

THAT SUCCESSFUL NURSE

HOW TO ACHIEVE YOUR DREAMS AS AN
INTERNATIONAL NURSE

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*You are more
than just a
nurse, You are a
legacy in the
making"*

That Successful Nurse

How to achieve your dreams as an
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Introduction:

What is the American dream?

The American dream is a concept that represents the idea of achieving success, wealth, and prosperity through hard work, determination, and initiative, regardless of one's social background or economic status. It is a belief that anyone in America can achieve their goals and aspirations through their own efforts and abilities, and that they will be rewarded with a better life for themselves and their families. That is the reason for the popular word “JAPA” meaning escape in my Nigerian dialect. It means you have escaped the struggles from your country to find greener pastures in America. For a lot of American born nurses, this book will just be a



Nursing is more than just a career—it's a calling. But for many nurses, the desire to help others extends beyond the bedside. If you're reading this, you may be a student nurse, a registered nurse seeking career growth, or an aspiring nurse entrepreneur looking for more financial freedom and flexibility. This book is your roadmap to achieving your dreams, whether it's excelling as an international nurse or building a thriving business that aligns with your nursing expertise.

I know this journey firsthand. As a nurse, I once believed my only option was to work long hours, take extra shifts, and climb the hospital career ladder. But I discovered something powerful—nurses have skills that are highly valuable outside the hospital setting. Through entrepreneurship, I was able to create multiple income streams, gain

financial independence, and have more time for my family. This book will show you how to do the same.

Whether you want to transition into business now or in the future, the first step is believing that you can.

Join me as I hand-hold you through the process and share my experience in pursuing my American dream to be That Successful Nurse.

Let's get started.

With Love,

Fadekemi Odewade

Chapter 1

Becoming a Registered Nurse Internationally

Pre NCLEX stage

The PreNCLEX stage is a crucial step towards achieving your goal of becoming a registered nurse in the United States. During this stage, you will need to decide whether you want to work with a sponsor agency or not. A sponsor agency will cover the cost of your studies, processing, travel, and accommodation to take the NCLEX exam. However, they usually prefer to work with graduate nurses and consider years of experience.

guide and a push for you to achieve your dreams no matter the odds. Some people leave other professions to start nursing afresh, this is also a push to you to achieve your dreams as well.

Nurses, like anyone else, may choose to pursue the American dream for a variety of reasons. Some may be motivated by the desire to provide a better life for themselves and their families, while others may see it as an opportunity to advance their careers and improve their financial prospects. Additionally, the American dream represents the belief in the possibility of upward social mobility and the chance to achieve personal and professional success through hard work and dedication, which can be a motivating factor for nurses who are passionate about their work and want to make a difference in the world.

To prepare for the exam, you will need to study intensely for about six months with the help of your agency. They will provide you with study materials and practice exams, and after about 20 weeks of preparation, you will be required to take a mock exam to qualify for the NCLEX. In addition, you will need to take an English proficiency exam, which typically costs around \$110.

You will also need to register with the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) to obtain a CES report. This report evaluates your qualifications and confirms that you are internationally trained. Finally, you must register with a state Board of Nursing that has a multi-state license. The Texas and Illinois Boards of Nursing are popular choices because they issue licenses that are recognized in multiple states, which can save you time and money in the long run.

Basically, each state has their requirements, you should ensure you don't choose a state based on things such as the popularity of the region or even your dream work destination. Rather, consider the requirements of the state's board of nursing for foreign nurses. If a board requires any of the following, you may consider not applying for NCLEX with that state board because it could delay your application:

- IELTS or TOEFL results
- CGFNS Certification Program.
- Social Security Number (SSN) to issue a license
(You will have issues later if you apply to a state that will not issue a license if you don't have a SSN).

The state you have your License may not be the state you will practice your nursing.

I had my License with Illinois board of Nursing but most people usually use the Texas board of Nursing who also requires some steps to get the license. Three basic things are required of you with the Texas board of Nursing (BON) before you register with PearsonVue for your NCLEX.

- CES (Credential Evaluation Service)‘Remember this is already ongoing, from step one’
- Nursing Jurisprudence Examination.
- Criminal Background Check.

Remember, you may not have to go through the Texas board of Nursing. Other nurses go through Colorado, New Mexico etc. Follow the one that will not stress you at the end of the day.

The disappointments are valid

The journey of becoming a nurse in the United States may involve some disappointments, but it is important to keep pushing forward and make the decision not to give up even before you start. The steps required may look small but each step comes with its challenges.

