Dear Colleagues:

We are in unprecedented times in our world. Our nursing members on the front line, especially our Chapter colleagues in Italy, need our prayers and support. The uncertainty of COVID-19, and the disruption necessary to contain it makes this a challenge for leaders in government, public health, and professional healthcare associations. It is important to recognize that each entity is attempting to communicate comprehensive, relevant information in a timely and appropriate fashion.

AHNA’s top concern is the health and welfare of our members, our staff and the patients entrusted to their care. Registered nurses play an essential role in front-line delivery of care and we must safeguard them from any unnecessary exposure and ensure that as essential healthcare providers they are available to provide nursing service in their respective communities.

The AHNA Board of Directors met on Thursday, March 12th, 10 weeks from our conference start date, and established a timeline for making the decision to cancel or go forward with the 40th Annual conference scheduled for June 1-6, 2020. There are currently over 400 individuals registered for conference and 47 exhibitors.

**On or before Wednesday, April 15, 2020 is the established time-line for making a decision regarding cancelling or going forward with the 2020 conference.** The cancellation notice, if issued, would also contain the refund policy. Our database vendor is working on programming that would make issuing refunds more efficient, should it be necessary. Other areas for consideration include postponement, or virtual learning opportunities if the 2020 AHNA annual conference on-site is cancelled.

Going forward, receiving and analyzing information received from public health officials will be essential and will guide the AHNA Board in their decision making.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during these turbulent times.

Sincerely,

Terri Roberts JD, RN
Executive Director