

Oluseyi Abatan, MPH, BSN, RNC-MNN

Ms. Abatan recognized her interest in women's health earlier in her career at Northwell Health System in New York, where she served as staff nurse and Charge nurse on mother-baby and antepartum units. In 2016, she relocated to Georgia and worked at Emory Decatur on the antepartum, and L&D units.

Her nursing career has been dedicated to creating efficient workflow for nurses, promoting quality and safe care as well as improving outcomes for all women. Fostering a culture of nursing excellence through leadership, collaboration, advocacy, and innovation, empowering a skilled workforce to deliver world-class healthcare in the ambulatory setting. As an Emerging Leader, she hopes to expand her depth as an effective leader and effect positive change in her organization and in her community.

Dedevie Booth, BSN, RN, C-EFM

Ms. Booth is a Nurse Leader in the Labor, Delivery, Recovery, and Postpartum (LDRP) unit at a community hospital in upstate New York. With over a decade of experience in maternal health, she is known for her commitment to improving patient care, fostering collaboration, and enhancing nursing practices. As Chair of the Nurse Practice Council, she has led initiatives prioritizing patient safety and professional development, earning her the Daisy Award for her dedication to clinical excellence.

She is also participating in the AWHONN Emerging Leaders Program, where she aims to bridge gaps in care between prenatal, labor, and postpartum services. Her goal is to ensure seamless, quality care beyond the hospital and develop leadership skills to drive her continued impact in maternal healthcare.

Alison Dubiner, BSN, RN, C-EFM, CBC

Ms. Dubiner recently started her career in obstetrics nursing and has already discovered her passion for empowering parents during their pregnancy and childbirth experiences.

She currently has three years of experience as a nurse in high-risk obstetrics in teaching hospitals in both postpartum and labor and delivery units. In her short time, she has developed an interest in

improving the experiences of birthing peoples by focusing on creating a labor and delivery experience in which the birthing person feels safe and in control while employing evidence-based practices.

Outside of obstetrics, she has a passion for foreign languages, which she also employs in her research of the obstetric nursing experience of caring for birthing people with limited English proficiency. Faced with several systemic problems in her clinical practice, as an Emerging Leader, she hopes to gain the skills and professional network necessary to improve the quality of care for all birthing people, regardless of age, race, sexuality, gender identity, religion, and spoken language.

Jessica Farmer, BSN, RN

Ms. Farmer joins the Emerging Leaders 2024-25 cohort with a diverse professional background rooted in trauma-informed care, patient-centered advocacy, and comprehensive reproductive health education. Her path to nursing started with her work serving LGBTQ+ survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and hate crimes. This firsthand experience highlighted the importance of advocating for people who often remain voiceless in complex healthcare systems.

As an Emerging Leader, she looks forward to connecting with passionate healthcare innovators who amplify the voices of patients and learning from the other leaders in her cohort. Her goal is to continue to interweave advocacy and education into her nursing career by collaborating with others working in the perinatal mental health space and by amplifying the voices of her peers.

Stephanie Jurado, MBA, BSN, RNC-OB

Ms. Jurado is a dedicated healthcare leader who has spent much of her nursing career improving the perinatal experience for pregnant patients and their families. With extensive experience in leadership, Stephanie has developed a passion for change management and quality improvement. She has been a driving force in creating new policies and practices that redefine quality healthcare and elevate safety standards in maternal care. She is applying her combined clinical expertise and business insight to explore and enhance the ambulatory side of women's health,

understanding the diverse needs women face throughout various stages of life.

As a 2024 AWHONN Emerging Leader, Stephanie is excited about the opportunity to learn, share knowledge, and collaborate with fellow nurse leaders. She is eager to gain deeper insight into how AWHONN is driving meaningful change in the community and is committed to actively participating in those efforts, and looks forward to applying her skills and leadership to contribute to AWHONN's mission, helping to shape the future of women's health and give back to the community she serves.

Berenice Sanchez, MSN, CNS, RNC-OB, C-EFM

Ms. Sanchez is a dedicated Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist at Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center, home to the only labor and delivery unit in Chula Vista and the closest to the Tijuana, Mexico border. With over a decade of experience in labor and delivery, she holds a master's degree in nursing and is currently pursuing a PhD in Nursing.

As a recognized leader and educator, she is passionate about helping nurses find their spark at the bedside through mentorship, empowering them to practice at their fullest potential and contributing to the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity. She applied to become an Emerging Leader because of her commitment to decreasing maternal mortality and morbidity, and the program will help her develop connections and relationships with people around the country from whom she can learn.

Kimber Stovesand, RN, BSN

Ms. Stovesand has worked in reproductive health for almost a decade. She first began her career working within her home state of North Carolina before becoming a travel nurse and helping units across the country. She is now completing her senior year of midwifery school at East Carolina University.

She currently serves on several committees and boards committed to improvement, education and advocacy both on her unit and through national

organizations such as AWHONN, serving on the Healthy Mom and Baby Editorial board, Content Advisory Board for the AWHONN Insights podcast, and participating in the Departmental Change Committee on her unit.

As a 2024-25 AWHONN Emerging Leader, she hopes to strengthen her leadership and communication skills to make real, tangible improvements within the reproductive health field. She wants to empower marginalized communities with education and advocacy to end poor maternal and neonatal outcomes.

Tischara "Tee" Walther, MSN, RNC-MNN, IBCLC, CPST

Ms. Walther started nursing in 2006 as an LVN, graduated with RN in 2010, BSN in 2014, and MSN in 2018. Been working in the OB world since 2012 and dedicated to Postpartum in 2018. In 2019 she became a dedicated Lactation counselor in the lactation department. In October 2021, became the supervisor for the OB department, and currently the Postpartum manager since August 2022.

In addition to the OB world she was the coordinator for YoungLives of Round Rock, TX, which is a Christian based non-profit for teen moms for 6 years. Lastly, she was an OB adjunct for National American University from 2017-2019 and UTA from 2018-2021.

M. Cristina Zuniga, MSN, RN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, C-ONQS

Ms. Zuniga is a registered nurse with 19 years of experience in various perinatal settings. She holds several professional certifications including Inpatient Obstetric Nursing (RNC-OB), Electronic Fetal Monitoring (C-EFM), and Obstetric and Neonatal Quality and Safety (C-ONQS). She has led birthing classes to expecting families, taught clinical and didactic courses to nursing students and provided continuing education for perinatal nurses. Currently, she is the perinatal clinical nurse educator for a large hospital in the San Francisco Bay Area where she focuses on promoting evidence-based practices and advocacy.