

**Student - Vanessa Kuechler - VOTE #1**

I had the privilege of working with Vanessa at CHKD. The kindness she brings to patients every day fills the unit with joy. She is kind, caring, and compassionate, and truly embodies everything a nurse should be.

**Student - Vanessa Kuechler - VOTE #2**

I am honored to nominate Vanessa, a nursing student who consistently exemplifies the compassion, presence, and patient centered focus that define extraordinary nursing care. I have had the privilege of observing Vanessa in clinical over several semesters, and her dedication to her patients has remained unwavering.

Vanessa approaches every patient interaction with genuine empathy and respect. She is deeply committed to keeping each patient's wishes at the center of care and works intentionally to maintain comfort in what is often an unsettling hospital environment. Her heart truly shows through in the way she speaks to patients, listens to their concerns, and advocates for what matters most to them.

One of Vanessa's most meaningful strengths is the way she fully dedicates herself during each clinical experience. Week after week, she looks for small but impactful ways to brighten her patients' day, whether through thoughtful conversation, extra attention to comfort measures, or simply being fully present at the bedside. These moments may seem small, but they create a profound difference in the patient experience.

Vanessa is also patient and thorough when providing education. She takes time to assess each patient's readiness to learn and thoughtfully adjusts her approach to meet them where they are. This level of intentional communication reflects strong clinical judgment and a true commitment to patient understanding and safety.

As a fellow nursing student, I have been consistently impressed and inspired by Vanessa's compassion, professionalism, and wholehearted dedication to those in her care. She embodies the spirit of the DAISY Award and the kind of nurse every patient deserves.

I strongly and enthusiastically recommend Vanessa for this recognition.

**Student - Vanessa Kuechler - VOTE #3**

I am honored to nominate Vanessa for this recognition because she consistently demonstrates what it truly means to be a compassionate and patient-centered nurse.

Vanessa shows an unwavering commitment to compassionate care for patients and their families. She approaches every patient with kindness, patience, and genuine empathy. No matter how busy the unit is, she takes the time to listen carefully to patients' concerns, answer

questions thoroughly, and ensure they feel heard and understood. She recognizes that nursing care extends beyond physical treatment including emotional support, reassurance, and presence during vulnerable moments.

Vanessa has a natural ability to build meaningful connections with patients, families, and peers. She creates an environment of trust and respect by communicating clearly, maintaining professionalism, and treating everyone with dignity. Patients respond positively to her calm demeanor and compassionate presence, and families often feel more at ease after speaking with her. Among her peers, she is supportive, collaborative, and always willing to help, fostering a team-based atmosphere that enhances patient care.

Additionally, Vanessa is a strong advocate for her patients and their families. She speaks up when something needs clarification, ensures patient concerns are addressed, and works diligently to make sure each patient receives safe and appropriate care. She understands the importance of being a voice for those who may feel overwhelmed or unable to advocate for themselves, and she does so respectfully and confidently.

Vanessa embodies the values of nursing through compassion, integrity, advocacy, and professionalism. She is not only an exceptional nursing student but also a future nurse who will make a lasting impact on the patients and communities she serves.