

February 3, 2021

**Greetings Colleagues,** 

Today I write to extend sincere thanks for the remarkable partnership Keiser University, New Port Richey (NPR) has forged with my facility, AdventHealth Connerton. As the Chief Nursing Officer of our hospital, I have seen the tremendous level of commitment Keiser University extends to the profession of nursing. Your clinical leaders, nursing instructors and students actively participate with our nursing staff to provide exemplary care. They are the true ambassadors of Keiser's mission, vision and values.

We feel fortunate that as a clinical partner, Keiser University NPR has expanded its participation at Connerton, branching from advanced clinical rotations to including practicum experiences. While I am certain this has enriched Keiser's ability to place students, I would like to share that this has also benefited our hospital. As you know, AdventHealth Connerton is an acute care hospital unlike others. Since our inception 12 years ago, we have remained dedicated to our mission, providing Whole Person Care to critically ill patients and their families. The gravity of our patient population is such that often, students feel overwhelmed by the scope of responsibility. The exception of course would be your Keiser University (NPR) students. As an educational community, Keiser NPR graduates enter the workforce well prepared for the role of nursing professional.

Our staff (nurses and nurse technicians) have long been empowered to identify and embrace talent. While skills are a significant component of successful nursing, those emerging professionals who display critical thinking along with a spirit of compassion and caring can be hard to find. From the beginning, Keiser students have possessed a willingness to embrace our gravely ill consortium to maximize their learning opportunity. Offering empathetic care, these future professionals consistently demonstrate a dedication to the pursuit of excellence. No wonder that we become inundated with recommendations to hire while Keiser is at our campus.

In closing, allow me to share that while we partner with several nursing schools, Keiser graduates are consistently the strongest hires. Their knowledge, training and preparedness makes them ideal candidates for any type of clinical setting. Over the past two years, AdventHealth Connerton has welcomed 17 Keiser graduates into our nurse residency program. We look forward to the future where we will certainly enrich the quality of care we provide as that number increases.

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With sincere thanks,

Linda Trocino, MSN, RN, CNML, CENP

**Chief Nursing Officer**