

Hospital and Nurses Week

During the month of May, hospitals across the country celebrate National Nurses Week and National Hospital Week. Of course, we could celebrate a different department in the hospital almost every week of the year. They all have a “special week” in which we recognize their services and commitment to the patients we serve. During hospital week, MMH recognizes all of its employees, volunteers and physicians and publicly thanks them for their dedication and service.

After working at MMH for almost 19 years, I am still amazed at what an incredible place a hospital is. Very few businesses can boast that they are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. That means, every night, every holiday, and every single weekend someone is here to take care of you. It isn't only nurses, and doctors, but radiology, respiratory care, housekeeping, pharmacy, laboratory, dietary, medical records, and many others play a role in making our hospital services available every day of the year. While you are home with your family on special holidays and celebrations, our food service staff is here preparing a beautiful meal to help make a patient's day a little more special. The patient care departments never get a choice of whether or not they'll work on the holiday; their choice is *which* holiday they will work. We also acknowledge the dedicated physicians, who are available any time, day or night, 365 days a year. The board certified emergency physicians who work in our emergency department are here and available to provide care at any time. They never know if they'll be awakened in the middle of the night for a car accident, chest pain, or a crying baby with an ear infection. This is only one example of how our physicians give unselfishly of their time and expertise.

It's a proven fact in health care that patients respond and get well faster when they feel the personal touch of caring people. Our employees, volunteers and physicians have a gift for reassuring, listening to and caring for our patients. National Hospital Week is an opportunity to recognize their hard work and dedication, although it's hardly enough to show our appreciation for the whole year. To everyone who works in Health Care, we salute you and thank you for your service!