



## Case study

Name: Fran Oloto

Job title: Clinical Quality Lead, East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG

### What did your early career look like?

Back in my country, Nigeria, I was a secondary school teacher but when I moved to this country, I decided to change career as I have always had a passion for nursing and I chose my favourite specialty, which is mental health nursing. I started my first nursing job in an acute mental health ward for young adults; it was a challenging time due to the unpredictable nature of the ill health of the patient group. Following this, I worked in old age mental health ward and then a role as a community psychiatric nurse (CPN). I enjoyed working in the community as it gave me the opportunity to see patients in their own environment. Working in the community encourages an independent way of working which is for more experienced practitioners. It can be very challenging as you have to make certain decisions independently, but very fulfilling at the same time, especially when you see your patient making progress in their life journey.

### How did you become the clinical quality lead for the CCG?

I was working as the safeguarding lead for the mental health and learning disability directorate of an NHS Trust, when I saw my current post being advertised. The role involves visiting care homes where the CCG funds the placements of individuals under Section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983, to monitor the quality of care that the home provides. When I saw this job, I was very ready for a change in my career and it came at the right time. The role pulls together my experiences as a registered mental health nurse (RMN) and my work in safeguarding because part of the inspection involves looking at the safety and wellbeing of residents in the home. The job is very rewarding because I feel my role helps to ensure that the most vulnerable individuals in society are cared for in a safe and loving environment. To be in this role, a nursing qualification is needed as well as a degree or equivalent.

### What is a typical day for you?

A typical office day involves responding to emails, attending or chairing meetings, making calls to partner agencies in relation to care homes or concerns and writing reports following quality visits to a care home. A typical quality visit involves an initial discussion with the care home management team to set the inspection ground rules and to ask questions about the home. The inspection includes looking at residents' records, inspecting the whole environment (bedrooms, bathrooms, kitchen, laundry, clinic room and so on), observing a medication round, speaking to staff, residents and family members and feeding back the outcome of our inspection to the care home management team. Such visits could be announced or unannounced

### Do you have any words of encouragement for anyone thinking about a career in health and social care?

My advice for anybody embarking on this field is to go for it. The difference you make in people's life is very rewarding. Furthermore, for those who are ambitious, you need to keep developing yourself, take up short and long term courses/training opportunities as you will never know when they might come handy.

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