

The State of Nursing



U.S. Public Health Service Nursing
72nd year Cadet Nurse Corps Recognition:
“Honoring their Legacy to Nursing”

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Disclaimer

- No conflicts of Interest
- Views expressed are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Uniformed Services University, the Department of Defense, or the United States Government.

Objectives

- Describe the history and impact of the US Cadet Nurse Corps.
- Identify the current state and challenges to nursing and nursing education.
- Discuss the future direction of nursing.

1940s

We Can Do It!



BUY WAR BONDS



I WANT YOU



Nursing Shortages



The Plan to Address the Nursing Shortage

- Strengthen civilian Schools of Nursing
- Accelerate training from 36 to 30 months
- Provide substitute—care by students vs no care
 - Civilian & military communities
 - On the home front
- Give graduates option to join Army or Navy Nurse Corps

The Nurse Training Act (Bolton Act 1943)

- Established (Cadet) **Victory Nurse Corps**
- Special Government Program
 - Administered by US Surgeon General Thomas Parran
 - Established Division of Nursing



In Washington: Representative Frances P. Bolton; Dr. Thomas Parran, Surgeon General, USPHS; and Lucile Petry, Director, U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps.

The Nurse Training Act (Bolton Act 1943)

- Subsidized nursing schools
 - Tuition , fees, stipend, room and board
- Postgraduate scholarships
 - for faculty & shortage areas
- Cadet commitment to serve for duration of war

Cadet Nurse Uniform



Ruth Spencer
Gartland, RGH '46



Lucille Taylor Kinsella, RGH '48



Evelyn DeGroot
Winter, RGH '46

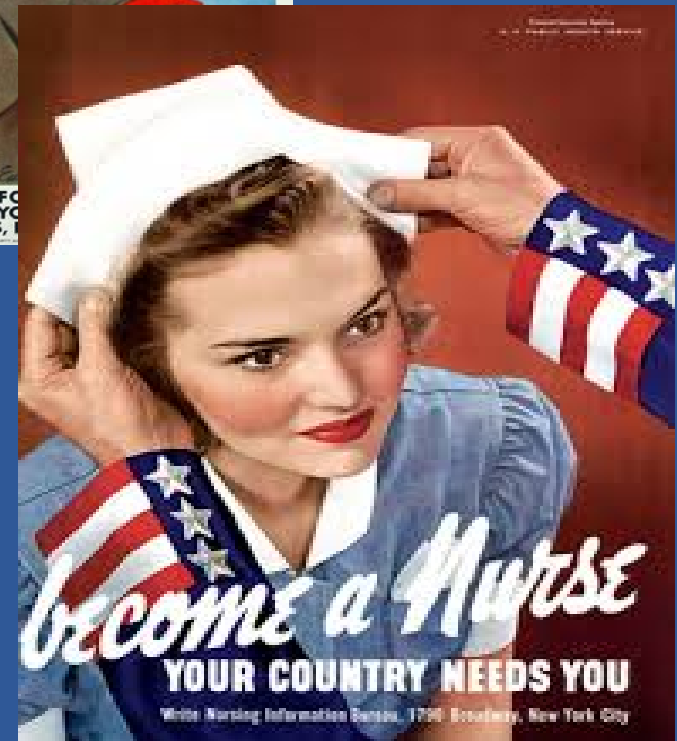


Evelyn DeGroot
Winter, RGH '46

Cadet Nurse Uniform



Cadet Nurse Corps 1943-1948



Impact

- Largest and youngest group of uniformed women to serve their country - 124,000
- Provided 80% of hospital care
 - Replaced nurse who went into the military
- Prevented collapse of nursing care in hospitals
- Subsidized 1125 of the 1300 nursing schools
- Enhanced diversity with > 3000 minority cadets

Legacy

- Improvements in nursing education
 - More academic approach vs apprenticeship training
 - Expanded course offerings
 - Increases in faculty size, classrooms, quarters, libraries
 - Nurse instructors lecturer on diseases vs MD
 - Encouraged more varied training for nurses

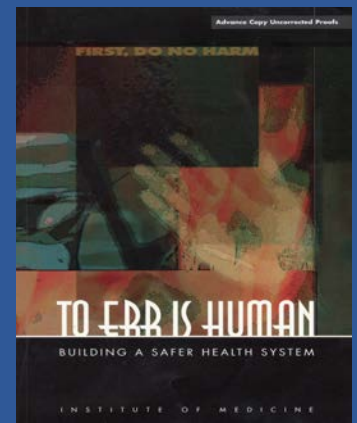
Public Health Message



Legacy

- Federal aid for postgraduate study
- Increased women attending universities
- Integration & diversity of students
- Established a prominent niche for nursing in the USPHS
- Enhanced visibility of nursing within and outside PHS

Challenges to the Public's Health Today



Challenges to National Defense & Health Security



Current State of Nursing



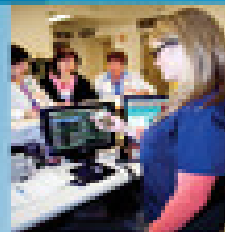
State of Nursing Education

- Multiple levels of entry
- Multiple types of degrees
- New competencies
 - Inter-professional health teams
 - Patient-centered Care
 - Evidence based practice
 - Quality improvement activities
 - Informatics

IOM Report: Future of Nursing 2010

The Future of Nursing:

LEADING CHANGE, ADVANCING HEALTH



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health (IOM Report, 2010)

- Nurses should achieve higher levels of education through improved education systems

Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health (IOM Report, 2010)

- Nurses should be educated with other professionals as students and throughout their careers
- Nurses should be full partners, with physicians and other health professionals, in redesigning health care in the United States

State of Nursing Practice

- Clinical Practice
 - staffing shortages
 - hi turnover rates
 - risks from injuries & infectious disease
 - limited resources
- Regulation of Advanced Practice Nursing

Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health (IOM Report, 2010)

- Nurses should practice to the full scope of their education and training.

State of Nursing Research

- National research agenda
 - prevent disease and disability
 - manage symptoms of disease
 - enhancing quality across the lifespan
 - palliative and end of life care
- Educate & mentor new nurse scientists
- Increase funding

Nursing



Nursing



Thank you Cadet Nurses!!!



References

- [Cadet Nurse Corps history and WWII women's uniforms in color](#) — WWII US women's service organizations (WAC, WAVES, ANC, NNC, USMCWR, PHS, SPARS, ARC, and WASP)
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