I chose to work with the agency- O'grday peyton International (OGP) an AMN healthcare company, which made the process much smoother. AMN healthcare is one of the biggest recruiting company which has a very good reputation within the United States and outside the United States. I must say, "they know their onions". Unfortunately, many agencies that sponsor Nigerian nurses have reduced their offerings due to visa denials. However, some agencies are willing to reimburse candidates who pass their NCLEX exam and arrive in the United states. AMN healthcare are willing to reimburse you when the nurse pass.

Once you have registered with the nursing board and passed the necessary background checks, you can register for the NCLEX exam for \$200. Within a week, you will receive an Authorization To Test (ATT), which allows you to schedule your exam through PearsonVue's website . For those taking the exam outside the United States, such as Nigerians who often test in the Philippines, an additional fee of \$150 may apply. The ATT is valid for 90 days, and due to COVID-19 restrictions, testing centers are now available in India, Brazil, and with limited visa approvals, South Africa. Did I tell you I had to register for the exam about three times due to covid 19 and the ban of Nigerians to the United states? This further delayed my journey to successful nursing for more than one year. I had my fair share of disappointment too.

I also had my exams cancelled about five times before I finally passed in 2021 including travelling to the Philippines only to experience an earthquake while in philippines. I describe my journey to the Philippines as an excursion. This is really funny today, but it was not funny then.

I also did a visa processing for South Africa which I was denied too. I finally wrote my exams in the United States which was a very rare opportunity for me. However, this was a miracle for me.

All expenses to these various countries were funded by my agency O'grady Peyton international at no added cost.

It is recommended that candidates dedicate approximately three months of concentrated preparation for the NCLEX exam, as with any professional exam, I will let you know later in the book.

CHAPTER 2

Resources and Strategies for NCLEX Preparation.

The National Nursing Licensure Examination (NCLEX) examination is an examination used to assess nurses ability to provide safe, effective nursing care upon entry into practice in the United States and its territories. The exam requires good resources and strategies to pass the exam. I would recommend preparing for this exam with an agency as they will drill you like your life depends on it and you would know alot.

But if you have the money or you have a sponsor for this process, go ahead and finance the whole process yourself. Just make sure you are making the move.



*See yourself a success before
the examination begins*

The people taking these steps are not super humans. I used to think taking this step was so impossible until I started.

Will there be challenges?YES

Can you overcome the challenges YES.

So, why can't you give it a try?

However, you would still need your own personal preparations to build your confidence level so as not to prepare for the exams in fear.

Some of the resources I used includes but not limited to;

- Kaplan: Question bank, Basic NCLEX content review books and Advance NCLEX content review.
- Acher content review and Question bank
- Uworld Content review and Question bank
- Sajpointe Basic content review and Mastery.

I would include the link to purchase all these products for you.

If you are a Nigerian, I really recommend Sajpointe as they have a structure to connect you to a one on one tutor that will walk you through the preparation stage till you pass your exams and a support group too. This is also true for other NCLEX study reviewers.

A study partner or a study group: This is super important because When a you are weak and discouraged, you have a partner to push you up. My partner was my university classmate whom I found during one of the group coaching sessions. Both of us were in but did not know we were in together until we reached out to each other because the names were familiar.It turned out we connected so well and we are able to help ourselves push through.

Conquering the Beast. Everyone has their own challenges and the challenges can show up as a beast. I call NCLEX a Nonsense beast because that was what it showed up as for me. When a challenge shows up in your life, give it a name so you can conquer it. Having failed NCLEX once and passed it the second try, I am able to extract the tips and tricks to pass this exam in your first try .

Tips for Managing Test Anxiety and Staying Motivated

NCLEX, we will say it's a nonsense beast because the thoughts of the exam just makes you scared but the truth is , it is one of those exams you did in nursing school and you need to study widely to have a good grasp of what the exam is about.

Here are some of the tips I used to manage my anxiety levels and staying motivated

Exam anxiety is a common experience among students and can interfere with their performance in exams.

Here are some tips that may help in managing exam anxiety:

Preparation: Adequate preparation for exams can help to reduce anxiety. Create a study plan that includes a review of course materials, practice tests, and revision of notes. By preparing well, you will feel more confident about your ability to tackle the exam. Did I mention to you that I failed the NCLEX once before I retested and passed again. One of the reasons I failed was because I was not well prepared for the exam and I was extremely anxious.

