EA R8: In Recognition of Cornell Health Employees during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Abstract: On behalf Cornell University Employee Assembly, Resolution 8 is hereby submitted to recognize the extraordinary work of Cornell Health employees in supporting the campus community throughout the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Sponsored by: Adam Howell, Chair, Employee Assembly

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 5/1/20

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic has represented the most dangerous and significant public health challenge to Cornell University in over a century.

Whereas, the Cornell University response to the COVID-19 pandemic required drastic changes to campus operations, research, and student learning including instituting remote work for the majority of staff, moving to virtual instruction for students, and shutting down campus facilities.

Whereas, Cornell Health employees have had a direct positive impact on the health and well-being of Cornell students, faculty, and staff during the COVID-19 health crisis. Specifically, the staff of Cornell Health have carried out their critical roles with devotion and care for patients and clients, and provided Cornell with a sense of stability and reassurance during otherwise uncertain times.

Whereas, Cornell Health has worked to support especially-vulnerable individuals and highly-impacted populations during the COVID-19 crisis. This includes maintaining continuity of care for individuals with significant medical and mental health diagnoses and advocating for the needs of students with disabilities, as well as providing outreach and support to affected groups of students.

Whereas, Cornell Health staff have worked hard to keep community members connected through the rapid adoption of remote work as well as through the development and expansion of telehealth services. The work of administrative services staff and clinical teams have helped to protect students and patients by facilitating care from afar and by providing a means of connection with trusted healthcare professionals.

Be it therefore resolved, the Employee Assembly, on behalf of all Cornell staff, express its deep gratitude for the service and dedication of Cornell Health employees throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The care, service, and spirit that Cornell Health staff exhibit in their work are emblematic of what makes Cornell University a special and enduring institution.

Be it further resolved, The Employee Assembly recognizes and applauds the work undertaken by Cornell Health to reduce the added burdens students, faculty, and staff are facing at this time, and for their efforts to promote health, wellness, and well-being thorough a variety of remote access and digital services.
Be it further resolved, that the Employee Assembly calls on the entire community of staff, faculty, and students at Cornell to honor and support the great work and service of Cornell Health.

Be it finally resolved, a copy of this resolution be presented to Ryan Lombardi, Vice President for Student & Campus Life and Sharon McMullen, Assistant Vice President of Student & Campus Life for Health and Wellbeing.

Adopted by Vote of the Assembly (X-X-X), {Date}

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Howell
Chair, Employee Assembly
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative, Employee Assembly