

2024 Toolkit

FORENSIC NURSES WEEK

November 4-10, 2024



Forensic nurses know what happens when patients who are victims of violence do not receive trauma-informed care to put them on the road to healing and empowerment.

STIs, depression, suicidal ideation, substance abuse and more in the short-term. Reproductive complications, cancer, cardiovascular and other chronic diseases in the long run.

Forensic Nursing is the solution.

Help us increase awareness of the needs of patients and educational and support resources IAFN offers to best prepare healthcare providers to care for patients impacted by violence.

JOIN US AT

FORENSICNURSES.ORG



Share Your Ideas

Share your ideas, suggestions, videos, and photos with other IAFN members on social media and on the IAFN's Forensic Nurse Discussion Board by logging into your IAFN account and clicking on "Community" found on the top toolbar.

Have suggestions for future Forensic Nurses Week themes and activities?

Send them to:

cwright@ForensicNurses.org



What will you do to celebrate Forensic Nurses Week and help other healthcare professionals and administrators understand our vital work? You play an important role in educating administrators and colleagues about forensic nursing!

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- **Display the Forensic Nurses Week poster or flyer** in your ED, lobby, work station, cafeteria, etc. You can download it right from this toolkit (page 5).
- Fortunate enough to have a team of forensic nurses? Recognize them and show your appreciation for their commitment to provide expert care to patients, **using the certificate** in this Toolkit (page 3).
- Take advantage of digital Forensic Nurses Week graphics included in this Toolkit for easy downloads (page/s 3-6).
 - **Email signature banner:** Place it at the bottom of your own email signature block so that anyone who receives an email message from you knows about Forensic Nurses Week.
 - **Social media posts:** Add your own messages or captions and place the graphic in this Toolkit on your own social media.
 - **Social media profile image:** Use this as a temporary profile photo; download it from this toolkit (page 4).
 - **Sample proclamation:** Update the text included on page 7.
 - **Sample email:** Update the text included on page 6 and send it to healthcare administrators and other providers.
- Contact your local or state elected officials to request that the week (or Forensic Nurses Day) be recognized officially. **Download and work from the sample proclamation** from this Toolkit (page 6). (This may require at least a month's lead time for government staff; please plan accordingly.)
- **Wear lilac** on November 8, 2024, Forensic Nurses Day! Share pictures on your social media and tag IAFN (@ForensicNurses) in your posts. Download the flyer from this Toolkit (page 5) and display it in your work area.

- Follow the **conversation on social media** at #FNW2024 and join our celebration of you!
- Let all your colleagues know it's Forensic Nurses Week! **Download the sample email message** from this Toolkit (page 6), and modify it to tell of your colleagues, including healthcare administrators, other healthcare providers, and community partners, about Forensic Nurses Week. You can also use this opportunity to recognize your colleagues by name and include your own message of gratitude for their work. *Send it to key healthcare administrators who are key decision makers so that they understand the need for and value of forensic nursing!*
- Invite your facility's staff to a lunch-and-learn **viewing of one or more of the following videos** on our [YouTube channel](#): [Forensic Nurse Stories – Before and After](#), [Forensic Nurse Stories – Just Being There](#), and [Why Become a Forensic Nurse?](#)

Certificate



Download

8.5" x 11"

High-resolution PDF

Printing Instructions:

Please use standard 8.5" x 11" white paper.

For professional printing, simply [download](#) this print-ready, high-resolution PDF and send the file to the printer.

Digital Banners



Social Media Posts

[Download](#) for Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn posts



Social Media Profile Picture

[Download](#) and use this as your profile photo for your social media accounts.



Email Signature Banner

[Download](#) for Email Signature
Link your email signature to this specific Forensic Nurses Week page

Poster and Flyer

FORENSIC NURSES WEEK

November 4 - 10, 2024



What happens when patients who are victims of violence do not receive trauma-informed care to put them on the road to healing and empowerment?

STIs, depression, suicidal ideation, substance abuse and more in the short-term. Reproductive complications, cancer, cardiovascular and other chronic diseases in the long run.

Violence is a public health crisis that impacts individuals, drives up healthcare costs and burdens our healthcare system.