Positive self-talk: Practice positive self-talk to boost your confidence. Remind yourself of your strengths and abilities, and avoid negative self-talk. Focus on what you have accomplished, rather than what you have yet to do. I am a strong Believer of Christ and His words so I looked for scriptures that pertains

to success, I recite them every day before I started studying. Some of them includes;

For out of His fullness [the superabundance of His grace and truth] we have all received grace upon grace [spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, favor upon favor, and gift heaped upon gift]. John 1:16 Amplified

Isaiah 65:23 They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.”

Deuteronomy 28:13 ASB

And Jehovah will make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if thou shalt hearken unto the commandments of Jehovah thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them,

I also had personal affirmations I developed for myself. Like , I succeed in you, NCLEX.

Computer, you are not permitted to give me questions I do not know. Only questions I know.

I recite the scriptures and affirmations everyday.

Relaxation techniques: It is super important to be relaxed when studying for the NCLEX examination. Your mind assimilates better. Use relaxation techniques such as deep breathing, meditation, and progressive muscle relaxation to calm your nerves. These techniques can help you to feel more relaxed and centered.

Time management: Have you noticed that when you are getting closer to the examination, time seems not enough. It looks as if what to cover is increasing and the little you know is flying out of your

brain. This is why time management is super important while preparing for your exams. Make sure you have enough time to revise your notes, practice test questions, and get enough sleep. Procrastination can lead to increased anxiety and poor performance in exams.

The strategy I used for myself while preparing for my exams was using traffic to study my questions banks answers and answer more question bank results. I lived on a very busy part of Lagos Nigeria so the traffic

It would surprise you most of the time I practised and revised my questions banks while inside traffic from Ajah to Ikeja every other day or three times a week.

Avoid caffeine and sugar: Caffeine and sugar can increase your heart rate and make you feel more anxious. I naturally do not like caffeine because it

makes me extremely tired when the effect of the coffee wears off from me. Avoid these substances before the exam and instead, choose healthier options such as water, fruits, and vegetables.

Visualize success: Visualize yourself succeeding in the exam. Picture yourself answering the questions confidently and achieving a good grade. Everyday I imagine I was a success already in this exam. I had written congratulations to myself and pasted it on a wall in my room where I could see it every time I dressed up. This technique can help to reduce anxiety and boost your confidence.

Pray, Pray, Pray: A word of prayer towards the exams can never be over emphasized. It is often said the Spiritual controls the physical. Pray for journey mercy to the exam venue and back, pray for good success. Pray that you will not make a costly mistake.

Remember, it's natural to feel anxious before an exam, but with the right strategies, you can manage your anxiety and perform well.

Exam day and Result same day-Good or Bad

I've heard many mentors say, "Don't study the day before your exams." At first, I thought it was bad advice. Let's be honest—something inside you always pushes you to keep studying, thinking you haven't done enough. I completely understand that feeling.

When I was preparing for an exam with a friend, we spent the night before reviewing what we already knew and praying together. This helped us calm our nerves and recall some things we might have forgotten. It made a big difference.

Exam day itself is a unique experience. It's natural to feel anxious for a moment, but the words you speak and the mindset you carry that day can truly shape your performance. I had a mentor who encouraged me on the morning of my exam. She gave me simple but profound advice: "Treat this exam like any other. Time isn't your enemy—wrong answers are." That reminder changed everything for me.

Here are the tips that helped me in the exams.

- Wake up early (that is if you slept at all)
- Do some exercises this will help your brain boot fast to answer questions.
- Talk to God about the exams (God has the final say and He is the origin of wisdom)
- Have some breakfast.You need energy for the exams ahead.

- Pack some snacks and water for the break time.
- Remember your ATT and your means of identification
- Get to the exam venue on time
- While waiting for the exams Speak to yourself, speak to the environment.(Tell yourself ,you can do this, tell yourself you are a success)
- Greet and smile to the coordinators at the Pearson VUE centre. The smile calms you down.
- Read every instructions you are given
- Be sure to remove every distraction around you.
- When the exams commences, always eliminate the wrong answers and ask yourself why the answer you are picking is your final answer.
- The exam may not shut at 75 questions (you are still in the game, keep moving.

The first time I wrote the NCLEX it finished at 78 questions and I was thinking I passed it, guess what, **I failed.**

The second time I wrote the NCLEX exam, the computer shut off at 82 questions and I passed.

In writing the two exams, I have come to realise that time is not your enemy, wrong answers are your enemy.

Congratulations you made it.

While I was waiting for my result of the NCLEX exams, it was like my whole life was on a pause as I could not do anything due to anxiety. I also did not

know how to do the Pearson VUE trick. Here is the Pearson VUE trick for NCLEX exams:

Pearson VUE Trick

The Pearson VUE trick is a method that candidates use to check if they have passed their computerized certification exam, administered by Pearson VUE. It involves trying to re-register for the same exam immediately after finishing it.

