

Tayler Dockray

## MIDTERM REFLECTION

I love that I am starting to feel like an actual nurse. During previous nursing school clinical we are allowed to do some tasks during clinical, but in these preceptorships we get the chance to do almost everything under our preceptor's supervision of course. The responsibility has increased but, thankfully, my confidence has followed.

Trent has given me the opportunity to be independent and perform skills but has been there the whole time to give me guidance, encouragement, tips and tricks, and constructive criticism. I am extremely thankful that he is my preceptor because he encourages me to learn and think for myself instead of relying on someone else to tell me exactly what to do and when to do it in the hospital.

Heart Center 5 is such a welcoming environment and I could not be more grateful that I get to be there and learn from the nurses. The charge nurses do not just sit at the desk, they help whenever they are needed. The nurses all get along and everyone is always in a good mood and socializing together. Questions are asked and improvements are made without anyone feeling bad about themselves. Heart Center 5 is a safe environment that is centered around quality patient care. I even had the chance to work alongside the nurse manager while Trent had to go to a funeral.

Seeing firsthand the shortage of nurses and watching the currently employed nurses work 5-6 days in a row and being shamed for calling-in is sad. I wish we lived in a time where every floor and unit had safe patient/nurse ratios because both parties deserve that. I have talked with nurses from other hospitals and nurses from all different floors and the story is the same everywhere, we need more nurses. I am glad that my class is going to graduate soon and help the growing patient population in the hospitals right now!