, further upsetting frontline healthcare workers who are already doing too much with too little support.

We've seen across employers that **a pandemic is no time to implement failed staffing plans that were discussed and scrapped during normal times.** Has your management switched around your schedule? Are they looking at new staffing models to cut costs? Do you think it's a fair sacrifice for frontline staff to be furloughed while executives and mid-level managers don't share in that sacrifice fairly? Times are tough, and everybody has to do something to meet the needs of this moment. But it's a different story altogether when somebody making hundreds of thousands of dollars each year and is working from home has to take a pay cut than when a part-time registered nurse, lab tech, or housekeeper has to cut down hours, reuse PPE, draw down on PTO, and work at the bedside or on the bench during this crisis. Healthcare systems should not be restructured on the backs of frontline caregivers as elective surgeries and procedures drop and revenues decline. If we don't look out for the frontline, there's going to be nobody to care for those who need it. We can do something about this, though.

It's clear now: **it's up to us to look out for each other.** Healthcare professionals must be united to center the needs of the frontline caregivers. This could mean advocating to your managers as a group about your needs, filing a grievance if the rules aren't being followed and the contract is being violated, signing letters or petitions requesting the things you need to do your job safely, or sending

Let's Look Out



For One Another

legislators across the state dozens upon dozens of letters urging them to protect healthcare workers. We are a union. We can act. It's obvious that we must do so.

As always, please check out our website for anything you might need. We are tracking how your employer is responding to our requests and this crisis [here](#). We are compiling the media attention our work is earning [here](#). And, perhaps most importantly, we are tracking resources for healthcare professionals [here](#) so you can find help if you need it. Remember, it is ok to not be ok, and you do not need to sacrifice yourself and your health for your boss or your job.

Thanks for all you do. Happy Nurses' Week! Let's keep pushing forward for a better healthcare system and better world.

In Solidarity,

Jamie Lucas, WFNHP Executive Director

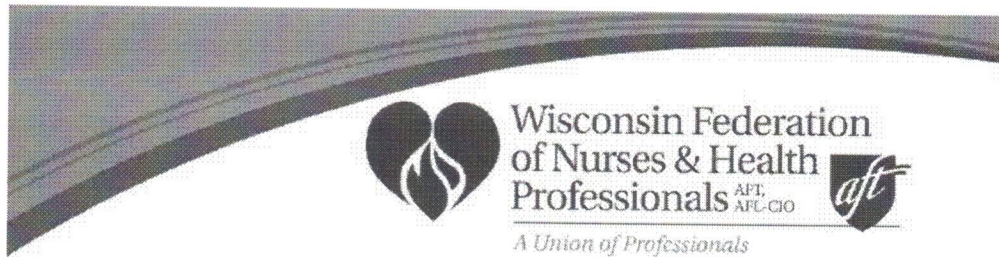
P.S. Please share this info with your co-workers and don't forget to "like" our [WFNHP Facebook page](#) to receive more up-to-date information on a timely basis.

WFNHP Demands Healthcare Executives Do Better To Keep Healthcare Workers Safe

From: Jeff Weber, WFNHP President & Jamie Lucas, WFNHP Executive Director (jlucas@wfnhp.org)

To: jenq0001@yahoo.com

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 07:45 PM CDT



Dear Scott,

Happy final day of Nurses' Week 2020. We hope you're safe and healthy. To close this week, we want to share [the following article](#) we published in continuation of our message of **"Don't just thank us. Pay us. Protect us. Take actions that respect us."** We chose this message because the dangerous and unprecedented crisis we're in lays bare the disparities between the frontlines and the boardrooms, the under-insured and the privately insured, the city and the suburbs and the rural communities, and the way that our current healthcare system doesn't work for most of us. It highlights the fact that nurses and health professionals need real support, not just kind words. We can do better. This piece highlights why it's needed and we make the case that there's enough resources in the system. We just need the will to demand better.

So, thank you. Let's stay on this path together and we'll create better together. Happy Nurses' Week!

Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service

May 12, 2020 by Jamie Lucas, Jeff Weber & Nate Gilliam

OPINION: An open letter to healthcare executives: You hold the power to keep your employees safe and paid. Do better.

Last month, leaders of Milwaukee-area health care corporations [wrote a letter](#) to the Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service readership called "We need your help to keep our caregivers safe: A letter to our community about COVID-19." This piece, while perhaps well-intentioned, was offensive, disrespectful and wholly inappropriate. This week is Nurses Week, and the Wisconsin

Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals has a message about what nurses and our community really need.

The truth is, CEOs and executives who signed this letter: Your employees need *your* help to stay safe. **And the entire Milwaukee community needs *you* to do better to keep us all safe.**

[Click here to read the rest of the article.](#)

In solidarity,

Jeff Weber, RN, WFNHP President

Jamie Lucas, WFNHP Executive Director

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