

Chelsey Childs

Registered Nurse

Lions Gate Hospital, Vancouver Coastal Health

Always eager to get started, from the moment she arrives at Lions Gate Hospital in North Vancouver Chelsey Childs helps her nursing colleagues deliver the best care possible—with a smile that never fades.

Chelsey joined Vancouver Coastal Health in 2009 as an Employed Student Nurse in Neuroscience, while finishing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of British Columbia. She has quickly taken on many important responsibilities at the hospital. Today she is a Regional Educator, overseeing 26 Employed Student Nurses throughout the Coastal Community of Care, including the Sunshine Coast and Bella Coola. She is also a Nurse Specialist in Vascular Access; as one of the few vascular specialists in the hospital, she provides assessments and recommendations to staff and doctors, educates nurses about vascular access and carries out hands-on PICC line insertions, IV starts and a host of other nursing activities.

Her singular capabilities came to the fore early on. “On the Neuroscience Unit, Chelsey’s eagerness to learn, competent practice, caring attitude and focus on patient priorities were quickly recognized,” says LGH Nurse Clinician Barb Barham. After she was hired as a new graduate in 2010, Chelsey showed an incredible ability to learn new skills and apply nursing principles. Within just three months, she was training to work on the Neuroscience Critical Care Unit.

Never shying away from a difficult situation, Chelsey often offers to take on the most challenging patients, those with aggressive behaviors, demanding families or those who staff considered manipulative due to addictions and other issues.



“She was able to set clear boundaries and treat all patients and families with respect,” Barham says. “Her positive attitude and willingness to always lend a helping hand brought out the strengths of others and improved patient care.”

Chelsey has taken responsibility for her continued professional development as her career progresses. For instance, she attends nursing events such as the Canadian Association of Neuroscience Nurses Conference and the Infusion Nurses Society Conference and is completing her Canadian Vascular Access Society certification. She also willingly and effectively shares her knowledge with others through her enthusiastic mentorship of nursing students and employed student nurses.

When she’s away from the hospital, Chelsey gives back to her community through volunteer work. Most recently, she was a volunteer nurse and teacher for a program called “Students Without Borders Academy”, traveling to Panama for 5 weeks on a trip designed to help 24 young people grow their knowledge.

A leader and role model, Chelsey goes out of her way to empower her teammates on the unit as well as her patients. Chelsey advocates for patients by reviewing the various options available with IV therapy, taking every chance to discuss options with family members, nurses or physicians.

Kind, considerate and focused on her patients, Chelsey continues to grow and develop, always upholding the high standards and ethical values of her profession.



RISING STAR AWARD

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