Montserrat and NHS England have developed a Managed Education Partnership that will provide much needed education and training resources focusing on the nursing workforce. The partnership has been developed following a visit to Montserrat by NHS England, together with UK Health Security Agency and UK-Med in March 2023 where meetings were held with key stakeholders, clinical facilities were observed, and projects were discussed that could be implemented through the partnership.
The Managed Education Partnership is part of NHS England’s commitment to mutual health system strengthening for overseas health workforces using NHS England’s expertise, based on co-creation of solutions.

The partnership commenced through the implementation of the NHS England Star Workshop where workforce challenges were discussed with key stakeholders and priorities identified accordingly. The workshop participants recognized that the healthcare workforce needs to adapt in order to meet current and future demands on the nursing workforce, identify skills necessary for success, nurture an agile and flexible workforce, support leaders and talent, and identify global partnerships. Action plans for delivering the partnership while considering possible projects that could be implemented by NHS England were also discussed.

It’s an exciting opportunity but, there are challenges to overcome. The high vacancy rates in the nursing workforce have the potential to impede participation on education and training programmes both in Montserrat and clinical placements abroad. However, the enthusiasm of workshop participants demonstrated that any obstacles can be overcome.

The partnership has identified 5 key projects that could help Montserrat meet their current and future nursing workforce education and training needs. The aim is to foster flexibility, development of skillsets, and provide leadership support. The first step is to start the implementation of TALENT, and NHS Technology Enhanced Learning and then move to the implementation of the Improving Global Health Fellowships, Clinical Observer project. There is also an offer for the Director of Nursing to develop leadership skills with the Florence Nightingale Foundation.

- TALENT (Technical Assisted Learning and Education for Nursing and Midwifery Teams) brings nurses and midwives together to develop their leadership skills through online communities of practice.
- NHS Technology Enhanced Learning uses E-Learning, online learning and immersive technologies to develop and improve digital skills, advance clinical placements, training experiences, and knowledge retention.
- Improving Global Health Fellows (IGH Fellows) will have IGH Fellows, who are NHS employees from clinical or non-clinical backgrounds, volunteer to participate in quality improvement projects in Montserrat. Two Fellows to be deployed in Montserrat for a six-month period.
- Clinical Observers will have up to 5 Nurses from Montserrat spending 6-8 weeks at an English NHS Hospital Trust on an Educational Placement Programme.
- For the Chief Nursing Officer, leadership development opportunities through The Florence Nightingale Foundation Global Scholarship programme.
From here, the next steps are to use the data on disease trends in Montserrat in conjunction with clinical workforce data to design the Talent programme and identify priorities for the E-Learning for Health component of the NHS Technology Enhanced Learning offer.

Although the partnership has started with the implementation of the Star Workshop, rollout of the TALENT and Technology Enhance Learning is planned for the middle of 2023.

**Want to know more?**

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