



## **A Message from MNA President, Alena Groves**

As President of the MNA Board of Directors, a registered nurse of 27 years, and nurse practitioner for 13 years, it is my honor to recognize and celebrate Nurses Week and the extraordinary registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses who serve communities across our great state of Mississippi.

This week is more than a celebration. It is a moment to pause and recognize the compassion, resilience, leadership, and dedication that registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses bring to healthcare every single day. From our hospitals and clinics to schools, public health departments, long-term care facilities, universities, rural health centers, and community settings, Mississippi's registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses continue to have an incredible impact on the lives of patients, families, and communities.

Nurses are often present during life's most difficult moments, as well as its most joyful ones. We advocate for our patients, educate families, lead healthcare teams, improve systems of care, and stand as trusted professionals in every corner of our state. Whether responding to public health challenges, caring for vulnerable populations, mentoring future nurses, or advancing healthcare policy, nurses consistently rise to meet the needs of others with strength and compassion.

At the Mississippi Nurses' Association, we are proud to support registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses across Mississippi through advocacy, professional development, leadership opportunities, continuing education, and efforts that strengthen the nursing profession and improve healthcare outcomes statewide. We remain committed to empowering, educating, and supporting registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses throughout every stage of their careers.

Today, we also acknowledge the sacrifices you make, often balancing demanding careers with family responsibilities, emotional stress, and the ever-changing challenges of healthcare. Your dedication does not go unnoticed. Your work matters deeply, and the impact you make extends far beyond the bedside.

To every registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurse across Mississippi, thank you for your service, your professionalism, your courage, and your unwavering commitment to caring for others. You are the heart of healthcare in our state, and we are honored to celebrate you during Nurses Week.

Happy Nurses Week!

Alena Groves, DNP, FNP-C, ONP-C