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Tara M. Durham

**objective**

To obtain a challenging, rewarding, educational Registered Nurse position to expand my professional nursing knowledge, skill set, and expertise. To secure a position with a company that will allow internal growth, and advancement. My areas of experience include telemetry, med /surg., hospice, intermittent and private duty home health care, case management, clinical supervision, Director of nursing and assistant director of nursing. rehabilitation and Psychic counseling. I am extremely interested in pursuing other areas of nursing that will enhance my learning and nursing experience. I am currently pursuing a higher nursing degree.

**SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

Registered nurse with dedication, and reliability. Also being a health care provider with over 16 years of hands-on nursing experience. Background includes clinical, home health, hospital, hospice, and rehabilitation experience. Also trained in critical care (ACLS certified), and mental health evaluations. Flexible, energetic, quick learner, who adapts easily to new situations and enjoy a challenge. Self-motivated professional nurse with a commitment to providing quality, safe and holistic nursing care. Both strong organizational and communication skills. Honored to have the privilege of patient advocacy.

**Work of experience**

 **8/2021 - cuRREntly AyA Healthcare**

 **Travel Registered Nurse**

**Med / Surg - T**eam leader responsible for task delegation and assuring their completion. Frontline professional responsible for but not limited to; patient assessments, post – surgical patient care, health education, medication administration, wound care, and patient advocacy. Monitor and record patient vital signs and pain management. Monitoring and reporting any and/or all deviations from patients’ normal to their physician and working a long side with the physicians to expedite complete and thorough patient healing. Providing care for elderly, long term, as well as Psychiatric patients.

**5/21 - Current 63rd St. Medical Center Chicago, Il**

Registered Nurse

 Specializing in pre and post op care for cosmetic surgery patients. Monitor and assess patient before and after surgery. Frontline professional responsible for but not limited to; patient assessments, health education, medication administration, wound care, and patient post op education. Initiating venous access. Monitor and record patient vital signs and pain management. Monitoring and reporting any and/or all deviations from patients’ normal to their physician.

**5/2021 – current South Shore Hospital** Chicago, Il

Nurse Manager

Nurse Leader responsible for assuring quality patient care within state a regulations and facility policies. Nurse team leader responsible for staffing nursing units with nursing staff appropriate for nurse-to-patient ratio as well as unit acuity, task delegation and assuring completion. Responsible for supervising nursing staff in the clinical setting, make management and budgetary decisions, coordinate meetings and make personnel decisions.

**7/2017 – 12/2021 Smith Senior**  Chicago, IL.

Registered Nurse

Team leader responsible for task delegation and assuring their completion. Frontline professional responsible for but not limited to; patient assessments, post – surgical patient care, health education, medication administration, wound care, and patient advocacy. Monitor and record patient vital signs and pain management. Monitoring and reporting any and/or all deviations from patients’ normal to their physician and working a long side with the physicians to expedite complete and thorough patient healing. Providing care for elderly, long term, as well as Psychiatric patients.

**2017- 2018 Warren Barr**  Chicago, IL.

**Clinical Supervisor**

Managing daily and long-term clinical operations of a multiple disciplinary facility which provides services ranging from skilled nursing care, short- and long-term rehabilitation services. Evaluating the performance of staff nurses as it relates to patient care needs. Developing patient care plans and goals by working closely with other clinicians (i.e. physicians and therapist) to enhance quality of life and maximize overall patient potential. Responsible for educating nurses and multidisciplinary staff regarding patient care needs. Team leader responsible for task delegation and assuring task completion in entirety. Frontline professional responsible for but not limited to; patient assessments, post – surgical patient care, health education, medication administration, wound care, and patient advocacy. Experience includes tracheostomy care, gastrostomy care and ventilator care for adults of various ages.

**2015 - 2017 Bria Westmont** Westmont, IL.

Registered Nurse Supervisor

Team leader responsible for task delegation and assuring their completion. Frontline professional responsible for but not limited to; patient assessments, post – surgical patient care, health education, medication administration, wound care, and patient advocacy. Monitor and record patient vital signs and pain management. Monitoring and reporting any and/or all deviations from patients’ normal to their physician and working a long side with the physicians to expedite complete and thorough patient healing. Providing care for elderly, long term, as well as Psychiatric patients.

**2014 – 2015 Nursepower** Oak Lawn, IL

Pediatric Registered Nurse

Nurse responsible for providing skilled nursing care to chronically ill clients stable enough to remain in the home environment. The nursing roles include providing nursing assessments, medication administration, and providing a direct line of communication between the families, staffing agency and the medical providers. The ability to decipher when the client is no longer stable enough to be cared for in the home setting and report to necessary authority and act accordingly. Experience includes tracheostomy care, g tube care, and ventilator care.

