



NursingWorld

National Nurses Week 2016 History

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK A Brief History

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6 and ends on May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event. As of 1998, May 8 was designated as National Student Nurses Day, to be celebrated annually. And as of 2003, National School Nurse Day is celebrated on the Wednesday within National Nurses Week each year.

The nursing profession has been supported and promoted by the American Nurses Association (ANA) since 1896. Each of ANA's state and territorial nurses associations promotes the nursing profession at the state and regional levels. Each conducts celebrations on these dates to recognize the contributions that nurses and nursing make to the community.

The ANA supports and encourages National Nurses Week recognition programs through the state and district nurses associations, other specialty nursing organizations, educational facilities, and independent health care companies and institutions.

1953

1954

1972

1974

1978

1981

1982

1990

1993

1996

1997

Learn more.



[Download the National Nurses Week History \[pdf\]](#)



[Florence Nightingale Pledge](#)

ANF Supports Nurses During National Nurses Week 2016.

HONOR A NURSE DURING NATIONAL NURSES WEEK!

The American Nurses Foundation **Honor a Nurse**, sponsored by Lippincott Solutions, was created to make sure nurses know they are respected and valued and to raise money for nursing projects. Choose a nurse, tell us why, make a small contribution, and we'll do the rest.

 **Honor
A Nurse**

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