

International Nurses Day 2023

#IND2023



Chipo Sambani - Associate Director
of Nursing - Enfield Division



Being a nurse to me has been one of the most rewarding and proud achievements of my life. I have been pushed and stretched in many ways I never imagined my narrow brain would have been. Growing up, as the daughter, granddaughter and niece of nurses, I vowed to break the mould.

When my initial chosen career path lead me to feeling like I am making no difference to anyone, I discovered I wanted a career that enhance people's lives. With much reluctance due to the massive pay cut and long hours, I realised nursing was in my genes! Not only have I been exposed to harsh challenges, great opportunities, lots of tears and smiles, as a nurse I have been fortunate to have gained experiences that have not only excelled my career but made the think "I may just be good at this?"

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Ann Jumawan - Associate Director of Nursing – Hospital Division, C&I



I'm incredibly proud to be a nurse. I've been a nurse for all of my working life, starting my training as a learning difficulty nurse at the age of 17.

I had a particular interest in mental health and went on to do my post graduate mental health training. I have remained working in the field of mental health ever since.

Many years later I still have the same passion for nursing as did when I joined the profession, and I'm grateful for the opportunities Camden & Islington has given me and love my work in the Hospital Division.

I truly appreciate all the hard work that our nurses, support workers, nursing associates, assistant practitioners and all our nursing workforce do for our service users and for the care and compassion that you demonstrate despite some of the challenges you may face - you do an amazing job!

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Phil Jackson - Associate Director of Nursing – Specialist Division



I've now been a qualified nurse for over 20 years within BEH and I can still remember my first day after receiving my pin number. I remember a mixture of excitement with much nervousness about the adventure ahead. I can honestly say how amazed I'm at how many positive relationships and memories I have created as a mental health nurse with both service users and staff throughout my career.

I feel an absolute sense of pride at being a nurse and privileged at working so closely with so many people. Getting to know people as a mental health nurse and being able to listen, support, care and laugh with people is vital to being a mental health nurse. During the pandemic and serious incidents in the past, have demonstrated that as humans we can get through anything together with compassion, kindness, and positivity.

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Itai Chikomo – Interim Deputy
Director of Nursing



Nurses are one of the most trusted professionals and I am very proud and privileged to call myself a nurse. The joy comes from knowing that I am making a difference in someone's life at the point of their need.

During my career I have worked with brilliant, compassionate, and dedicated nurses who are an asset to humanity. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for the excellent work that you do day in day out and for providing outstanding person-centred care. We really appreciate your commitment!

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Vivian Ekengbuda – Clinical Nurse Specialist

Working as a clinical nurse specialist I have gained a special interest for managing patients in crisis through assessments and liaising with other mental health services to support people in crisis. I work with different stakeholders and agencies which exposes me to the different layers that make up a mental health act assessment.

I'm proud to be a part of the nursing community where I continue to provide safe, caring and effective practice. What I like about my job role is the specialist skills I have obtained but also the continuous learning. Every patient's presentation is different, I like the challenge this brings, every day is different and exciting as a result.

I take pride in practicing as a mental health nurse. Nurses make a difference, why? because there is no health without mental health.

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Jaqueline Petersen – Clinical Lead
Occupational Therapist

As an occupational therapist (and daughter of a nurse), I wouldn't be able to do the job I do without the support of our nurses. I've had the pleasure of working with a number of highly knowledgeable and caring nurses who support our service users daily with their ADLs and goals, and shows how important it is to have a holistic approach to care.

Nursing is such an important part of the MDT – our nurses really understand the people they work with to a degree many of us could only hope for, seeing the highs and the lows, and supporting those in most need at their time of crisis and beyond.

Thank you to all of the nurses I have worked with and those I have not – you are amazing and I value you and the work you do every day.