

FIGHTING THE VIRUS FORM INSIDE THE JAILS



Why I'm on the front lines: This pandemic calls for all of our help. Nurses do whatever is necessary to continue to provide care to our patients. This pandemic requires the knowledge, skills, and performance of all medical, support, and nursing staff. My mother was a nurse and my role model. From a young age, I saw how she cared for the sick with compassion, dedication, and kindness. I wanted to emulate her, and that's what led me to my career in correctional health. The correctional system encompasses people from all over the world – many of whom are vulnerable and have had limited access to health care before. I love being able to care for the people who come through our doors and help them heal as best I can. I am proud to be part of a team of nurses who are helping save as many lives as possible.

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HEALTH SERVICES

My Role: I am a proud nurse at the Rose M. Singer Center (RMSC), a correctional facility for women on Riker's Island, and have worked at Riker's Island for over two decades.

Impact of COVID-19: Patients' regular medical needs continue as we face the acute needs that come with the virus, and we continue to work hard to provide

exceptional care. We operate an infirmary in RMSC where we care for some of our sickest patients on Rikers Island. Aside from my regular duties, I provide my patients with information to combat fears and anxiety that come from COVID-19, and educate them on the latest developments in treatment. It has been difficult, but my coworkers have risen to the occasion and are working tirelessly in the face of these urgent circumstances.

Lessons Learned: I have gained experience from treating patients with COVID-19 and can use what I've learned to help those who need it most. I want to help as many patients as possible overcome this disease. Contributing to the health and wellness of others is gratifying. We care for some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers, and I am proud I am able to give them quality health care, and kindness, while doing so.