

An Open Letter to St. Alexius, our colleagues, and members of our community

As nurses, we carry many burdens. We are not only responsible for the care we give to those in need, but also to advocate on behalf of our patients and defend the standards of our practice.

Which is why we are **sounding the alarm**. The recent changes reducing the number of nurses in many units, announced and implemented unilaterally across our hospital, are a slap in the face to nurses and the patients in our community. Increasing the patient load on already overworked and overstretched nurses is **unacceptable** and **unsustainable**.

In particular, the Intensive Care Unit at our hospital is now operating dangerously short without enough nurses, time, or training. This not only impacts the care in the ICU, but impacts the entire facility because the ICU team plays a critical role throughout our building - responding to codes and supporting care elsewhere.

We are joining our names together today because we must say something now before it is too late. Enough.

We demand safe and reasonable work loads so that we may give our patients the attention they require, and so that we may deliver the standards of care that we know we are capable of, and that our patients deserve.

Signed:

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