

Name: Flower Lewis MSN, RN, AGACNP, CNL, PMH-BC, NE-BC

Title: Associate Division Manager for Mental Health, Veterans Affairs

Professional Responsibilities

I serve as the Associate Division Manager for Mental Health Nursing, also known as the Chief Mental Health Nurse, at the VA in Milwaukee. In this role, I oversee a large team and lead initiatives to improve mental health services and nursing practices across the division. My previous roles included serving as the Shared Governance Chair of the ICU committee and later as the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) for med-surg and mental health. The CNL is very closely aligned with nursing education and in this role I thrived when working side by side with frontline staff and helping them achieve quality veteran outcomes.

Professional Interests

I am passionate about meaningful education and using interactive strategies to engage learners effectively. I prioritize understanding diverse learning styles and finding ways to help others succeed. As a lifelong learner, I am currently working toward completing my Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Educational Leadership, which will further enhance my ability to lead and educate.

Accomplishments

I have had the privilege of spearheading impactful projects, including the creation of frontline staff onboarding training for the mental health division and coordinating division-wide competencies and skills fairs. My work during the COVID-19 pandemic included two DEMPS deployments to support critical needs for veterans in state facilities. I am also proud to have earned 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards in the VA Milwaukee Performance Improvement Fair for innovative projects that have enhanced care delivery.

Fun Information

I work to travel and embrace every opportunity for adventure, from short domestic trips to international explorations. My favorite destinations include Mykonos, Venice, and London. As an avid planner, I organize all my own trips, leveraging skills I honed during my extreme couponing days to find incredible deals on everything. I now partake in the credit cards points hacking game to maximize savings. If I weren't a nurse, I would likely be a professional organizer—a role that aligns perfectly with my love for structure and efficiency.