

Michelle Knuppe

MSN, RN

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Education

- 2013 University of Southern Indiana Evansville, IN
Degree: Master of Science in Nursing Education
- 1996 South Dakota State University Brookings, SD
Degree: Bachelor of Science in Nursing

EXPERIENCE

University of South Dakota, Department of Nursing - *Clinical Experiences Director and Sioux Falls Site Director*

July 2025 - Present

Clinical Experiences Director

- Responsible for the oversight of clinical experiences (simulation, lab, seminar, and direct patient care).
- Ensure that clinical experiences maintain high standards, promote quality and safety, promote student success, and foster student excellence in nursing practice.
- Hire qualified and engaged adjunct faculty to ensure quality clinical instruction.
- Provide oversight for all clinical experiences to ensure that experiences are standard, robust, and relevant to nursing practice.
- Collaborate with practice partners to ensure that clinical practice is relevant, evidence-based, promotes safety, quality, and assists with transition to professional nursing practice.

Sioux Falls Site Director

- Responsible for the management and oversight of the day-to-day activities of the program.
- Responsible for the recruitment, supervision, and development of nursing faculty and department staff.
- Work closely with the Chair of the Dept. of Nursing and Executive Leadership Team to maintain high academic standards, evaluate program, promote student success, and foster student retention.

University of South Dakota, Department of Nursing - *Clinical Experiences Director and Department of Labor Nursing Expansion Grant Project Director*

December 2023 - Present

Clinical Experiences Director

- Responsible for the oversight of clinical experiences (simulation, lab, seminar, and direct patient care).
- Ensure that clinical experiences maintain high standards, promote quality and safety, promote student success, and foster student excellence in nursing practice.
- Hire qualified and engaged adjunct faculty to ensure quality clinical instruction.
- Provide oversight for all clinical experiences to ensure that experiences are standard, robust, and relevant to nursing practice.
- Collaborate with practice partners to ensure that clinical practice is relevant, evidence-based, promotes safety, quality, and assists with transition to professional nursing practice.

Department of Labor Nursing Expansion Grant Project Director

- Oversight and management of a 5-year, \$3,000,000.00 Department of Labor Grant - South Dakota Nursing Network: A Worker-Centered Strategic Response to Nursing Shortages in South Dakota.

TAPS, Arlington, VA - *Director, Peer Support Network*

February 2021 - December 2023

- Lead the delivery of overall peer based emotional support and all activities of the Peer Support Network in accordance with the TAPS Model of Bereavement.
- Oversee the training and management of over 1500 volunteer peer mentors.
- Develop strategic plans to increase mentor engagement and training.
- Plan and supervise recognition and team building opportunities for Peer Support Network.
- Collaborate with other leaders to successfully execute 2 national and 8 regional survivor seminars each year.

Sanford Health, Sioux Falls, SD - *Learning Strategies RN Clinical Educator*

October 2019 - February 2021

- Lead project team in the planning and development of learning activities to support successful execution of enterprise strategies.
- Collaborate with leaders and educators on the design, development, implementation, and evaluation of individual and team-based curriculums and programs.
- Expert in adult learning principles, clinical skills, and organizational learning and development.
- Self-directed and motivated to work both independently and collaboratively when exploring innovative solutions in program design, problem-solving, and decision-making.

University of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, SD - *Academic Program & Site Director*

July 2016 - October 2019

- Responsible for the management and oversight of the day-to-day activities of the program.
- Responsible for the recruitment, supervision, and development of nursing faculty and department staff.

- Work closely with the Chair of the Dept. of Nursing and Executive Leadership Team to maintain high academic standards, evaluate program, promote student success, and foster student retention.

University of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, SD - *Instructor of Nursing*

August 2014 - October 2019

- Part of a team of instructors responsible for teaching and evaluation of undergraduate level nursing courses in the classroom environment using a variety of teaching methods.
- Mentor 50 students per semester through the various academic and personal challenges students face as they progress through the nursing program.
- Mentor 20 adjunct faculty per semester to successfully teach in the clinical setting.

Sanford USD Medical Center, Sioux Falls, SD - *Clinical Nurse Educator*

May 2012 - August 2014

- Part of a team of nurse educators responsible for clinical onboarding, orientation, and mentoring of nurses new to Sanford Health.
- Develop and coordinate the Sanford Clinic orientation program utilizing lecture, case studies, skills lab, and simulation as teaching methods.

University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD - *Instructor of Nursing*

July 2010 - May 2012

- Part of a team of instructors responsible for teaching and evaluation undergraduate level nursing courses in the classroom environment using a variety of teaching methods.
- Develop and coordinate skills lab experiences, simulations, and clinical activities.
- Supervise students in the clinical setting on a postpartum unit.

Sanford USD Medical Center, Sioux Falls, SD - *Staff Nurse Labor & Delivery*

June 2008 - November 2011

- Responsible for providing quality care to patients on a busy labor and delivery unit.

Medical Center Enterprise, Enterprise, AL - *Charge Nurse Labor & Delivery*

March 2005 - May 2007

- Responsible for providing quality care to patients in a rural setting.
- Oriented new staff to unit.

Army Medical Centers - *Charge Nurse Labor & Delivery and Mother Baby Units*

November 1996 - June 2003

- Coordinated care for patients in both Army Community Hospitals and Army Medical Centers.
- Responsible for unit education, staffing, and scheduling.
- Oriented new staff to unit.

Licensure

1996-Present RN License, South Dakota

Grants

Knuppe, M. (Principal), Pithan, A. (Supporting), Warren, D. (Supporting), Hower, V. (Supporting), "Nursing Expansion Grant: Increasing the Nursing Workforce by Expanding Training Programs and Career Pathways", Sponsored by Department of Labor, Federal, 3,000,000.00. (June 2023-July 2025).