**Leadership**

Lakira Williams

Saint Joseph’s University

Nur-640

Dr. Wise

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The ideal candidate exhibits leadership by having the profound ability to navigate complex systems and foster adaptive thinking within a nursing environment. They show a knack for inspiring others towards a shared vision, challenging conventional approaches, and cultivating an environment where innovative ideas flourish. Not only do they excel in strategic planning and execution within nursing, but they also possess adept change management skills, utilizing various models and tools to facilitate smooth transitions. Moreover, their commitment to diversity, belonging, and inclusion is evident through their efforts to create an inclusive workplace culture and address biases in care delivery and operations.

Furthermore, this candidate exhibits strong decision-making prowess, capitalizing on opportunities, objectively analyzing problems, and making timely decisions, even in the face of limited data or potentially unpleasant consequences, according to the American Organization for Nurse Leadership (AONL) standard for leadership. They foster professional governance and encourage transformative thinking and innovation, actively seeking opportunities, addressing biases, and allocating resources to develop and implement cutting-edge ideas. Overall, their multifaceted skill set, from strategic leadership to fostering inclusion and driving innovation, positions them as a highly effective leader capable of navigating and shaping the future of nursing within complex healthcare systems.

I have watched my preceptor run a few meetings during clinical. I have noted how she runs her interdisciplinary meetings so efficiently because, with so many disciplines involved, everyone has different goals, but keeping every group focused on that one common goal is a feat. The meetings can start rocky with side conversations or deviations off-topic. Without fail, she brings everyone back on the same page, usually by bringing the conversation to the matter at hand or just stopping everyone and getting them back on the main objective. During these moments, she exhibits strong decision-making prowess, capitalizing on opportunities, objectively analyzing problems, and making timely decisions that the AONL expects from a leader following leadership competency. Watching this usually worries me if I could do the same in the future; I fear if I have that same moxy. While remembering these instances and reading about leadership competency from AONL, I realize I can. My preceptor and I veer off-topic and go on tangents about other healthcare issues. I look at the limited time together and bring us back to the topic and what we need to do for today, not as gracefully as she does in meetings, but as a start. I still doubt myself immensely when thinking about leadership competency concerning me, and I know with time and experience, I will find my footing. The clinical has been an excellent opportunity to see different aspects of leadership, which helps me figure out how to be a competent leader.

Reference

*Nurse Executive Competencies | AHA*. (n.d.-c). AONL. https://www.aonl.org/nurse-executive-competencies