



Provider Spotlight

September 2019

Joan Aura, APRN



Joan Aura, APRN is a new provider at Genesis Family Health. She started her Genesis career in July 2019. Born and raised in Kenya, Joan traveled all over the world throughout her adolescence with her father, who was a diplomat. She was 19 when she came to the United States to pursue a degree in education. She switched her major to nursing and then received her bachelor's degree in nursing from Pittsburg State University in 2007. Joan would go on to obtain her master's in nursing. She is also a mother to two sons, who became her motivation and focus for where her career would take her next. Faith driven and family oriented, Joan is right at home with Genesis. Her travels also make her compassionate to people of various different cultures and backgrounds. These traits of hers pour over into her excellent skills as a nurse, making her a one of a kind provider at Genesis. We are proud to welcome her not only to our organization, but to Southwest Kansas, as well.

What led you to Genesis Family Health?

The biggest drive was because I may get loan forgiveness for my tuition. I went back to school so I could do more rural clinic work, helping people with the most need and Genesis offers that. Liberal is also a nice small town to raise my children.

How did you choose your career path?

My mom was in an accident when I was little so we had many nurses coming to our house. So I told myself, if I ever got the chance to go to college, I'm going to a nursing school. I always wanted to come to America for that. When my parents moved to Russia, I chose to come here to pursue my degree in nursing.

As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

Actually, I wanted to be a nurse, but when I was in Russia, I volunteered at an American school. I was working with autistic children from pre-k and kindergarten. I wanted to teach. When I came here on my student visa, it was for education. I got to Pittsburg and switched to nursing, rediscovered the passion. They always told me that I can always go back and teach as a nurse.

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Who is your role model?

My aunt used to be my role model because she came here for college, too. She graduated from Indiana State with a degree in teaching. She's doing so well teaching private school. I was fortunate enough to have great mentors during my school years. I have two that I met during my clinicals that did everything to make sure I succeeded in my master's program and even paid for me to go to Colorado for my first National conference for nurse practitioners .

What is a favorite book or movie from your childhood?

Danielle Steel. Titanic.

Who is your favorite musical artist or group and favorite song of theirs?

I like Celine Dion. I'm a Christian so I love Gospel like Yolanda Adams.

Where is the best place you've traveled to and why?

I have so many places I've gone to that are great. I liked Mackinac Island in Michigan. It was a nice island, there were no cars allowed, only bikes, and you had to ride a ferry to get there.



If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

Right now, it would be perfecting my Spanish. I did a year in college, so I can talk to my patients . That would be the biggest thing I'd like to learn right now.

What are your values?

Respect, respect for others, and yourself. Also, humility, being humble, not being prideful. Those are all connected to Christianity and my faith.

Provider Spotlight cont.

What advice do you have for other immigrants who are coming to America and chase their dreams?

Have an open mind, always be willing to change, and just know your time. Time goes fast. We always say that time here goes faster than anywhere else in the world. Plan your life and be coordinated, if not, you can get yourself lost in the mist. Stick by the rules and be patient, everything will come.



Those were all the questions I had, was there anything else you wanted to add to the record?

Don't think so. Thanks for coming over and hanging out (laughs).