**FORENSIC NURSING
IS THE SOLUTION.**



SCAN TO
LEARN MORE

Poster

[Download](#) for Professional Printing

11" x 17"

(with bleed & crop marks)

High-resolution PDF

Printing Instructions:

For professional printing, please download the print-ready, high-resolution PDF (with bleed & crop marks) and send the file to the printer. Direct any questions to

marketing@ForensicNurses.org.

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SCAN TO
LEARN MORE

Forensic Nurses Day Flyer

[Download](#)

8.5" x 11"

High-resolution PDF

Printing Instructions:

The Forensic Nurses Day Flyer is printed on 8.5"x 11" paper. For printing at home or in your office, please load 8.5" x 11" white paper into your color printer.

Email Template

How can patients who are victims of violence receive trauma-informed care to put them on the road to healing and empowerment?

FORENSIC NURSING IS THE SOLUTION.

Learn more at forensicnurses.org



Dear Colleague,

November 4-10, 2024 is Forensic Nurses Week established by the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) to honor the extraordinary work of nurses who practice in this unique nursing specialty.

What happens when patients who are victims of violence do not receive trauma-informed care to put them on the road to healing and empowerment?

Many suffer from STIs, depression, suicidal ideation, substance abuse and more in the short-term. Others suffer from reproductive complications, cancer, cardiovascular and other chronic diseases in the long run.

Violence is a public health crisis that impacts individuals, drives up healthcare costs and burdens our healthcare system. Forensic Nursing is the solution.

Forensic nursing serves to ensure that patients who are affected by violence receive expert, trauma-informed, compassionate, and comprehensive health care. This evidence-based care best addresses acute and long-term consequences of violence, improves patient recovery, and lowers healthcare costs.

Please take a moment to learn more about forensic nursing and IAFN's resources for providers by visiting ForensicNurses.org.

Sincerely,

[Download](#) Word document.

[Download](#) email signature banner.

Proclamation

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the important role [city and/or state]'s forensic nurses play in supporting survivors and addressing violence.

Whereas violence is a persistent health care issue and forensic nurses are the bridge between the medical and legal needs of patients;

Whereas more than two million people are treated for violence-related injuries each year in the United States, including more than [city and/or state number] in [city and/or state].

Whereas patients who experience violence sustain physical injuries, as well as acute and chronic physical and mental health conditions, including sexually transmitted infections, HIV, substance misuse, anxiety, depression, and suicidal ideation;

Whereas the health consequences of violence cost hospitals and health care systems approximately \$2.7 billion annually;

Whereas forensic nurses are essential to [city and/or state]'s health care because they provide trauma-informed nursing care that focuses on patient populations affected by violence and trauma, including victims and perpetrators of violent crimes, across the lifespan and in diverse practice settings;

Whereas the International Association of Forensic Nursing (IAFN) was established in 1992, represents the largest global network of forensic nurses and remains the world's leading voice in forensic nursing practice, education and research; and the [state] Chapter of IAFN supports and represents [state] forensic nurses;

Whereas forensic nursing has been formally recognized as a specialty practice area since 1995;

Whereas forensic nurses work independently, yet collaboratively within health care and multi-disciplinary community systems ensuring the provision of care that extends from the clinical setting to the courtroom;

Whereas forensic nursing encompasses caring for diverse patient populations, including patients who have experienced sexual assault or abuse, intimate or interpersonal violence, elder and child maltreatment, human trafficking and accidental as well as nonaccidental trauma, in roles that include sexual assault nurse examiner, forensic nurse examiner, death investigator, correctional nurse, forensic psychiatric nurse, legal nurse consultant, forensic geriatric specialist, nurse attorney, forensic nursing educators, and forensic clinical nurse specialists;

Whereas forensic nurses foster an understanding of the health consequences, effective interventions, and prevention of violence and trauma in individuals, families, and communities;

Whereas forensic nurses work in partnership with multidisciplinary stakeholders, including Tribal organizations, advocacy, law enforcement, military branches, and legal counsel;

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the [governing entity] acknowledges that forensic nursing is more relevant now than ever before, as this specialty practice evolves to address the gaps in health care related to effective violence intervention, reduction of long-term health consequences, and prevention; honors forensic nurses for their commitment to providing evidence-based, compassionate, trauma-informed care encompassing the entire scope of nursing practice; reaffirms its commitment to working alongside forensic nurses to further their contributions to improve health outcomes for patients experiencing violence; and declares today, November 8, 2024, Forensic Nurses Day in [city/state].

[Download](#) template proclamation (Word document).