

**American Nurses Association**  
8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3492  
Tel (301) 628-5000  
Fax (301) 628-5001  
[www.NursingWorld.org](http://www.NursingWorld.org)

**NEWS RELEASE**



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**CONTACT:**

**Adam Sachs, 301-628-5034**  
[adam.sachs@ana.org](mailto:adam.sachs@ana.org)  
**Mary McNamara, 301-628-5198**  
[mary.mcnamara@ana.org](mailto:mary.mcnamara@ana.org)  
[www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)

## **Murray Honored for Nursing Achievement at ANA National Event**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Claire Murray, executive director of the New York Organization of Nurse Executives, received a national award for nursing excellence from the American Nurses Association (ANA), the largest nursing organization in the U.S., at its biennial House of Delegates meeting here.

Murray, MS, RN, of Watervliet, NY, garnered the ANA Honorary Recognition Award, which recognizes distinguished service to the nursing profession and contributions and accomplishments of national or international significance to nursing.

“It is amazing that my professional organization would bestow this honor on someone like me who has merely been a worker bee, doing what needed to be done for nursing whether in the practice arena, working with students or engaging in our professional organizations’ work,” Murray said in accepting the award.

ANA is honoring 20 nurses for their dedication to the profession and contributions toward improving nursing and health care during the meeting of its governing and policy-setting body.

“Nurses form the backbone of our health care system, yet that often goes unrecognized,” said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR. “Today, we recognize a select group of nurses who epitomize the best of the profession through their commitment to clinical practice, teaching, research and advocacy on behalf of patients and nurse colleagues.”

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Murray has focused on developing nurses for leadership opportunities and raising standards for the profession. Murray has taught at Sage Graduate School in Troy, NY, since 1985, where she created management courses for nursing students to learn about nursing leadership.

Before becoming director of the New York Organization of Nurse Executives, Murray worked as chief nurse executive and senior vice president of patient services at Seton Health System in Troy from 1978 to 2003. She started her career as a staff nurse in the medical-surgical unit at St. Mary's Hospital in Troy in 1963.

Murray currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Southwestern Vermont Health Care.

Murray supports requiring professional nurses to acquire a BSN within 10 years of initial licensure, and has testified in support of such legislation at the state legislature in Albany.

Murray also has served as treasurer of ANA.

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*The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent member nurses associations, its organizational affiliates, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.*