

## BIO: Yemisi Oloruntola-Coates

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Yemisi Oloruntola-Coates earned her bachelors in Speech Communication and English American literature from Hofstra University and has an MA & MAMC in Strategic Global Communication Management and International Relations/Political Science from the University of Florida. In 2014, Yemisi Oloruntola-Coates was awarded by the University of Florida the Graduate with Distinction for her academic achievement (magna cum laude) and work on Cultural Dimensions Theory and Provider Patient Interaction. She is also a Fulbright-Hays Fellow in which she studied International Relations focusing on Monetary Unions, Economic Stability and Yoruba Culture in West Africa. She has worked in Japan and with the Japanese consulate for 3 years as a English Language Teacher and Cultural Ambassador in which the experiences has helped in shaping and understanding the role and the functionality that diversity plays within the organization and community.

Yemisi Oloruntola-Coates relocated with her family to Western Massachusetts and is currently Baystate Health System new Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer. She will lead diversity and inclusion initiatives for the five hospitals, integrated, academic/ teaching health system. Her responsibilities will focus on the overall development and implementation of Baystate Health System enterprise-wide Diversity and Inclusion strategic framework. This will include assessing the internal and external environment/culture and develop and implement programs, training, recruitment and other methods to increase the organization's ability to attract and retain an inclusive population that serves our diverse patients, employees and community.

Previously, Yemisi Oloruntola-Coates was the System Director of Diversity and Patient Care Civil Rights at Lee Health for 11 years. During her time at Lee Health her role focused on what she calls the 4 C's: Caring People (Lee Health employees), Corporate Social Responsibility, Community Engagement, and Patient Care (Culturally Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care, CLAS, and health equity), etc. Which encompassed the tagline that she developed - "DiverseLee: Putting diversity and inclusion into practice". She served on the editorial board for Lee Health's Nursing Matters Magazine where she

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was a regular contributor and author of the Diversity Column and served on the editorial board for the Newspress a local newspaper in Lee County that is part of USA Today. In addition, she has contributed articles relating to diversity topics for the NewsPress, Gulfshore Business, Florida Weekly, Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET) and the National Diversity Council. Yemisi Oloruntola-Coates has extensive experience in Diversity and Inclusion education and training. She received the FACE award in 2011 from D 'Latinos & Gulfshore Business Magazine, Hodges University, Corporate Diversity of Excellence Award, and the 2016 40 under 40 by Gulfshore Business Magazine. In addition, under her leadership Lee Health received recognition from Forbes Magazine as best employer for Diversity and the Horizon Council Diversity in Business award in 2018. Yemisi is a certified trainer through Lee Hecht and Harrison and in Lean Management Systems– Job Relations through the Bilas Group, Inc. She was an active member and a director of the board of the Western Chapter of the American College of Health Care Executives organization, Medicaid PSN Board of Managers, and Pennies for Community Progress (P4CP). She was also actively involved in the community and participated in numerous community activities and initiatives in Lee County.

She is looking forward to working collaboratively with the community and learning more about Western Massachusetts a place she and her family now calls home. She currently serves on the board of directors at Leadership Pioneer Valley, American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) diversity committee, MA, Dress for Success advisory committee in Western Mass and is a steering committee member for the Baystate Education Research & Scholarship of Teaching (BERST). She is a speaker and presenter on diversity topics regionally and nationally.