



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA AIKEN



Forrest Ayers

Friday, April 24, 2020

USC Aiken alumnus, Forrest Ayers, recently volunteered to go to New York to help healthcare professionals take care of COVID-19 patients. The Aiken native graduated from the USC Aiken School of Nursing in December 2017. He credits the nursing faculty for preparing him for the challenges he's faced since graduation, and those he anticipates, await him in NYC.

"I always felt that my nursing professors were dedicated to my success. It was the kind of dedication that you only can receive when there are not 100+ students in a lecture hall. They took the time to get to know me and always expressed concern when I struggled. Their guidance and mentorship were invaluable. I am blessed to say that some of them still contact me to see what I am doing with my nursing career."

We are proud of Forrest for taking this bold step to confront COVID-19 head-on, providing compassionate, competent care to patients in the epicenter of the country's pandemic.

"For me, it is a moral dilemma to sit here in Aiken and wait and see if the COVID-19 pandemic gets worse when I know people are dying right now in New York because there are not enough nurses (and many other healthcare personnel). They are asking for assistance, and I have never been the person to say no to someone who needs help."

– Forrest Ayers, Class of '17
