

## ***The Caring Hands of Maryland's Nursing Assistants***

**Press Release:** *June 1, 2020*

**Subject:** *National Nursing Assistant Week  
June 18 – Jun 25, 2020*

**From:** *Maryland Gerontological Nursing Group (MGNG)*

### ***During National Nursing Assistant Week, the Maryland Gerontological Nursing Group encourages Marylanders to honor the state's 100,000 Nursing Assistants.***

*Nursing Assistants provide direct care to adults and people with disabilities in all health care settings, most notably in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. In addition to providing assistance with basic physical needs, Nursing Assistants provide a human touch and often develop meaningful relationships with patients and families.*

*Under normal circumstances, Nursing Assistants' work can be challenging. After hearing media reports about nursing home outbreaks, it is not hard to imagine the added difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic. And yet, Nursing Assistants continue to go to work – often without the recognition given to other health care workers.*

*The Maryland Gerontological Nursing Group urges health care facilities and individuals to seek ways to say "Thank You" to our Nursing Assistants. A simple handmade poster dropped off at a nearby facility is one way to show gratitude.*

*On Saturday, June 20, 2020 between 2:30 and 3:30 pm, we will be visiting a local nursing home (St Elizabeths) and assisted living facility (Caritas House) to show our appreciation. We hope that others will find ways to honor the Caring Hands of Maryland's Nursing Assistants.*

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*Nursing Assistants are certified by the Maryland Board of Nursing. Common workplace titles are Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA); Geriatric Nursing Assistant (GNA); Home Health Aide (HHA); Patient Care Technician (PCT); and Medication Aide.*

*The Maryland Gerontological Nursing Group is incorporated in the State of Maryland and registered under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act (#45214). We have been honoring Nursing Assistants for the past 15 years and will continue to do so. For more information, visit our website at [www.marylandcaringhands.com](http://www.marylandcaringhands.com).*

*For detailed information about the challenges facing the direct care workforce in elder care and disability services, visit PHI at [phinational.org](http://phinational.org).*