

Tabitha Keiffer feels **'at home'** at MCC

By Shanika P. Carter

When Tabitha Keiffer first enrolled in classes at Montcalm Community College in 2006, she said she felt “at home.”

Keiffer, of Carson City, graduated from MCC in 2013 with an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN). Previously a certified pharmacy technician, Keiffer had the opportunity to work as a patient care tech on the medical surgical unit and the emergency department at Sparrow Carson Hospital in Carson City while in nursing school. Once she completed the ADN program, she began working as a registered nurse (RN) at the hospital, where she worked between the intensive care, pediatrics, and medical surgical units.

Completing her master’s degree in nursing education five years ago, Keiffer started teaching in clinical and simulation settings.

“This is what started it all for me,” she explained. “I did not realize I had such a passion for education until I started educating students.”

Keiffer said this was the drive for her to seek a full-time position as a nurse educator.

Four years ago, she began working at MCC as a part-time nursing instructor. In August 2021, she transitioned into a full-time faculty position, where she teaches in classroom, lab, and clinical settings and on a variety of nursing-related topics. Her courses include Nursing Care of the Adult Patient, Foundations in Nursing and Pharmacology for Allied Health.

Keiffer said she has always felt a positive connection with MCC, and she is thrilled to be sharing her passion for teaching with students at the institution where she started.

“It has been wonderful! It helps that I know most of my team already, and they really are like family. Everyone has been more than helpful and welcoming,” she said.

Preparing to celebrate her 13th wedding anniversary this fall, Keiffer has two daughters, ages five and seven, so she stays busy. That doesn’t change her goal of becoming certified in education and potentially advancing her degree.

Keiffer has specific goals for the classroom, with the primary goal of bringing a clinical judgement to the classroom. She strives for hands-on learning, wishing to tie in the whole picture of clinical, lab and classroom learning. While meeting these goals in the classroom, she will continue to progress in her career in education – something that she sees happening as she continues with MCC.

“I truly feel like I am home now in my full-time position and plan to stay here for many years to come!” she said. ■

Tabitha Keiffer, RN, MSN-Ed, CMSRN, teaches nursing and allied health classes at Montcalm Community College.

