

Lorna Kessler

Registered Nurse

Red Hook, NY 12571

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(917) 538-9638

Dedicated and hardworking Registered Nurse with progressive career history in direct patient care, triage and care coordination in various fast-paced environments. Additional degrees and previous international career and life experience provide a broad base of knowledge and skills that easily lend themselves to the field of nursing. Proven ability to handle difficult, high-stress situations; make sound decisions; advocate skillfully; and facilitate the best healthcare services for patients and their families by providing compassionate and inclusive care.

Authorized to work in the US for any employer

Work Experience

Registered Nurse

Ethan Allen Workforce Solutions - New Paltz, NY

September 2019 to March 2020

Contracted by Ethan Allen Workforce Solutions staffing agency to work on a temporary basis as a Registered Nurse for Institute For Family Health in the New Paltz location.

Maintained accurate clinical documentation within Epic, assured compliance within all guidelines. Prioritized patients presenting to clinic as urgent walk-in's, provided swift and thorough assessment, accurately reported findings to attending physician, facilitated transportation to area hospitals when necessary.

Prioritized and triaged all patient calls, implemented strict triage policy protocols to seamlessly facilitate home care advice, coordination of future care needs, specialty care intervention, elevation of serious situations to the ER.

Performed approved clinical tasks, including but not limited to: obtaining vital signs; administering prescribed medications/vaccinations in accordance with Institute protocol, regulatory requirements and standards of practice; assisted physicians with examinations, minor surgical procedures.

Cultivated and nurtured relationships with patients and families.

Performed EKG and CLIA-waived office diagnostic testing, including dipstick urinalysis, rapid strep, urine pregnancy, urine drug screen, fingerstick A1C and blood glucose.

Collected blood, tissue and other laboratory specimens and prepared for lab testing, following strict safety and infection control guidelines.

Educated patients, families and caregivers on diagnosis and prognosis, treatment options, disease process and management and lifestyle options.

Director of Health Services

Ethan Allen Workforce Solutions - Hyde Park, NY

July 2019 to July 2019

Contracted by Ethan Allen Workforce Solutions staffing agency to work on a temporary basis for Envision as the Director of Health Services at The CIA Culinary Academy, on location at The Culinary Institute of America.

Oversaw health services for 104 students plus faculty.
Provided nursing care to injured/ ill students and staff, referred to outside providers for additional evaluation and treatment as needed.
Administered daily medications; assisted with management of special health care needs; including asthma, diabetes.
Maintained medical records and daily attendance logs of the infirmary.
Monitored and evaluated student's health, collaborated with health care providers to obtain the appropriate treatment plans.
Provided students and staff with direct health education and health counseling.
Prepared timely and accurate reports for the State Board of Health.
Served as liaison between families, Envision personnel and other healthcare providers on behalf of students.

Substance Abuse Nurse

Ethan Allen Workforce Solutions - Catskill, NY
March 2019 to April 2019

Contracted by Ethan Allen Workforce Solutions staffing agency to work on a temporary basis as a Registered Nurse at Twin County Recovery Services, Inc, an outpatient treatment clinic for clients with substance use disorders.
Obtained detailed medical and mental health histories, performed thorough medication reconciliations, performed medical assessments, monitored vital signs, withdrawal symptoms, mood and affect, ability to interact with others, and level of motivation for change.
Documented patient information obtained from assessment and interview.
Case conferenced with Program Director, Medical Director, Social workers and Case workers.
Performed urine and saliva collection for in-house and send out drug screening following strict safety and infection control guidelines.
Provided teaching in nutrition, medication actions/side effects, med-management, and self-care.
Initiated referrals for additional medical assessments as needed.

Staff Nurse

Firemen's Home - Hudson, NY
December 2018 to March 2019

Functioned as team member to assist the elderly, disabled and those suffering with multiple chronic conditions to maintain an optimal level of functioning.
Performed various nursing interventions such as medication administration, wound dressing, vital sign monitoring, specimen collection, and patient education. Monitored responses while working with healthcare teams to adjust care plans.
Observed and reported patient condition, progress and medication side effects to accurately document updates.
Facilitated therapeutic communication, conflict resolution and crisis intervention by redirecting negative behaviors and helping patients regain or improve coping abilities to prevent further disability.

Collaborated with interdisciplinary healthcare personnel to meet patients' personal, physical, psychological and cognitive needs.
Provided care and counseling to palliative and hospice patients and their families.
Directly supervised CNA's.

Primary Registered Nurse Case Manager

Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association - Salisbury, CT
June 2018 to October 2018

Managed patients recovering from medical or surgical procedures, including facilitating wound care, ostomy care, pressure ulcer prevention and pain management.

Provided palliative and end-of-life care to patients in their homes, long-term care facilities, and hospital settings.

Administered medication and treatment in line with physician orders and treatment plan.

Designed, implemented and evaluated plan of care and made necessary revisions as patient status and needs changed.

Collaborated with physicians to quickly assess patients and deliver appropriate treatment while managing rapidly changing conditions.

Educated patients, families and caregivers on diagnosis and prognosis, treatment options, disease process, and symptom management.

Coordinated health care services provided by ancillary personnel such as home health aides, medical social worker, PTs, OTs.

Vaccinated patients to protect individuals from pneumonia, influenza and other illnesses of concern.

Directly supervised HHA's and LPN's.

Education

Associate Degree in Nursing

Columbia Greene Community College - Hudson, NY
September 2016 to May 2018

Bachelor of Fine Art

School of The Art Institute of Chicago - Chicago, IL
September 1991 to June 1993

Nursing Licenses

RN

State: NY

RN

State: CT

Skills

- Medication and immunization administration, patient education and counseling, patient and family advocacy, hospice and palliative care, chronic disease management, infection control measures, EKG and venipuncture, nursing assessment, triage. (2 years)