



# Nursing in the Storm

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## *Voices from Hurricane Katrina*



*“Don’t ever think that this can’t happen to you. You are going to read this and it’s going to sound like we created this scenario, but this is a real scenario that happened.”*

—**Pam**, Memorial Medical Center

*“Everything that was battery operated eventually died. There were no monitors.... we tried to take care of people in the most humane way possible.”*

—**Lois**, Lindy Boggs Medical Center

*Nursing in the Storm: Voices from Hurricane Katrina* takes you inside six New Orleans hospitals—cut off from help for days by flooding—where nurses cared for patients around the clock. In this book, nurses from Hurricane Katrina share what they did, how they coped, what they lost, and what they are doing now in a city and health care infrastructure still rebuilding, still in jeopardy.

In their own words, the nurses tell what happened in each hospital just before, during, and after the storm. Danna and Cordray provide an intimate portrait of the experience of Katrina, which they and their colleagues endured.

### **Just a few of the heroic nurses you’ll find inside:**

- Rae Ann and twenty others, including her husband and children, who wait on a hospital roof for help to come
- Lisa, in the midst of caring for patients, who has not heard from her husband in 5 days
- Roslyn, who has 800 people in her hospital when the power generators shut down
- Linda, who uses bedsheets to write out help messages on a hospital roof, hoping someone will see them

The book also discusses how to plan and prepare for future disasters, with a closing chapter documenting the “lessons learned” from Katrina, including day-to-day health care delivery in a city of crisis. This groundbreaking work serves as a testament to nurses’ professionalism, perseverance, and unwavering dedication.

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