

Preceptor Spotlight: Annie Christiansen



A Preceptor Who Leads with Excellence

Annie Christiansen, a nurse at Milbank Area Hospital (Avera), is the kind of preceptor every nursing student hopes to learn from. From day one of clinical immersion, Annie made her expectations clear—communicating with clarity and respect while creating a supportive environment to grow. She didn't hesitate to correct mistakes but was equally quick to offer praise and encouragement, always welcoming questions with openness.

Patience is one of Annie's most outstanding qualities. Whether teaching new skills or reinforcing procedures a student hasn't yet mastered, she takes the time to walk through each step, ensuring understanding and confidence.

Annie brings both energy and empathy to her work. Her enthusiasm for patient care is contagious, and she models how to notice even subtle changes in a patient's condition—drawing connections between labs, vitals, and behavior to anticipate next steps in care. Her critical thinking and clinical expertise are evident in how she pieces together the full picture of patient health.

She goes beyond the expected—continuing her own education with aspirations to become a nurse practitioner and staying current with evidence-based practice. Her commitment to learning inspires those around her.

What truly sets Annie apart is her unwavering respect for patients. She listens, supports their choices, and honors cultural and personal beliefs—even when they differ from her own. She shows up early, dresses professionally, and fosters a caring environment with integrity and accountability.

In every way, Annie exemplifies what it means to lead, teach, and care with excellence.

Nominated By: Elijah Fraasch