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Our role is not only to help patients heal physically, but spiritually and emotionally. --Critical Care Unit nurse from Searcy, AR

Defining Hope: A Tribute to Nurses

In 2012, photographer Carolyn Jones was commissioned to create The American Nurse Project, interviewing, filming, and photographing over 100 nurses across the U.S., after her own fight with breast cancer. She was inspired by her chemo nurse, Joanne Staha, who not only made her feel more normal during treatment, but reminded her that eventually she would heal and her life would go back to normal. Over the course of five years' worth of these interviews, Carolyn created a book and a feature documentary focusing on the extraordinary work nurses are doing across the country. Her work celebrates both the diversity of people in the profession of nursing, as well as the common bonds they share in the care of their patients.

Be The Change:

All kinds of people influence your life. Pick one way to show your appreciation and follow through - it could be something as simple as a thank you note, baked goods, or paying it forward with a random act of kindness. For more information on this project, or to watch the documentary, visit the American Nurses Project webpage.