

Dear NJLN Convention and PreConvention Participant:

The New Jersey League for Nursing (NJLN) has made the decision to cancel the 2020 NJLN Convention and Pre-Convention at Harrah's Resort in Atlantic City on March 25 – 26. The NJLN has been diligently monitoring the status of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the state and considering recent developments, the NJLN had made the difficult, but ultimately necessary decision, to cancel our 2020 Convention. Our decision falls in line with all of the rapidly available data we have been receiving as well as with the recent announcement by Governor Murphy recommending that all public gatherings with more than 250 people be cancelled. As the number of U.S. cases increase, not only would it be imprudent to hold a large gathering with the potential for communal spread, but given the enormous pressures our state's nursing community is facing in both the academic and service arenas, it would be unethical to pull the clinical nurses and nurse educators away from their communities where they are needed.

With the course of COVID-19 and the potential impact on our attendees, speakers and exhibitors we would not be able to provide the type of program we have become known for in past years. Along with the fact that this is our professional responsibility to act in a manner, which provides for safeguarding our state's nursing workforce so that they are able to provide the healthcare for residents of New Jersey.

Since this is an unprecedented event for the NJLN as a volunteer non-profit organization, we ask that you provide patience with us as we work through the processes for reimbursement. There is a considerable amount of obligations for us to unwind, so we ask for your patience as we work through those issues. We will be back in touch as soon as we have additional details to share. We appreciate your understanding and please know that the NJLN will be diligently working to resolve this in a timely manner.

We know that so many of you have been on the frontlines of this public health crisis over the last month and these current times demand your clinical leadership and we thank you for that. We also would like to recognize and thank our speakers, sponsors, advertisers, exhibitors, and all of those who registered to attend. Your support means so much.

If you have made a hotel room reservation at Harrah's under the NJLN Convention block of reserved rooms your reservation will automatically be cancelled. If you have made the reservation on your own then please contact Harrah's directly to cancel: 1-888-516-2215.

For any urgent concerns, please e-mail: <u>info@njln.org</u> or contact the NJLN Office, 908-789-3398 and we will respond as soon as we possibly can.

We wish everyone well, and once again thank you for your understanding and patience.

Sincerely,

The NJLN Board of Directors and Convention Committee