It is projected that nearly one million new and replaced registered nurses will be needed by 2022 (AACN, 2013). African Americans are underrepresented in minority nursing (AACN, 2015). Expanding the field of African American nurses requires the involvement of African American nurse leaders through mentorship programs.

**National Black Nurses Association Collaborative Mentorship Program (NBNACMP)**

The **PURPOSE** of the Collaborative Mentorship Program is to foster the development of a nursing community and enhance the preceptor skills of nurses as they engage in the mentorship process. The **GOAL** of the Collaborative Mentorship Program (CMP) is to help NBNA nurses and student nurses at various levels of their development. There are three Levels of Mentoring:

- **Approaching Careers** (Supports Potential Nurses and Beginning Nurses)
- **Acknowledging Professions** (Supports Nurses transitioning into Leadership Roles)
- **Aspiring Leaders** (Supports Nurses transitioning into Executive Roles)

To learn more about the NBNACMP visit the NBNA.org website or see one of the committee members on site.

**NBNACMP-Mentoring in the Moment**

**Conference Mentoring in the Moment (MIM)-Buddy Program:** Pairing ‘seasoned’ NBNA conference attendees with first-time attendees.

If you are a new member or this is your first time attending the conference, this is the session for you. Learn more about NBNA and how to make the most of your attendance at the conference. It is all about networking, continuing education, and meeting new friends. You will also learn how to make the most of the exhibit hall experience, see what is new in nursing, meet the top health care providers in the country, and learn how you can earn your next degree at one of the finest nursing programs in the country.

Our goal is to match partners prior to the conference to give you an opportunity to communicate at least once. Additional goals include:

- Gain a clear understanding of the organization
- Help to navigate the conference
- Networking to meet leaders and new colleagues.
- Understanding how to maximize the amount of CEUs you can obtain

We are asking each pair to attend at least 2 of the 4 activities listed below:

1. Business Meeting
2. Plenary Session
3. Conference Institute (Cardiovascular, Cancer, etc.)
4. Exhibit Hall

**What to bring to the conference:**

- Your **RESUME** if seeking employment, there will be hospitals and ideal employers from across the country represented.
- Provide **BUSINESS CARDS** to brand yourself, help people remember you, and provide them with your contact information. Cards can be ordered from Vistaprint.com.
- Wear **BUSINESS ATTIRE** and comfortable shoes.
- A **SMILE** and welcoming disposition.

There will be members at registration to check you in and provide additional information. At the conclusion of the conference we are asking that all mentees offer an expression of gratitude to your mentor/buddy. A hand written thank you card, recorded video, or letter of recognition are some ideas.

To register for the NBNA Conference and the MIM Buddy Program:

[CLICK HERE](http://www.nbna.org)

For more information about the Mentoring in the Moment (MIM) Buddy Program and the NBNA Collaborative Mentorship Program, join us at the MIM Café contact:

**Dr. Constance Miller anitabhm3@yahoo.com or call 305-343-1903.**