If a candidate attempts to register for the same exam and the Pearson VUE system allows them to proceed with the registration and payment process, it is often interpreted as an indication that the candidate has failed the exam. On the other hand, if the system prevents them from proceeding with the

registration and payment process, it is often interpreted as an indication that the candidate has passed the exam.

It is important to note, however, that the Pearson VUE trick is not a reliable method for determining exam results, and candidates should not rely on it completely. It is always best to wait for the official exam results from the certifying organization.

The trick worked for me in the long run and it was the same pass as the official result sent by my agency. This is now a dream come true, but this is just the beginning of the American dream. The feeling of success is totally different from the feeling of failure, I have experienced both and I must say that success has the best feeling in the world. When you fail, it is okay to feel down, it is okay to cry and feel disappointed but do not dwell in that

feeling for long. It is time for you to analyse the failure and see where you can improve.

For the NCLEX exam, you have the opportunity to test again after forty five days but I would not advice to test after that forty five days. Give yourself a goal of sixty to ninety days to test again.

With that, you are sure you have prepared and ready for the exam the second time.

Chapter 3

The Immigration Process and arrival of International Nurses

Most people think after passing the National Council Licensure Examination, the journey is over, rather the journey has just begun. This stage alone takes nothing less than a year depending on your country of citizenship and the visa processing procedure. You will not underestimate the power of prayers at this stage. This is what guarantees the finish line after all is said and done. These steps took me roughly about 13 months to accomplish irrespective of being on premium filing.



In this chapter, I will talk about the general process of all things being equal. Let's go!

Here are the steps to follow to achieving your American Dream after the NCLEX examination via consular processing:

- File for a Green Card. Typically, initial approval is received within 6-8 months of filing, but expedited cases can be approved within 15 days of filing.

- Receive I-140 approval and transfer the case to the National Visa Centre (NVC) for document processing.
USCIS takes about 4-8 weeks to transfer the approved case to NVC. Once received, NVC will issue a notice with the case number and instructions. Your agency will request for your family fees and required civil documents. If

your Priority Date (PD) is not current or close to being current, your case will be placed on hold by the NVC until it becomes eligible for further processing based on the cut-off dates outlined on the visa bulletin.

- Pay the immigrant visa fee (\$345/person for you, and your dependents/spouse/children). NVC takes about 1 week to process the fee bill.

- Submit Packet 3, which includes DS-260 and civil documents. NVC takes about 12 weeks to review your case and send the final processing notice.

- Receive the final processing notice from NVC. It takes approximately 4 weeks for NVC to issue your Exit interview Notice (Packet 4).

- Receive Packet 4 and schedule the Exit interview, which is typically scheduled 4-8 weeks from the Exit interview Notice. Complete the immigration medical exam after the issuance of the exit interview date notification. Your agency will mail the exit documents to you prior to your interview. Remember to bring the Original Visa Screen to the interview.

- Receive your immigrant visa stamp in your passport after the interview. It takes approximately 2-3 weeks for your passport to be returned to you. You will be issued a sealed envelope- DO NOT OPEN the sealed package.

- Pay the USCIS immigrant fee (\$220/person) through your online USCIS ELIS account. You can pay the fee for yourself and any family

members in one transaction. Each person's \$220 fee must be paid before they receive their Permanent Resident Card. It is recommended to complete this before departure but can be done following arrival. Your Green Card will not be issued until you have entered the US and paid your immigrant fee(s).

- Receive your Permanent Resident Stamp (I-551) upon admission to the US. Your visa stamp in your passport is stamped with the date of entry and can be used as proof of permanent residence for up to one year or until your card is issued.
- Receive your Permanent Resident Card (actual Green Card) 30-90 days from your date of arrival into the US after U.S. Customs and

Border Protection verifies payment of the \$220 fee and mails the card to you.

The fact that you have passed your exams does not automatically mean you will be in the United States within two months. You will need a lot of patience at this stage.

Preparing for Arrival in the United States

Relocation to another country is overwhelming especially when you are travelling with family. Whether you are travelling alone or with family, here are some tips that can help you.

- Make a list of the things you will need to pack when traveling: This includes important documents such as your passport and visa, as

well as any personal items and clothing you may need. By making a list, you can ensure that you don't forget anything important and that you stay organized during the packing process.

