

MALIKA BROOMES, RN, BSN

Nursing Supervisor

NYC Health + Hospitals/Coler



Nursing might well be considered a “family affair” in Malika Broomes’ household. “I have family members that are nurses,” she relates, adding, “As a child, growing up listening to their stories about helping others everyday inspired me to become a nurse.”

Broomes says she was motivated “to help people and to have a positive effect in their lives,” and explains, “I’m motivated by the care that I provide to my residents, which makes a positive difference in their lives. I also get the opportunity to empower residents and their families with knowledge regarding their disease process. When I see the residents and their families understand their plan of care and disease process, it is a great feeling.”

Working the public health sector has allowed Broomes to contribute to her patients’ health and well-being, while at the same time allowing her to pursue her own professional development, she says. “Public sector nurses are also provided with an incredible amount of support and different opportunities that assist in their growth and development and for career progression,” Broomes remarks, noting that she has served as a New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) delegate, on the Shared Governance Committee, and on the Nurse Practice Council.

However, there are some areas where she would like to see improvement: “As a nurse, I would improve the racial disparities among minorities in the health care system,” she notes.

Over the course of her 18 years with New York City Health + Hospitals, Broomes has had a number of memorable experiences, but this past year has been more impactful than most. “One of my proudest moments as a nurse at NYC Health + Hospitals was during the pandemic,” she recalls. “I came to work every day to support my residents and staff in my unit. I felt as though my leadership and dedication inspired the staff to continue to push through. We were short-staffed in the beginning of the pandemic and we did everything from passing the meal trays and providing care to our residents, to ‘Face-timing’ with residents’ families so that they could see and communicate with their loved ones.”

These types of patient care activities come naturally to Broomes, who says she values compassion in her profession. “As a nurse, compassion resonates with me,” she comments, noting that she places great importance on, “being an active listener when residents discuss their health issues, frustration and complaints without judging them, and following up with their concerns.”