

Omobola Akinade



I am a seasoned nurse with over two decades experience. I started my career as a trained nurse and midwife in Nigeria where I excelled in giving the best level of care at all times. I pursued my dreams of further advancement by migrating to the United Kingdom to join the Swansea Bay University Health Board in 2005. Driven by my commitment to professional growth and excellence, I pursued further education, earning a BSc in Nursing from Swansea University in 2012, which further strengthened my knowledge and skills.

For 17 years, I dedicated myself to providing compassionate care as a bedside nurse within the Trust, leaving a positive impact on countless lives until November 2022. During this time, I witnessed firsthand the power of empathy and skilled healthcare practice in transforming patients' experiences.

Presently, I serve as a Practice Development Nurse for Internationally recruited Nurses. In this role, I play an integral part in nurturing and guiding overseas-trained nurses, imparting my knowledge and experience to help them excel in their careers and help their transition into the UK.

Over the course of my career, I have achieved several milestones. These include receiving the CNO Excellence Award and the prestigious Carvell Award in my Trust. This was in recognition of my dedication and contribution to the nursing profession. In addition to this, I was part of the 2022 Cohort of the Florence Nightingale Leadership Programme. My project was selected as the best in my cohort.

"The Florence Nightingale Leadership Programme made me feel more courageous and confident, It was like a burst of energy that brought my dreams back to life, making me feel enthusiastic and inspired again"

Beyond my professional achievements, I am a firm advocate for diversity, inclusion, and equal representation in the nursing profession. I strongly believe in the power of diverse voices and perspectives to drive positive change and create an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and respected. In this regard, I have facilitated conversations on race, ethnicity, and career progression, encouraging open dialogue that promotes understanding and empathy. Additionally, I organised two forums to facilitate constructive discussions on these issues which are crucial to retention of skilled staff as well as fostering a sense of belonging in the workforce.

The Florence Nightingale Leadership Programme made me feel more courageous and confident, It was like a burst of energy that brought my dreams back to life, making me feel enthusiastic and inspired again

When I am not working, you can find me indulging in my hobbies, spending quality time with my family or engaging in community outreach programs that further support diversity and inclusion.

I am grateful for the opportunities that have shaped my career thus far and excited about the positive impact I will continue to make.