



Department of Veterans Affairs

Senior Executive Biography

Alan Bernstein, MS, RN

VHA Deputy Chief Nursing Officer (DCNO)
Office of Nursing Services (ONS – 10A1)

As the DCNO, Alan Bernstein serves alongside the VHA Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) in providing leadership, guidance and strategic direction on all issues related to nursing; including practice, education, research, and workforce for clinical programs across the continuum of care and spectrum of care delivery sites that impact our Veterans. Mr. Bernstein also provides leadership oversight for ONS daily operations and recently served as the acting VHA CNO for 6 months. He was previously the Nurse Executive for VA North Texas Healthcare System (VANTHCS), the second largest healthcare system in VA. Mr. Bernstein was responsible for all administrative and clinical aspects of nursing care for 1700 nursing and sterile processing personnel. In 2016 he was awarded the VA Secretary's Award for Nursing Excellence in recognition of his exceptional service as a VHA Nurse Executive. Prior to joining VANTHCS he was the National Director for Nursing Workforce and Leadership in ONS where he had responsibility for policy and program development that supported a well-educated, competent and diverse VA Nursing workforce. Prior to joining the ONS he was the Associate Chief Nurse for Long Term Care at the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, where he was responsible for clinical and administrative oversight of the 350 in-patient beds and approximately 200 FTEE. Mr. Bernstein's past experience also includes Nursing Informatics, Critical Care Nursing and Medical-Surgical Nursing. Mr. Bernstein is a member of numerous professional associations including, American Organization of Nurse Executives, Texas Organization of Nurse Executives, North Texas Organization of Nurse Executives, and the American Nurses Association. He has also served as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Healthcare Leadership Incident Command, Federal Executive Institute Leadership for a Democratic Society, and the Network Executive and Healthcare Leadership Institutes as both a participant and a coach for the next wave of VHA leaders. During his tenure he has participated in numerous other development programs, obtained fellow level VHA mentorship certification, and served on over 25 major committees.



CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

- 2012 – 2016 Associate Director/ Patient Care Services, Chief Nursing Officer, VA North Texas Healthcare System, Dallas, Texas
- 2007 – 2012 Director – Career Development and Workforce Management, Department of Veterans Affairs – Office of Nursing Service, Central Office, Washington, DC
- 2005 – 2007 Adjunct Faculty, Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2005 – 2007 Associate Chief Nurse – Long Term, Veterans Affairs Pittsburgh Healthcare Systems, Pittsburgh, PA

EDUCATION:

- 2003 Master of Science - Nursing Administration, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Monroeville, PA
- 2000 Bachelor of Science in Nursing, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, Pittsburgh, PA
- 1996 Associate Degree in Nursing, Community College of Allegheny County, Boyce Campus, Monroeville, PA
- 1978 Associate Degree Photography / Multi-Media, Art Institute of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA