



Seize the Opportunity: Embrace New Possibilities!

A career is a life's work, success in one's chosen profession, a path, and a journey. For many, career and life visions emerge with great clarity. For others, such career visions take shape gradually through identifying personal and professional passions, preferences, interests and strengths.

Nursing is a career, a learned scientific discipline, and a profession dedicated to facilitating the health, quality of life, well-being, and human betterment of all. If you're pursuing nursing, then your passions, interests, and strengths are in caring and promoting the health and well-being of others.

As a nurse you have many choices. Not only can you choose from a wide range of work settings, but you can also focus your care on any age group or unique patient population. You can specialize your practice on maternal/child health, adolescents, adults, or the elderly, and can work in dozens of specialty practice areas including: critical care, flight nursing, emergency room nursing, trauma care, mental health, community health, oncology, infection control, neurology, cardiovascular, or operating room nursing. You can also serve as a nurse in the armed forces.

As you'll see from this issue of *Imprint*, the list doesn't stop there. As Lucia Thornton, president of the American Holistic Nurses Association tells us, you can incorporate holistic nursing into every specialty, and make it a part of your own path to wellness. And as you can see from our article on Travel Nursing, you can specialize in an area of nursing and then travel with that knowledge, while exploring other locales and adding to your resume. You can even get involved in nursing at the global level! The scope of career opportunities in nursing continues to expand as nurses serve as the frontline providers of health care.

The Career Planning Guide also includes a list nursing organizations and a special section of the Career Center (which you can also check out online at www.nсна.org/career.) Explore every venue open to you as a new nurse and find others who will mentor and support you as you start off a career filled with endless options. Your career choice alone has given you the opportunity to make a difference – embrace it!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "W" at the end.