- Buy appropriate clothing for the weather you will encounter in your new country: Depending on where you're moving to, you may need to purchase clothing that is suitable for a different climate. This may include warm clothing if you're moving to a cold climate or lightweight clothing if you're moving to a hot climate.
- Obtain your driver's license as soon as possible: Having a driver's license can be important for getting around in your new country, especially if you plan to purchase a car. Make sure to research the requirements for obtaining a

driver's license in your new country and start the process as soon as possible.

- Work with your agency to find suitable accommodation: Your agency may be able to help you find a place to live when you arrive in your new country. Be sure to communicate your needs and preferences to your agency so they can help you find a suitable place to live. Make sure the house you are renting has some basis equipments, for example washing machine, dish washer, electric cooker and ensure the heating and cooling system are working well.
- Consider the distance to your workplace and children's school when selecting accommodation: When choosing a place to live, it's important to consider the distance to your

workplace and your children's school. This can help you to minimize commute times and make it easier to balance work and family responsibilities.

- Book your flights ahead of time, either through your agency or independently: By booking your flights ahead of time, you can ensure that you get the best possible price and that you have seats together if you're traveling with family.
- Speak with family and friends for advice and support: Moving to a new country can be stressful, so it's important to have a support system in place. Talk to family and friends for advice and support, and consider joining online communities for expats in your new country.

- Join online forums or social media groups for expats in your new country: Online communities can be a great source of information and support when you're adjusting to life in a new country. Consider joining social media groups or forums for expats in your new country to connect with others who have gone through similar experiences.
- Plan ahead and stay organized to minimize stress during your move: Moving to a new country can be overwhelming, but by planning ahead and staying organized, you can minimize stress and make the transition as smooth as possible. Make sure to research your new country, create a budget, and have a plan in place for things like transportation, housing, and healthcare.

Chapter 4

The First few Months in the United States

Most foreign nurses always have that feeling of "Is this America really the best choice" due to demands of things to put in place to get the ball rolling and working at the same time. The first few months are the most overwhelming period of any immigrant and international nurse including bills you need to pay especially coming from home with little funds to start up with.

Don't fret, it will fizzle out in a few weeks when you get hold of the system.

America has a culture that you have to learn and some will give you a lot of culture shock that you

have to adjust to. Here is a funny scenerio I and my husband experienced, it was something as simple as buying fuel at the gas station. In Nigeria where I am from, you go to the gas station and you will be served fuel by a gas attendant and you will pay for that service, but in America, the reverse is the case. We got to the gas station, we did not know how to buy the fuel,we had to stand a little while and watch others buy their fuel to be able to copy what they do. We had to talk to someone begging us for money to teach us. Yes, there are beggars in America, the land of the free. He was glad to teach us and we gave him money for food.

Another difficult time for us was purchasing our car, and doing the driving test to get our drivers license. We thought there would be a car provided to us to learn and pass our driving test but we have to find a friend who can trust us to borrow us their car and also their car insurance.

America system is a lot and Understanding the U.S. healthcare system will help you familiarize yourself with the U.S. healthcare system, including how insurance works, the different types of healthcare providers, and how to access care even as a nurse

Learn medical terminology: It's important to learn medical terminology used in the U.S. to effectively communicate with colleagues and patients. For example, Tylenol in America is Paracetamol in Africa so if you do not know this you might be checking everywhere to look for tylenol.

As a foreign nurse adjusting to life in the United States, building a network and support system is critical for a successful transition. Here are some tips to help you build your network and support system:

Attend conferences and seminars: Attending conferences and seminars can help you learn about the latest trends and developments in the nursing field, as well as meet other professionals in your area.

Connect with other foreign nurses: Connecting with other foreign nurses who have gone through the same process can help you feel less isolated and provide a source of support and guidance.

Utilize social media: Social media platforms such as LinkedIn and Facebook can be useful for connecting with other nurses and healthcare professionals, as well as finding job opportunities and resources.

Seek out mentors: Finding a mentor who can provide guidance and support as you navigate your new career in the US can be invaluable.

Join community groups: Joining community groups and volunteering can help you build relationships and become more involved in your local community. Also joining religious groups can not be over emphasized, Christians should join churches you are most comfortable with. Muslims should locate mosques closest to their homes.

By building a strong network and support system, you can ease the transition to life in the United States and thrive in your new career as a foreign nurse.



Plan, Act and succeed

Chapter 5

How to Excel in Your Nursing Career

Setting Goals for Personal and Professional Growth

As an international nurse, your dream of living and working in the United States of America has become a reality. However, it is important to understand that this is just the beginning of your career. To be successful, it is crucial to avoid the mistake of rushing into things in an attempt to make quick money. Instead, you should focus on understanding the system, culture, and most importantly, yourself. This understanding will help you to develop a

personal growth plan that will enable you to progress in your career.

