Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Office of the Secretary 4822 Madison Yards Way PO Box 8363 Madison WI 53708-8368



Phone: 608-266-1352 Web: http://dsps.wi.gov Email: dsps@wisconsin.gov

Tony Evers, Governor Dawn B. Crim, Secretary

Memorandum

Date: October 9, 2020

To: Wisconsin Health Care Professionals

From: Dawn B. Crim, Secretary-designee

RE: Wisconsin Needs Health Care Volunteers

Wisconsin needs your help. We have reached a <u>critical moment</u> in the pandemic. There are more than 141,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, and we recently passed a dangerous threshold: We had more than 3,000 new cases confirmed in a single day. As of yesterday, total deaths in the state had reached 1,424. All 72 Wisconsin counties now have high levels of disease activity, and 55 have very high spread. Hospitalizations increased 26 percent in a week, and nursing homes are strained.

We are asking health care professionals to consider registering with the <u>Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry (WEAVR)</u>. WEAVR is a web-based online registration system for health professional volunteers willing to serve in an emergency. The state uses WEAVR to facilitate health and medical response through identification, credentialing, and deployment of volunteers. There are a number of requests active on WEAVR now that would benefit from your expertise. You can sign up here: https://weavrwi.org/.

Also, we know that recently retired providers may have more flexibility than those who are still in practice. That is part of the reason why Governor Evers issued an emergency order with provisions that make it easier to renew licenses that lapsed within the past five years. If you need to renew your license in order to practice and volunteer, please fill out this <u>form</u>.

I understand that not everyone has the capacity to volunteer right now, but please consider registering with WEAVR if you do.

We all are doing what we can to get to the other side of the pandemic, yet I recognize that it is our health care providers on the front lines. The people of Wisconsin are fortunate to have your dedication to their health, safety, and well-being. Thank you for all you do.