

Danielle Swaggert



Through the years of my experience of working in the health care field I have found that I enjoy working with the elderly. This all began at the age of 12 while caring for a sick uncle. Once his illness progressed and he was no longer able to live at home with us, he chose to reside at a nursing home. While visiting him I gathered a better understanding of what nurses truly did. From there I decided that I could and would do this someday.

At the age of 16, I was enrolled in a program known as "916" this allowed high school students to attend college half days. That is where I obtained my nursing assistance certification, later going on to EMT classes and realizing that I was more interested in the elderly population therefore I continued my career in geriatrics.

I have a goal set to further my education and become an RN and eventually get my masters followed by achieving the role of a Nurse practitioner. I would hope that my passion for the elderly population would lead me to a positive impact in this profession. I hope that my dedication and attentiveness will be carried with while I achieve my goal to become and NP.

On my way to that goal I plan to continually improve residents quality of life as best to my ability and also provide the support and comfort to those who are at the end of life stages as well as their families. An example of how I positively impacted someone through the cares I provide: one example that comes to mind, while I was administering medications and speaking with the elderly man I found that he had two bottles of Aleve in his room. When asked if he was in pain he stated no. When asked how often or how many pills he had taken he mentioned that he takes one or two very rarely and he is taking them for an antidepressant. He gave both bottles to me after I explained that such medication need to have a doctor's order and the nurse must administer them. Then I dug in a little deeper to find out if he was feeling depressed and if he was ever on any medications for depression. He had a history of depression and was no longer on an antidepressant. Needless to say he was started on an antidepressant and at this time is not showing any signs or symptoms of depression. If I did not find those bottles of Aleve the situation could have ended much worse.