**2009 – 2016 Pediatric Services of America** Tinley Park, IL

Pediatric Registered Nurse

Nurse responsible for providing skilled nursing care to chronically ill clients stable enough to remain in the home environment. The nursing roles include providing nursing assessments, medication administration, and providing a direct line of communication between the families, staffing agency and the medical providers. The ability to decipher when the client is no longer stable enough to be cared for in the home setting and report to necessary authority and act accordingly. Experience and extensive training in tracheostomy, gastrostomy and ventilator care / troubleshooting.

**2010 – 2014 Awakened Alternatives** Flossmoor, IL

Director of Nursing / Clinical Nursing Supervisor

Responsible for ensuring quality nursing care within state regulated laws were provided to all clients serviced. Other responsibilities include assuring patient satisfaction. Maintain a direct line of communication between medical staff, field nurses and patient families. Evaluated / updated pt. and employee charts to maintain compliance with state regulated laws. Prepared pt. /employee charts for corporate/state auditing. Active participant of the recruitment and disciplinary team. Responsible for providing educational in services required by the State of Illinois. Educational trainer for skilled competencies such as ventilator, tracheostomy and gastrostomy care.

**2009 – 2013 Independence Plus** Oak Brook, IL

Registered Nurse

Nurse responsible for providing skilled nursing care to chronically ill clients stable enough to remain in the home environment. The nursing roles include providing nursing assessments, medication administration, and providing a direct line of communication between the families, staffing agency and the medical providers. The ability to decipher when the client is no longer stable enough to be cared for in the home setting and report to necessary authority and act accordingly. Experience and extensive training in tracheostomy, gastrostomy and ventilator care / troubleshooting

**2005-2010 Advocate Health Services** Worth / Hazel Crest, II

Registered Telemetry Nurse / Home Health Intermittent Nurse

Telemetry certified nurse (in house) and team leader in charge of task delegation and assuring their completion. Frontline professional responsible for but not limited to, patient assessments, health education, medication administration, wound care, and patient advocacy. Monitored and recorded patient vital signs, in both the facility setting and home health care setting for the same company. Experience and extensive training in tracheostomy, gastrostomy and ventilator care / troubleshooting. Responsible for developing an efficient care plans contingent to patient care needs. Managed and supervised various disciplinary teams including therapies, wound care and dietary to assure optional patient care and recovery.

**2005 – 2008 Maxim Healthcare**  Matteson, IL

Clinical Supervisor

Supervised field staff in patient care. Supervised visits to patients’ homes to assure quality care and patient satisfaction. Direct line of contact between field staff and doctors. Evaluated / updated pt. and employee charts to maintain compliance with state regulated laws. Prepared pt. /employee charts for corporate/state auditing. Active member of the recruitment, and disciplinary

Team.

**2005 - 2010 Nurse Finders Staffing Agency** Oak Lawn, IL

Registered Nurse

Team leader responsible for task delegation and assuring task are completed adequately as well as safely within nursing practice requirements. Responsible for frontline treatment including but not limited to: patient assessment, health educator, medication administration, wound care and patient advocacy.

**2004-2005 Loyola Medical Center**  Maywood, IL

Registered Telemetry Nurse

Telemetry certified nurse and team leader responsible for task delegation and assuring their completion. Frontline professional responsible for but not limited to, patient assessments, health education, medication administration, wound care, and patient advocacy. Monitored and recorded patient vital signs, telemetry monitoring and reported any and/or all deviations from patients’ normal to their physician.

**1997 - 2004 United States Postal Service** Palatine, Il**.**

Manual Distribution Clerk

Machine Operator responsible for inputting necessary data into computer system for proper distribution of mail to appropriate bin containers

(Separated by zip codes), which aids in fast, and efficient mail distribution.

**1995-1997 Rock Creek Nursing Pavilion** Lemont, IL**.**

Mental Health Counselor/ Certified Nursing Asst.

Provided structured counseling sessions for mentally instable patients. Allowing expression of inner most feeling regarding depression, suicidal ideation, and a host of other challenges. Responsible for assuring patient safety, reporting continuing issues, and regression of mental status to the registered nurse, mental counselor, and MD.

**education**

**2001-2004 South Suburban Community College** South Holland, IL

Associate Degree of Nursing

**2012- 2013 Governor's State University** University Park, Il.

**2014- 2016** **ITT Tech Institute** Tinley Park, IL.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

**REFERENCES / License verification**

 Available Upon Request