

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

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 10, 2010

CONTACT: Mary McNamara, 301-628-5198
mary.mcnamara@ana.org
Adam Sachs, 301-628-5038
adam.sachs@ana.org
www.nursingworld.org

AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS NATION'S FIRST LADY IN COMBATING CHILDHOOD OBESITY

SILVER SPRING, MD- The American Nurses Association (ANA) is eager to support the First Lady Michelle Obama in her critical efforts to combat childhood obesity. As the largest nursing organization in the U.S., ANA stands ready to assist the First Lady to address this significant health problem through her program, "*Let's Move*" *America's Move for a Healthier Generation*.

"Nurses see first hand the devastating effects of obesity," said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR. "We recognize the impact it has on our society and our health system. Obesity can increase the risk of stroke, diabetes, heart disease and hypertension as well as many other illnesses. In addition to the impact on the health of our population, it also threatens the health and safety of nurses and other health care providers who may injure themselves while assisting obese patients. ANA recognizes the effects of obesity and pledges its ongoing support of programs that serve to address the issue."

Registered nurses, as the largest group of health care providers, are involved in every aspect of the health care system. Registered nurses have the capacity to touch the lives of parents and of children to help educate them on healthy choices. ANA is dedicated to the development and distribution of the educational materials about obesity and in particular, its impact on our nation's children.

This year, our National Nurses Week theme, *Nurses: Caring Today for a Healthy Tomorrow*, further underscores ANA's ongoing commitment to promoting healthy choices for our patients, our families, and the communities we serve. To learn more about Let's Move, please visit www.letsmove.gov.

###

The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 2.9 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.