

Mentor Directory for A Place at Home

Kimberly Anderson, RN, BSN, MLS

Bryan Medical Center, East Campus



Educational background: Oklahoma Baptist University, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Cum Laude, 2007. University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Master of Legal Studies, 2017.

Your story and why it's important to you to mentor nurse aides: I began my healthcare career as an aide. It positively impacted every step of my career, building a strong foundation of skills, knowledge, and the ability to handle challenging situations.

Interests/family: Single with a dog and cat. I am a novice climber. I like to run, hike, bike, read, and spend quality time with friends.



Cheryl Bouckaert MSN, RN

Nebraska Methodist College

Educational background:

I received my BSN from Creighton University and my MSN from Nebraska Methodist College.

Your story and why it's important to you to mentor nurse aides: Learning and education has always been a passion of mine; even as a teenager. As I grew in my role as a nurse, I always found myself encouraging others to further their education. I am an avid supporter of those who work hard to achieve their dreams; sometimes under dire circumstances. It is important to me to be a part of this groups' work.

Interests/family: I have a large family and they are extremely important to me and come first in my life. My interests involve reading, being outdoors, animals (though I currently have no pets), and boating.

Krystina Eymann MSN, RN



- I am a faculty member at Nebraska Methodist College and teach in the critical care setting with senior level nursing students.
- I am a graduate of the Accelerated Nursing Program at Nebraska Methodist College (2011) and also graduated with my Master's in Nursing Education from Methodist (2015).
- I am a member of AAMN, who is interested in helping to develop and foster a culture of diversity and inclusivity in the healthcare and specifically nursing professions.
- My background is primarily step-down and now work in the Float Pool at Immanuel Hospital and float to medical, psychiatric, and postpartum care.
- I am married with an ALMOST 3 year old girl both of whom keep me busy.
- I do not have a lot of free time due to the listed above but I do enjoy reading, and spending time with my family, cat and two dogs.

Micah Persell, BSN RN

CHI Health



Educational background

A.S. Fire Science Technology- Community College of the Air Force

B.S.N. Nursing- Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Nursing

My story

Air Force Veteran, Overseas contractor/Firefighter, Cardiac ICU Nurse, Clinical Educator and Informaticist. I enjoy the diversity of opportunity that Nursing provides, and have found *Leadership* to mean connecting others to the right resources and opportunities at the right time- service to others.

Interests/family

I live in Lincoln with my wife and toddler, and enjoy travelling, camping, and live music. Passions and interests include continuing education, nursing governance, the interface of technology and human behavior in the healthcare atmosphere, and how better understanding of data can lead to a more valuable system of healthcare delivery. Currently pursuing a Master's in Healthcare Administration.

Marcia Y. Shade BS, PhD, RN

University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing

Educational background:

- 1) Bachelors of Science in Biology and Nursing
- 2) Master's of Science in Nursing and Education
- 3) PhD in Nursing Science
- 4) Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship in Pain

Your story and why it's important to you to mentor nurse aides:

My story is long but has an impact. I am a nurse scholar, educator, and leader.

It is important to mentor nurse aides because guidance and development is important if they wish to develop in other areas in the nursing profession.

Interests/family:

Travel, culture, and physical fitness (I run)/Family: Husband, daughter, son, and my Shih tzu-Poodle





Blake K. Smith MSN, RN

Nebraska Medicine

Blake K. Smith, MSN, RN, serves as a Clinical Documentation Sr Analyst at Nebraska Medicine in Omaha, NE. In his position, he leads all projects on Patient Education/Health Literacy, Plan of Care, Business Continuity Access, and Promoting Interoperability for the health system. Smith is a leader in men's health and male inclusion issues in the nursing profession and currently serves as the president for the American Association for Men in Nursing (AAMN).

Smith earned a Bachelors in Science degree in Exercise Science Research from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, NE in 2008 and a BSN from Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha, NE in 2012. Smith earned his Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Nursing Health Systems Management and Administration degree at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 2017.

He hopes his passion for nursing can help ensure that more nurses hold leadership positions in both healthcare and other public community organizations to have a positive impact on our society through mentoring. "Being able to impact others and see them succeed brings myself more joy than any personal accomplishment could ever have."

Smith lives in Omaha, NE with his wife Melissa and two daughters Nora (3 yrs.) and Emmeline (16 months). In his spare time he enjoys going to the park with the girls and getting a few rounds of golf in where he is able.

Arlene Williams, BSN

Sarpy Cass Health Department

Public Health Nurse



Educational background

Bellevue University: Behavioral Healthcare, BS

NE Methodist College: Nursing, BSN

Your story and why it's important to you to mentor nurse aides

Nursing school is a very challenging program to navigate even if all odds are in your favor. However, when one has to juggle family, work and life in general, you need all the support you can get! I am hoping to be a source of encouragement and guidance to help a student, or future student, avoid some of the pitfalls that I fell into along the way. Likewise, I would like to share what worked for me and encourage that person to create a realistic plan and hopefully point to resources that can help make their educational dreams come true.

Interests/family: I have been married for 30 years to Thomas Williams. We have a 28 year old son and 22 year old daughter. We are originally from Chicago but we have lived in Omaha for 24 years. I enjoy traveling, romantic comedies, reading and cooking with my family.

Victoria L. Vinton MSN, RN

Executive Director Nebr. Action Coalition-Future of Nursing



Educational background

Nebraska Methodist - Diploma

Creighton University - BSN

UNMC College of Nursing – Masters degree in Nursing Leadership

Your story and why it's important to you to mentor nurse aides

I began as a nurse aid working in a nursing home. I believe in helping people achieve their highest potential. My background includes critical care, community health, cardiac rehabilitation, and building healthy communities.

Interests/family: Interests in community and global outreach have included medical mission trips to Haiti, forming a sister parish in Peru, and adopting a child from Honduras. I enjoy hiking, bicycling, tennis, traveling, and spending time with my 3 grown children when possible (children live in Augusta GA, Mexico City, and Bellevue).



Cynthia Douglas-Ybarra, MSN RN

VA Hospital

Educational background:

MSN in nursing informatics, BSN in Nursing, BA in English and Sociology

Your story and why it's important to you to mentor nurse aides:

I did not finish High School but through determination, tenacity and because of the support and mentorship of those who believed in me, I have had a very abundant and enjoyable career in nursing. I believe in guiding others as I was guided. Success is so much easier with shared experience and knowledge. I want you to be successful in everything that you do and I am willing to help you on your journey!!

Interests/family: Endurance Bicycling, Cooking, Gardening, Writing and Photography as well as other art forms.

Dr. Joan Daughton is my partner and Morgan is my 9-year old daughter.