



Staff Spotlight! René Smith, Weekend Supervisor

How to describe René Smith, The Boston Home's Weekend Supervisor? In short, she's a rock star. Since last March, in addition to navigating the COVID-19 pandemic, René became a new Mom, took on the new position of Weekend Supervisor, and completed 130 clinical hours to earn her Master's Degree—truly an amazing accomplishment!

"René embodies all of the exemplary qualities that make me so very proud of The Boston Home staff," says CEO Christine Reilly, *"her warmth, her compassion, and her amazing commitment to our residents, to her colleagues, and to her own career path. We are so fortunate to have her on our team!"*

René began working at The Boston Home in 2008 as a Certified Nursing Assistant. At the time, René recalls,

she and her mother, Kimberly Goble, were one of several mother-daughter pairs of co-workers, along with Lauren and Mal Maloney, Corinne Curran and Janet McDonough, and Robin Hanna and her daughter Brittany. From the start, René has been dedicated to continuing her education and advancing her career. While working both at The Boston Home as a CNA and at Brigham and Women's as a Medical Assistant, René first completed an Associate's Degree at Labouré College, and then a Bachelor's Degree at Curry College. After passing her Nursing Board exams in 2015, René transitioned to the new role of 1st Floor Charge Nurse.

René notes that her close relationships with residents and co-workers have motivated her to continue her career growth at The Boston Home: *"I have always stayed connected because The Boston Home is like my second family. The teamwork, getting to know the families, seeing coworkers' and residents' children and grandchildren grow up— it's a special place."*

René also credits her mother with helping her reach her goals, especially after her own daughter, Raniyah, was born last March. *"She was born three weeks early on March 8, 2020, the day before my baby shower was planned."* René says, *"It worked out well in the end, because family who had come from out-of-town for the baby shower were able to meet Raniyah. Then, the next week, the whole world really shut down due to COVID-19."* Upon returning to The Boston Home from maternity leave, René was promoted to Weekend Supervisor. Neither the challenges of new motherhood and a new work role, nor the pandemic stood in the way of René embracing her educational goals. With her Mom helping with childcare, René continued working toward her MSN, graduating from Curry College last month with her Master's in Nursing Administration.

How did she manage it all? *"Perseverance,"* says René, *"and, just staying dedicated. The Boston Home is an awesome place to work. I have had great experiences here."* René also thanks her family for supporting her along the way. Our warmest congratulations to you, René! The Boston Home community is incredibly proud of your accomplishments!