VIRGIN ISLANDS STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

INVITATION TO A SUBSTANTIVE VISNA MEMBERSHIP ONLINE MEETING

Dear Nurses;

On Saturday, September 2, 2023 @10 am you are invited to exercise your membership right and responsibility in determining the future of YOUR professional association. As your current Board of Directors come to the end of our tenure on October 31, 2023, we have used the Nursing Process (SOAP) to evaluate the effectiveness of the current association structure; here is the outcome.

Subjective: The Virgin Islands State Nurses Association through its bylaws, Article V111, *ASSOCIATIONS,* has two (2) Districts which serve the geographic areas of St. Croix and St. Thomas/St. John, District 01 and District 02 respectively. Each district shall have a Board of Directors and bylaws and establishes a district membership fee all being congruent with VISNA bylaws, policies and procedures. The VISNA Board of Directors determines the services to be given to the districts. The by laws also allow for a collective bargaining unit, Article 1X, *SPECIAL PROGRAMS.*

Objective: The Collective Bargaining Unit and its activities have loomed large while the Districts have slowly become nonfunctional. It has become increasingly difficult to communicate and channel local, national and other resources to the members without district leadership. VISNA dues which include the appropriate District fees continue to be paid by members via payroll deduction or central billing.

Assessment: The District structure may no longer be relevant to the function, mission and operation of the Association

Plan:

Consolidation of the Districts into one Association for:

* increased efficiency of operations
* a single unified voice
* a single membership dues structure
* one governing Board of Directors

At this online meeting members will discuss the pros and cons of the Board’s proposed PLAN for the future of the Association. The final document must be ratified as per Article X11, *AMENDMENTS WITH NOTICE, SECTION 1(c) “these bylaws may be amended with prior notice at an annual meeting, biennial convention or special meeting by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting.* The biennial convention is planned for October 8 & 9 at which time the amendment will be presented.

A zoom invitation for the September 2 meeting will be posted by August 31, 2023.

VISNA IS EACH OF YOU! PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO BE ON THE CALL!

Evet Rivera

Evet Rivera

President