ROOSEVELT ISLAND'S NEW HEAD NURSE

HEALTH CARE HEROES

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My Role: I was recently appointed to serve in the new temporary 350-hospital bed facility on Roosevelt Island. The hospitals in our health system were bearing the brunt of the surge of patients and we needed to increase hospital capacity to response to the rapidly growing demand related to the pandemic. We have been accepting patients from all over the system and helping to reduce the pressure on them.

Impact of COVID-19: Having started at NYC Health + Hospitals/Coler at the beginning of my career, I am honored to have returned in a leadership capacity during this unprecedented time. I have 35 years of nursing experience and proud to be helping this team. With these additional beds, we are able to care for patients and allow more room in other hospitals to treat those requiring advanced care due to COVID-19.

Why I'm on the Frontlines: My role as a nurse has evolved because of this pandemic, but the core character of being a nurse has not changed. The most important role of being a nurse is to help save lives and to advocate for our patients. Now, that's being brought into focus by COVID-19 as we continue to band together our skills to care for those affected.

Managing Stress: It gives me a sense of relief to know that we are not fighting this virus alone. Since COVID-19 knows no boundaries, we are all coming together to achieve the same goal. At the end of the day, I trust in my colleagues and in the health care workers of the city. I know that we are stronger when we work together.