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### Definition and Philosophy of Nursing

Nursing is an integrated structure of caring that provides for the holistic needs of an individual, family and/or community. This care is comprised of actions that will achieve a sense of well-being and health in the client within the bounds of best possible quality of life based on that client's definition of health. Nursing combines high level education, and thoughtful, compassionate care, along with hope and realism. These skills enable the client to achieve, maintain and/or regain health and hope until their death.

- ⊕ As a nurse I will remember that the client is multi-dimensional and unique and must be approached as a complex whole. Physical, mental, spiritual, social and experiential dimensions must be addressed in order to provide excellent care.
- ⊕ As a nurse I will set aside my needs and put the client's needs first. I will use all my skills and energies to creatively provide care.
- ⊕ As a nurse I will be aware of my rights and responsibilities to my clients, my peers, my employer, society and God.
- ⊕ As a nurse I will use a variety of methods to provide excellent care including listening, teaching, doing for, being with and enabling. I will employ the nursing process in order to give structure and accountability to my practice.

Nursing is a necessary and valued profession, in which the nurse comes along side the person in their environment and actively participates in the continuum of health and well being from conception through death.