



Guam Memorial Hospital Authority

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GMHA celebrates incredible nursing staff during Emergency Nurses Week

October 12, 2021 – Tamuning, Guam – Guam Memorial Hospital Authority is proud and excited to celebrate all of our Emergency Department (ER) nurses during Emergency Nurses Week, from October 10-16.

The nationwide, weeklong celebration started as just one day in 1989, and was expanded to a week of tribute in 2001. This year's theme for Emergency Nurses Week is "grit," to honor the hard-work and tenacity of ER nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing nursing shortage.

"Grit is the exact word that describes our tireless and courageous healthcare heroes at GMHA. Despite all of the challenges and obstacles, our ER nurses continue to show up and give their all, and for that, I am truly grateful," said Lillian Perez-Posadas, GMHA CEO. "As a nurse myself, I know what a day in the ER can look like at our hospital. Today and every day, we cheer for you GMHA Team ER! Biba!"

Through their skill, quick-thinking and compassion, emergency nurses make an enormous difference when every second counts. Under extreme pressure, ER nurses prevail. While GMHA has always been proud to recognize its hard-working nursing staff, now more than ever, these teams deserve the highest accolades. These individuals are the community's frontlines, delivering excellent, accessible healthcare each and every single day.

In addition to Emergency Nurses Week, GMHA will also celebrate Emergency Nurses Day, on Wednesday October 13. When time permits, the GMHA ER will host activities, food and games to celebrate the ER staff.

"There's no denying that ER nurses have some of the hardest jobs. I know there are days they've wanted to quit, I know there are days when it was too hard to go on, but through it all, they showed up. Whether it's daytime, night time or over time, I can't thank our ER team enough for the incredible dedication and courage they've shown during the pandemic. Surge after surge, we continue to serve our community. That's our GMH!" said Christine Tuquero, GMHA Administrator of Nursing Services.

In the words of our own GMHA ER nurses: "the ER is never the same. You show up every day not knowing who or what you'll see. Always expect the unexpected."

"Emergency Nurses Week has increased significance this year, as our island mourns the loss of more than 200 lives to COVID-19, and as we have come to recognize just how essential our nurses and public health workers truly are. We owe a great debt of gratitude to the nurses on the front lines of this fight," said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero. "Our emergency nurses are willing to do whatever it takes to provide their patients the best care possible. No matter what comes through the hospital's doors, our nurses face it head-on. Even prior to the pandemic, our nurses have stood ready to get their hands and scrubs dirty to do what's right. They are the definition of grit, and as they continue working tirelessly to defeat the pandemic and as we build a stronger public health system for the future, I ask every



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one of us to remember all those who have given their time, expertise, and care - and even put their lives on the line - in service of a healthier and safer island for all of us.”

Emergency Nurses Week will round out with a virtual Proclamation Signing from Governor Lou Leon Guerrero on Friday October 15 from 11:30am – 12pm Chamorro Standard Time.

Be sure to thank an ER Nurse today! And, don't forget to thank any and all nurses for their dedication to our community during COVID-19!

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