MARY SEACOLE AWARD STEERING GROUP

Health Education England is once again funding the Mary Seacole Awards for nurses, midwives and health visitors in England. The focus of the award is on undertaking a specific health care project, or other educational/development activity, that benefits and improves the health outcomes of people from black and minority ethnic communities.

The work undertaken for an award is expected to contribute to NHS England’s joint work around equality and diversity and health inequalities.

The awards were first set up in 2004 by the Department for Health and were named after Mary Seacole in recognition of the work she did during the Crimean war. By 2014 a total of 30 Development and 24 Leadership awards had been completed and the alumni continue to provide evidence that the awards enhance career opportunities for professionals from BME communities at a time when they are under-represented in leadership and management positions.

The Mary Seacole Award Steering Group wishes to appoint an educationalist to the Group. This is a voluntary role. The Group meets quarterly and its purpose is to support awardees during their award year and to manage the awards process. The awards are given annually in recognition of Mary Seacole’s leadership and outstanding contribution to nursing. The Steering Group is comprised of one representative from each of the following:

- Department of Health
- NHS Employers
- Royal College of Midwives
- Royal College of Nursing
- UNISON
- Unite CPHVA
- Previous Mary Seacole Award winner
- Independent member
- Educationalist

This is an interesting, high profile role on a committee that takes it’s role in promoting better health outcomes for the UKs BME communities seriously.

The Appointee will be expected to

- Have an interest and desire to address health inequalities in BME populations
- Have the capacity to dedicate sufficient time and energy to the work [approximately 15 days per year to include attendance at the MSASG, participation in working groups, and supervision activities]
- Add value and offer different perspectives to decision making
- Bring health service research and academic experience to the group
- Be the named supervisor for at least one award winner each year
- Report to the MSASG on the award winners progress
- Promote the Mary Seacole Awards within their networks which is expected to span academic and other settings
- Be able to travel to London and other parts of the UK for meetings

This is an unremunerated post. The Appointee will be able to claim reasonable travel expenses according to the current Steering Group financial policies and procedures to attend meetings and claim for other essential consumables.

MSASG members cannot apply for a Mary Seacole Award either during or after their term of office.

Applicants are asked to submit a CV and a brief outline of the contribution s/he could make. The MSASG will shortlist candidates by taking into account the skills, attributes, knowledge and potential contribution of each candidate. Preference will be given to candidates with a research and academic background. The appointment will be for three years in the first instance, renewable for one further term by mutual agreement with the Chair of the MSASG.

A role descriptor and the Mary Seacole Steering Group Terms of Reference can be downloaded at www.nhsemployers.org/maryseacole

Applications, or further enquiries, should be made by 25 September 2015 to amy.cole@rcn.org.uk. Please quote MSASG in the email title. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview w/c 12th October 2015.