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A Familiar Face Returns to Grand Itasca

Grand Rapids – After a four-year absence, Corine Buechner, a nurse practitioner who worked in the Grand Rapids area from 1993 to 2003, has returned to serve patients at Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital.

“I returned to work at Grand Itasca on October 19, and I am so happy to be back,” said Buechner, who moved to Wyoming with her husband in 2003. “I really missed the lakes and trees of the area as well as the patients and staff of Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital.”

Buechner, who first began working in the medical field as a registered nurse, obtained a bachelor of science degree from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis in 1979. As a nurse, she worked at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Minneapolis, for a public health service hospital in Alaska and at the Red Lake Indian Health Service Hospital in Red Lake. In 1987, she decided to return for additional schooling at the University of North Dakota.

“I knew that I loved working with patients in the medical field, and I wanted to take a new step in my career,” said Buechner. “The family nurse practitioner program in Grand Forks was exactly the kind of program I was looking for.”

After graduating from UND, Buechner accepted a position at the Ely Medical Center in Ely and practiced there for nearly five years. In 1993, she was offered a position in Grand Rapids.

“At Grand Rapids Clinic and Grand Rapids Medical Associates, my primary role was to help care for patients with acute and chronic illnesses, including conducting assessments, taking patient history, performing physical exams and prescribing medications,” said Buechner. “I also focused my work on health promotion and patient education.”

In her new position at Grand Itasca, Buechner’s work will be much the same. She will work in family medicine – often in partnership with Dr. Patty Carlin-Janssen – to serve patients with a wide variety of general medical care needs. In addition, she will also see patients at Grand Village each morning.

“While I was gone, Grand Itasca’s nurse practitioner team began doing rounds at area nursing homes each day,” said Buechner. “I thought this was a great way to expand services into the community, and we’re all still able to see a full schedule of patients at Grand Itasca each afternoon. It’s great to be back in the area and to be part of the Grand Itasca team again.”

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