

# Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Nov. 20, 2015

In September, only a few weeks after Tammy Tipton started as one of our Medical Careers instructors, she and her students took part in the Senior Olympics.



The event allowed junior and senior medical careers students from several career and technology centers to assist senior citizens from 20 to 25 long-term care facilities in competitions such as basketball, corn hole, dominoes and checkers.

This was the first time for juniors to work with patients and Tammy said the experience was wonderful and a great pre-cursor to students' job placement later in their high school career.

"I love that we encourage our students to work second semester their senior year. They get a taste of clinicals in their junior year but then getting to work every day second semester in their senior year they come to love it," she said.

"Hopefully, a lot will go on to nursing school."

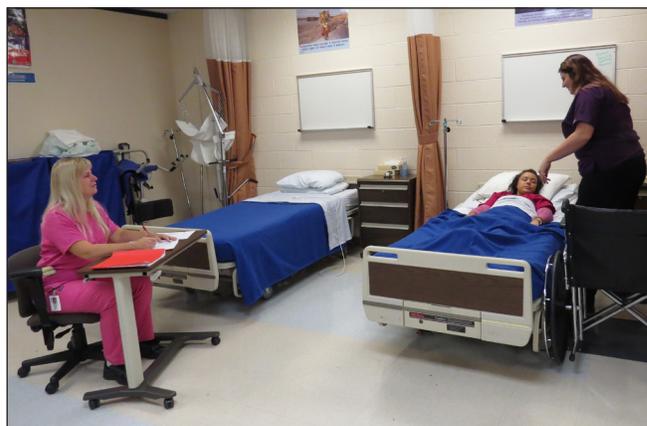
After the Senior Olympics, Tammy had her students write a reflection paper on the event.

"Every student was really positive. It was wonderful," she said.

Tammy comes to Pickaway-Ross with 13 years of experience as a registered nurse and an almost equal number of years working at Eastland-Fairfield Career Technical Schools.

While at Eastland she was a SkillsUSA advisor and is assuming a similar role here with Aaron McManes, Mark Johnston and Donna Patrick.

"I really want to get the Medical Careers students more involved in SkillsUSA," she said.



Tammy Tipton reviews students as they practice the skill of transferring a patient from a bed to a wheelchair.

The Senior Olympics qualified as a SkillsUSA activity under the Workplace Skills/Community Service category.

Also this fall, Medical Careers students helped Stonecreek Dental Clinic when the clinic offered free dental services such as fillings and extractions to community members who otherwise could not afford dental care.

The students provided blood pressure checks as their contribution to the project.

This also was a Workplace Skills/Community Service activity for SkillsUSA.

With only a few months in at Pickaway-Ross, Tammy said she especially likes the family atmosphere at Pickaway-Ross and is keeping busy learning the routines.

Above all, she has set a goal for herself: "I want to be the best at what I'm doing."

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