Dear Missouri ENA members,

As COVID-19 cases continue to increase in Missouri, I wanted to take this time to thank each and every one of you for your selfless service on the frontlines of our Emergency Departments across Missouri. You are truly the soldiers in this war against COVID-19. We are in this together.

While I acknowledge that fear can easily creep into our minds and hearts during this crisis, I take comfort in the stories of support that are coming from our EDs and out of our communities. I also take comfort in knowing that you, the ED nurses across this state, are some of the most educated, certified, and innovative members of the Missouri healthcare community. I am proud to work alongside so many talented and dedicated professionals, and I know we will defeat this pandemic together.

Seek out accurate information to remain informed. Encourage each other. Enjoy a few laughs at the jokes and humor that we emergency nurses are known for. We are resilient and strong, and I know that we will all take care of each other, and the rest of our ED family, through this crisis and beyond.

Continue to encourage your family members and communities to practice good personal hygiene, to stay at home when possible, and to continue the practices of social distancing. Remain vigilant in your practice and maintain good self-care. Continue to advocate for yourself and your colleagues, and know that ENA is advocating for you at the highest level including Ron Kraus, 2021 National ENA President, meeting on March 18th with President Trump, the President’s White House Coronavirus Task Force, and other healthcare leaders from around the nation.

Please remain flexible as local and state ENA events and classes are rescheduled or canceled for your protection. We will keep you updated as frequently as possible with changes as they occur.

Feel free to share this with the rest of your ED family who are possibly not ENA members as we are all in this together, and do not hesitate to reach out if there is anything MOENA, or your local ENA chapters, can do to support you or your department.

Stay strong. Stay safe. Stay well. We WILL make it through this together.

Heath

Heath Jennings, BS, BSN, RN
President, Missouri Emergency Nurses Association