One of the most important things to focus on as a nurse, especially as an international nurse, is attitude. While organizations need nurses, they prefer to work with nurses who have a good attitude towards work. This means being professional, reliable, and efficient in your work. Developing a positive attitude will not only help you build strong relationships with your colleagues and patients but also enhance your career prospects.

In addition to attitude, it is important to have a growth mindset. This means being open to learning new things and developing new skills. Nursing is a rapidly evolving profession, and staying up-to-date with the latest developments and best practices is critical. This can be achieved through attending

conferences, reading journals and articles, and taking courses or certifications and networking.

Another important goal for nurses is to develop strong communication skills. As a nurse, you will be required to communicate with patients, colleagues, and other healthcare professionals. Effective communication skills are essential for building trust, ensuring patient safety, and promoting positive patient outcomes.

Professional Growth

For you to thrive in the career path as a nurse, you need to also climb the career ladder. The nursing profession gives opportunity for growth only if you can study, give yourself to research and specialization.

Over the years, I had wanted to climb a career path, but as I came to America, I was able to see various career specialisations and paths.

This includes but not limited to:

- The Nurse practitioners
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)
- Nurse educator
- Informatics nurse
- Travel nurse
- Telenurse
- Nurse Life Coach
- Hospice/Palliative Nurse
- Remote Nurse

Also leadership roles like charge nurse, clinical coach, Nurse educator helps to boost your career and also opens business and administrative opportunities.

Also, you should have a personal development goal. Here are the ones I worked on before I came to America which is still very useful for me till now.

Time Management When you arrive in America, it looks like the twenty four hours you have is not enough because time moves so fast. Time management is the ability to effectively utilize the time you have available to you in order to achieve your goals and complete tasks efficiently. Good time management skills involve prioritizing tasks, setting goals, planning, and organizing your schedule to maximize your productivity. One way to improve your time management skills is to identify your most productive time of the day and schedule your most important tasks during that time. Additionally, using tools such as calendars, to-do lists, and reminders

can help you stay organized and on track.

Developing good time management skills can help reduce stress and improve overall productivity.

I did not understand this until I discovered that everyone has a calendar in America and will not shift their plans for you. Rather they will reschedule you to another day and time.

Emotional Intelligence:

Emotional intelligence refers to the ability to recognize, understand, and manage one's own emotions, as well as the emotions of others. It involves being aware of your own emotional states and understanding how they influence your thoughts and actions. Additionally, emotional intelligence involves being able to empathize with others, understand their perspectives, and communicate effectively with them. Developing emotional intelligence can lead to better

relationships, both personally and professionally.

One way to improve your emotional intelligence is to practice active listening, seek to understand others' perspectives, and respond with empathy and understanding.

Resilience:

Resilience refers to the ability to bounce back from difficult situations and adapt to change. It involves being able to stay positive and persevere in the face of adversity. Developing resilience can help you cope with stress and setbacks, both in your personal and professional life. One way to improve your resilience is to practice self-care, such as getting enough sleep, exercising regularly, and eating a healthy diet. There will be times that you would say, "I wish I was back home". This is because the environment and work is no longer palatable. This is what you will do at that

time, find a reliable friend to talk too about what you are going through, pray about the situation, wipe away your tears and bounce back.

Financial Stability and Planning

Every business always starts with yourself first. This requires that you have to plan your finances so you can achieve your financial goal. Avoid living paycheck to paycheck by saving, investing, and managing debt. When you arrive in America, there are a lot of credit cards that will be presented to you, whether you need it or you do not need it. I was well educated when I came to America not to incur in unnecessary debts. This helped me to invest and start a digital business here in America. I met with a financial advisor who educated me about my income and expenditure and advised me to save for my emergency funds before I venture into any investment or business. This was life saving advice

that I ran with. My husband who was also a “financial guru” was also in support of this idea , so we can work together to achieve the same result.

The following chapters will be how to venture into entrepreneurship for success. Your bedside nursing years can fund your future business while you build valuable skills in leadership, teamwork, and crisis management.

CHAPTER 6

Shifting from Employee to Entrepreneur

For Nurses Considering Business.

America is an economy that thrives on entrepreneurship. It rewards innovation, problem-solving, and impact—qualities that nurses embody every single day. Yet, many nurses don't realize how transferable their skills are to entrepreneurship. They provide life-saving care, coordinate complex cases, and adapt to high-pressure situations, but when it comes to

starting a business, they often feel lost, unsure of where to begin.

