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Medical Assisting Students Complete Clinical Rotation

On January 27nd the Medical Assisting students completed their second clinical rotation. Students were assigned to Dr. Onyeneke's Elyria office. They handled both administrative and clinical skills. Instruction included lectures on growth charts, vaccines and proper billing procedures. Students were able to take vital signs, interview patients, draw blood, answer the telephone, schedule patients and witness multiple medical procedures including a medical emergency. Time was spent working with the electronic health records inputting information via the keyboard and by scanning documents.

Students are given a weekly clinical progress report. Having recognizable goals is a way to succeed and students are expected to have three goals for the week and assess their personal progress. Students also identify one task/item/event that they are most proud of. A supervisor's assessment of their progress is included. The weekly clinical report is designed to maximize the clinical experience. The next scheduled clinical rotation is the week of February 14.

Computer and Health Students Participate in Distance Learning through Cleveland Clinic

Students in the Computerized Business Technology Program with a focus on Electronic Health Records and the Medical Assisting Class are studying Medical Law and Ethics this semester. To assist with their studies they are participating in a Bioethics Distance Learning course via the IVDL lab with Cleveland Clinic for eight sessions that began on January 12 and will conclude on March 30. These Bioethics programs are live and interactive with Cleveland Clinic healthcare professionals from the Department of Bioethics.

This distance learning course is designed for students to study some of today's most prevalent issues in bioethics - euthanasia, reproductive autonomy, stem cell research, environmental ethics, and the agenda behind electronic health records.

For each class, students will read articles on the topic beforehand, then, participate in discussions facilitated by an instructor. Class may also include discussion of current events or popular media depictions of the day's topic. Bioethics professionals will conduct a short lecture covering the important aspects and moral issues of the topics followed by an interactive discussion.

To further understand the impact that Electronic Health Records have on health care students will attend an additional IVDL presentation by Dr. John Halamka. Dr. Halamka is a physician, and a healthcare IT innovator. In 1996, Dr. Halamka joined the faculty of Harvard Medical School and continues to integrate his knowledge of medicine and technology focusing on the use of the Internet to exchange clinical patient data. Dr. Halamka's program is geared to keep teachers and students informed of the latest information regarding important technology issues in medicine (medical records, e-prescriptions, etc.) that may impact the health care they receive. Students enrolled in the allied health professions in the Adult Career Center will be able to apply these concepts in the classroom as they use Aprima™ Electronic Health Records software and also once employed in the field of medicine.

Medical Office – Industry Credential

On January 12, eighteen students completed the Medical Office program, a part-time career development class. Diana Gott administered the National Healthcare Associations Certified Medical Administrative Assistant test to the students. All of the students passed the test and were awarded their industry credential in this field along with their career passports.

Jennifer Koleno, Certified Welder

Jennifer Koleno, of Amherst, became a certified welder through the Lorain County JVS Adult Career Center's Welding & Fabrication Program. "The JVS facility is phenomenal, and the equipment I trained on is probably more advanced than what most companies have in their shops," Koleno said. Also important to Koleno was the program's convenient evening hours and the instructors' level of expertise and flexibility.

"I knew it would be difficult juggling both work and school. I worried about finding time to study, but since both of my instructors also worked other jobs, they understood my situation and gave me plenty of freedom to learn. "I'm a hands-on learner more than a book person," Koleno admits. "I didn't want to spend my evenings staring at a chalkboard. My classes were well balanced.

"In the short-term, I wanted a trade under my belt, something I could use both personally and professionally," said Koleno who is currently a full-time inventory control specialist and 17-year employee at ACH in Sandusky. "If the opportunity presented itself, I might be interested in applying my new skills working in maintenance."

While her 19 male classmates didn't intimidate her, Koleno acknowledged that being the only woman in a male-dominated field was a challenge. "As adults, we all had our own personalities and agendas," she said. "Some guys were 50 steps ahead of the others, but toward the end of the class we all became one functional family who inspired each other."



Koleno was awarded the Kopronica Memorial Scholarship from the Lorain County JVS Educational Foundation for her outstanding attendance and classroom performance. She also earned four welding certifications, including stick, MIG, TIG and flux core. "Earning those certifications was icing on the cake. I've added some new tools to my toolbox that could benefit me down the road."

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Elyria Water Works Department

Russ Beach, Program Developer, coordinated and taught an OSHA approved Lockout/Tag Out class for Elyria Water Works Department, at the Lorain Pump Station. Twenty-three maintenance employees attended the class, which focused on a review of the water works safety policies and how they supported OSHA regulations.