Partnership between Hampshire Hospitals and The Open University bearing fruit

HAMPshire Hospitals now boasts four more registered nurses thanks to a well-established link between the trust and The Open University.

Pauel Usenko, James Johnston, Sarah Ede and Nathalie Allum are all working as nurses after being put through their training by Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

The partnership between the trust and The Open University gives members of staff a great opportunity to improve their career prospects. Healthcare assistants at Hampshire Hospitals are identified as potential candidates through the appraisal process and if selected, they continue to work in that role while they train to become a nurse.

There are a total of 38 staff across the trust’s three hospitals currently going through the process, with another four due to start in February and 10 more set to begin in September.

It is a hugely successful programme and played a crucial role in attracting one of the latest successful candidates, 34-year-old Pauel Usenko, to move to Hampshire from Northern Ireland.

“I knew that this was what I wanted to do,” he said. “I made it clear in my interview and the opportunity on offer here was a big reason why I moved here.”

“You need to dedicate a lot of time and really be committed, but it is all worth it in the end and I am really enjoying being qualified. The responsibility is greater now that I am qualified and I now know that a certain group of patients are relying on me to help them and answer their questions.”

“I would like to thank Hampshire Hospitals for the support I have got. This is a great opportunity.”

Pauel is now working on the Kemp Welsh ward at Royal Hampshire County Hospital as a fully qualified nurse – a far cry from the job he had as a property salesman in Bulgaria only a few years ago.

“It is very different to the job I used to do, but I love it because I can see the difference we are making,” he explained. “We are dealing with the most precious thing there is, a person’s life, and no job is more important than that.”

ENDS

Photos:

1 - Nurse Badges Group – Left to right: Pauel Usenko, Sarah Ede and James Johnston are all working at RHCH after qualifying as senior nurses thanks to Hampshire Hospitals’ partnership with The Open University.

2 - Pauel Usenko (1) – Pauel Usenko with Donna Green, chief nurse at Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Notes to Editors

1. Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust provides hospital services to a population of approximately 600,000 people in Hampshire and parts of West Berkshire.
2. HHFT has around 5,500 staff and a turnover of £345.6 million a year.
3. HHFT delivers one hospital service across multiple locations including its own hospitals, Andover War Memorial Hospital, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester. It also provides outpatient and assessment services from Bordon and Alton community hospitals.
4. As a Foundation Trust, HHFT is accountable to the local community through a system of local ownership with members and elected governors. HHFT has around 18,000 staff and public members. Foundation Trusts are free from central government control and can reinvest any surplus to develop clinical services. They are authorised and regulated by Monitor, an independent regulator.

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