Before I left Nigeria, I started investing in business skills I did not have from those that have started business ahead of me. The truth is that nurses are natural entrepreneurs but often confused because they have too much clinical skills. Lol.

The main dream is to be financially free, which means working smarter not working harder.

Nurses Are Natural Entrepreneurs

Nursing is more than just a job—it's a profession built on critical thinking, leadership, adaptability, and resilience. Every shift, nurses assess patient needs, solve problems, collaborate with teams, and make quick decisions under pressure. These same skills form the foundation of a successful business.

Think about it—nurses are used to managing multiple responsibilities at once. They educate patients, advocate for better care, and even train new staff. In many ways, they already operate like business owners, balancing different roles to achieve the best outcomes. Yet, when it comes to stepping into entrepreneurship, many hesitate.

Why? Because the path isn't clear.

The first step to nurse entrepreneurship is recognizing that your skills are valuable beyond the bedside. If you can handle a 12-hour shift full of unexpected challenges, you can handle the ups and downs of running a business.

Here's where to start:

- Identify what you're passionate about. Do you love patient education? Do you have experience with staffing shortages? You still

love taking care of people in the comfort of their homes? Your business can solve real problems.

Choose a niche. The most successful businesses

- focus on a specific audience. Will you help new nurses? Provide consulting? Offer wellness services? Start small. You don't need to quit your job overnight. Many successful nurse
- entrepreneurs started their businesses as side hustles. Build your brand and logo. This involves creating a business name and logo. You can get this done yourself or hire a graphics designer to
- help you. Set up a website and social media pages and start sharing valuable content to attract customers.

- Invest in mentorship. Surround yourself with people who have already made the transition. Learn from their successes and mistakes.

Most nurses start from side hustles which now become the main source of income, others start with their pain points. Basically what they are going through and are able to navigate through. Just documenting the process can become a business.

Side hustles and passive income for nurses

- Blogging and content creation: A lot of nurses have become millionaires just by creating content on social media.
- Writing ebooks and digital guides
- Selling templates and digital planners for healthcare professionals
- Creating an online course for nursing students or professionals, eg Remar nclex preps, Sugar nurse, Sajpointe nclex preps

- Healthcare Staffing Agency– Help hospitals fill nursing shortages while earning a commission
- Offering Digital Health Consultations: Provide consultations via email or video that can be scheduled and conducted automatically.
- Investing in real Estate
- Investing in stocks, bonds, ETFs

These are just a few things nurses can do as a side hustle without resigning your job, which can later be turned into a lucrative business.

Chapter 6

DREAM BIGGER- YOU ARE MORE THAN A NURSE

As a nurse, your impact goes beyond the bedside. Yes, you provide care, advocate for patients, and make a difference in people's lives daily. But what if you could extend that impact beyond your shift? What if your career and business could leave a legacy that lasts for generations?

Success isn't just about making more money—it's about creating something meaningful, building financial security, and helping others rise with you. If you've ever felt called to "dream bigger", here's how you can build a lasting impact while achieving financial freedom in America.

1. Mentorship & Coaching – Helping Other Nurses Succeed

One of the most fulfilling ways to create a legacy is by lifting others up. Think about the struggles you faced as a new nurse—what do you wish someone had told you? Now, imagine being that guiding light for someone else. As soon as I came to America, I saw a lot of areas I struggled with and I created a group to start answering questions for nurses who are facing the same challenge to help with this stage. Nurses are natural mentors, check for what you are really good at, create a platform for younger nurses to learn.

Start by sharing your knowledge – Whether it's through one-on-one mentoring, online coaching, or a digital course, your experiences can help others grow faster. You can start a You tube channel and share experiences and your thoughts.

Build a community – Create a Facebook group, host webinars, or even start a blog where nurses can learn from you.

Leverage social media– Platforms like LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube allow you to educate, inspire, and connect with nurses worldwide.

A legacy isn't just about what you achieve; it's about how many people you help along the way.

2. Smart Investing – Grow Wealth Beyond Your Business

Financial freedom isn't just about making more money—it's about what you do with that money. Many nurses work long hours, only to find themselves stuck in the same financial cycle year after year. To break free, you need to start thinking like an investor. A lot of nurses that I have met never want to work for the rest of their lives, they want to retire after working at least ten years. Here is some place to begin.

- ♦ Invest in real estate – Owning rental properties or short-term Airbnb listings can provide passive income.

- ♦ Stock market & index funds – Let your money work for you through long-term investing.
- ♦ Start a scalable business – A digital product, membership program, or online business can generate income even while you sleep.

