



**Medicare for All:** When it comes to universal health care, MNA members wear their hearts on their sleeves . . . or perhaps a better way to say it is “on their jackets.” These MNA bumper stickers showed up in all sorts of creative places after they were mailed as part of the July/August newsletter. But no matter where they were affixed, the message was clear: NOW is the time for Medicare for all.

## Health Care for All: It is an MNA goal, it is part of who we are

By, Sandy Eaton, RN

The MNA Bylaws gives our philosophy and purpose as an organization. Consider these pertinent passages . . .

### Philosophy:

The MNA, a multipurpose organization for professional nurses, believes that:

- Nursing is a humanistic, socially essential service which is goal directed to quality health care for all people and is committed to the development of high standards in education and practice.
- In order to influence health care delivery and new dimensions in health care practices, the professional organization focuses on opportunities for participation in professional activities, fostering professional growth, promoting and practicing the economic and general welfare of nurses through collective bargaining, collective action and involvement in the political process.
- The organization is committed to promoting availability of health services for all people and accepts the responsibility to function as a consumer advocate in health.

From Article I, Section 3: The purpose of the MNA, unrestricted by consideration of nationality, race, creed, religion, lifestyle, color, sex, handicap, or age, shall be to ... work for the improvement and availability of health care services for all people.

At this historic juncture, we realize that we are committed, RNs and allied health professionals alike, to fighting for quality, affordable health care for all, whether they serve coffee at Dunkin Donuts or provide critical nursing care in a tertiary facility. With our philosophy in mind, our members have affirmed and reaffirmed our resolve to achieve enforceable staffing standards in our facilities and health care as a right of all who reside here. We advocate for our patients, individually and socially, using every means at our disposal. ■

## the Massachusetts **nurse**

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**Mission Statement:** The Massachusetts Nurse will inform, educate and meet member needs by providing timely information on nursing and health care issues facing the nurse in the commonwealth of Massachusetts. Through the editorial voice of the newsletter, MNA seeks to recognize the diversity of its membership and celebrate the contributions that members make to the nursing profession on the state, local and national levels.

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