

## National Network of Career Nursing Assistants

*Career Nurse Assistants' Programs, Inc.*

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Dear Nursing Assistant:

Your administrator has taken an important step to involve you in the National Nursing Assistant Survey (NNAS) – a part of the National Nursing Home Survey – conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics. This is the first national survey of nursing assistants ever to be conducted in this country. We need you to share your perspective about the real world of caring and the important work of the NA.

You are the first to know when staffing is inadequate or when another worker is unprepared or on overload either physically or emotionally. You deal on a moment to moment basis with a myriad of personalities, disorders, temperaments, and communication problems. You are incredible workers, yet little is actually known about the tasks of care, and current resources are not sufficient to provide the educational and career opportunities that would be beneficial to you and your residents as well.

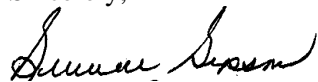
The U.S. is experiencing a critical shortage of nursing assistants needed to care for a rapidly growing aging population. It is estimated that by the year 2030, the U.S. will need 25% more nursing assistants working in nursing homes than we have today!

Most nursing assistants believe their work is a rewarding career. This survey is a chance to let others know why. But it is also true that many nursing assistants get burned out and leave the field because the job of a nursing assistant can be very demanding. The purpose of this survey is to hear – *directly from you* – about why you became a nursing assistant, about the many stresses and strains of the job, and how nursing homes can improve the job and work experience of nursing assistants in this country.

Participating in the National Nursing Assistant Survey will let you and others like you share your experiences and ideas about what it's like to be a nursing assistant. You are the person who represents the entire health care system to the resident.

We need your voice and experience to make this valuable to you and the people in your care – today and tomorrow as well. Please take a few minutes to be part of the survey. With this survey, you are creating a national voice for the more than 2.5 million NAs who provide daily care and caring to our elders. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Genevieve Gipson RN MEd RNC, Director

[National Network of Career Nursing Assistants](http://www.cna-network.org)

And the Board of Trustees

~ 2004~

*Nursing Assistants: Specialist in the Art of Caring*  
*National Nursing Assistants Week - June 10-17, 2004*