This can be just a book, an online course, or even Digital templates. Links to begin will be attached at the end of this book.

Building wealth isn't about working more shifts—it's about making smarter financial decisions that allow you to create a life of abundance.

3. Philanthropy – Giving Back to the Nursing Community

Once you reach a level of financial security, the next step is giving back. True success is about how many lives you touch and how much impact you make.

- ♦ Create a scholarship fund – Help aspiring nurses achieve their dreams.

- ♦ Sponsor medical missions– Use your skills and resources to serve communities in need.
- ♦ Support nurse-led initiatives – Fund nurse entrepreneurs or nonprofit organizations working to improve healthcare.

When you give, you don't just change others' lives—you change your own. There is power in generosity, and the more you give, the more opportunities and blessings come back to you.

CHAPTER 7

Final Thoughts: You Are More Than a Nurse, you are that successful nurse.

Nursing is an incredible profession, but it doesn't have to be your final destination. You have the skills, intelligence, and passion to create something bigger than yourself—a career, a business, and a legacy that lasts for generations.

What's your next step? Will you start mentoring, investing, or giving back? Your future is in your hands. Dream bigger, because you are more than a nurse.

You started this journey as a nurse, but along the way, you've discovered that you are capable of so much more. This book wasn't just about making more money or climbing the career ladder—it was

about challenging you to dream bigger, think differently, and step into your full potential.

You now know that success as a nurse isn't limited to bedside care. Whether you choose to advance in your career, start a business, or build multiple income streams, you have the power to design a life of freedom, impact, and financial security.

Now, It's Time to Take Action

Knowledge is only powerful when it's applied. The real difference between those who dream and those who achieve is action. Here's how you can start:

Define your vision – Now that you are in nursing, define your vision in the next five years and start working towards it. What does success look like for you? Write it down.

Take the first step – Whether it's launching a digital product, investing in yourself, or mentoring others, start today.

Stay consistent – Small, daily actions lead to massive success over time.

No one is coming to hand you success—you have to go after it. But here's the best part: You don't have to do it alone.

There is a community of nurse entrepreneurs, leaders, and visionaries who are walking this path with you. Surround yourself with people who inspire you, challenge you, and push you to be your best. *You Are More Than a Nurse—You Are a Legacy in the Making*

Your career is just the beginning. Your story, your knowledge, and your experiences have the potential to impact lives for generations.

Now, go out there and build the life you were meant to live. Dream bigger, take bold steps, and never settle for less than what you deserve.

Every nurse that came into nursing first as a big picture but some how starts to fizzle out if you do not walk in alignment with your dreams

Success starts with you.

Your time is now.

Are you ready? Email us to know what you are doing with this information.

Be encouraged,

Oluwafadekemi(aka Nurse Kemi)

Hi, I'm OLUWAFADEKEMI ODEWADE.

Yes, that is a long name - call me "Kemi" before you bite your tongue. lol..

As a dedicated nurse, midwife, and mom, I've always been driven by a passion for caring for others. With over 10 years of experience in the healthcare industry, I've honed my skills as a compassionate and resourceful professional, thriving in fast-paced environments and collaborating effectively with teams to deliver high-quality patient care.

I relocated to the United States exactly two years ago as at the time of publishing this book to find my American dream.

But my story takes an exciting turn! As a mom, I have been teaching mothers antenatal classes, sharing my

expertise to prepare them for parenthood. Now, I've expanded my reach, teaching nurses how to generate passive income through digital products - empowering them to take control of their finances and build a better future.

I'm proud to be a team player, always seeking opportunities to support and uplift those around me. My empathetic nature and resourceful spirit have earned me a reputation as a trusted colleague, care provider, and mentor.

Through my digital products, I'm dedicated to helping others:

- Develop multiple income streams
- Build financial resilience
- Achieve work-life balance

Let's connect and explore how we can support each other in our professional journeys! Whether you're a healthcare professional, a fellow entrepreneur, or simply someone seeking inspiration, I'm here to help you.

If you ever want to start having a passive income, reach out to me in my DM or connect with me with the links below.

To connect with me further,
Email: kemi@passiveincomesuite.com

Check out the links below.

My Instagram page

<https://bit.ly/FadekemiOdewade>

Youtube.

<https://www.youtube.com/@Themomnurse>

Get Clarity

<https://bit.ly/Claritytogetstarted>

move up link

<https://www.passiveincomesuite.com/moveup>

Resources to study for NCLEX

Click on the Links

[KAPLAN NCLEX PREP](#)

[UWORLD](#)

[SAJPOINTE](#)

