

IAFN's Spotlight-on-a-Member



Audrey "Dawn" Proctor

LOCATION: Winston-Salem, NC, USA

WORK SETTING: Hospital

FORENSIC NURSING EXPERIENCE: Dawn has been a forensic nurse for 9 years

YEARS OF IAFN MEMBERSHIP: 5 years

Tell us more about your forensic nursing role:

Dawn is the coordinator for the SANE program at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. She is also the secretary for the IAFN-NC Chapter. Dawn also provides considerable expertise and support to a local child advocacy center.

Dawn became a SANE in order to provide compassionate and expert care to patients experiencing sexual assault. Her continued drive to do the work comes from seeing patients move from the acute and traumatic phase to feeling like they have a will to live. Dawn talks about specific patients who have informed her that the care she provided gave them strength to continue on. Dawn has many work duties, particularly with coordinating the SANE program but finds the time to be with her husband and 2 children. She has a daughter who will be going to college soon and has been very busy with helping her daughter look at schools. She also has a young son who is very busy in sports and she is very dedicated to being at the events to support him. Dawn does have other interests. She loves to read, spend time at the lake and ocean and knit.

Deborah Flowers shares her reasoning behind "Spotlighting" Dawn:

Dawn is an amazing professional and individual. She has taken on the leadership role as the SANE coordinator for her hospital and has met many challenges, one of the most critical being a SANE shortage for her team. She has been very diligent in getting nurses to seek training and become a part of her team. Dawn has reduced many barriers in helping her nurses meet, not only the didactic portion of the training, but also the clinical component. Dawn is also the secretary for our IAFN state chapter and is the most organized, motivated and talented member I have had the honor of serving with. She manages to keep our Chapter on track despite her work, family and school obligations. Dawn is currently in school with the end result of becoming a nurse practitioner. Her goal is to become a child abuse NP and assume the medical provider role for one of our Child Advocacy Centers. In spite of all of her duties, she recently became board certified as a SANE-A through the IAFN. While Dawn has many assets, one of her greatest strengths is the compassion and caring she has for the patient population presenting to her institution with sexual assault/abuse concerns. She is a role model for nurses, physicians, residents and medical students. She has a great deal of experience in emergency nursing and the sexual assault examiner role. She is a strong mentor to the other disciplines who have the fortune to interact and learn from her. Dawn Proctor should be rewarded for her work, motivation, attitude, skill and expertise. This award would be a great way to recognize someone who is so important in the work she does and her positive influence in so many ways for such a vulnerable patient population.

