

## In the Spotlight



**Kristi Stice** graduated from St. Louis College of Pharmacy with my BS/Pharm.D in '04/'05. Afterwards, I went to the east coast where I completed my pharmacy practice residency with a focus in clinical coordinating at Sentara Healthcare, an eight-hospital system in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia. Immediately after my residency I became the first pharmacy clinical coordinator at Kishwaukee Community Hospital (KCH), a 100-bed facility in DeKalb IL, home of Northern Illinois University. Being a new practitioner in a new position was very challenging, but I knew I could do the job with the support of some great mentors, the fantastic staff at KCH, my wonderful manager, and ASHP of course! My ASHP membership was a wonderful resource and great investment during my time of transition, and has been ever since. Immediately after I took my new position I attended the ASHP Great Expectations conference for new practitioners, which was a great way to network with peers and lay the foundation for my new role. I subscribed to more listserves than my inbox could handle, and after finding out which best suited my needs, I was able to tap into a network of experienced practitioners and clinical coordinators with whom I could share ideas. After attending two ASHP Midyear Clinical Meetings, where I gained a wealth of knowledge on topics relevant to my clinical practice and where I recruited more great staff through CareerPharm to expand our clinical services, our little hospital pharmacy grew from a 4-pharmacist central dispensing-focused model to a 8-pharmacist deployed clinical-focused model with an outpatient oncology satellite and 24-7 pharmacy services! Thanks to the wonderful people I work with who were willing to step into more clinical roles, and the support I received from my peers across the ASHP network, the clinical program has grown leaps and bounds. To demonstrate the pharmacy's efforts in clinical achievement, the pharmacy department was awarded the Kishwaukee Health System Award of Excellence for outstanding achievements in Quality for 2009!

### 1) What motivates and inspires you about your position/profession?

What motivates me? Knowing that each day I can help pharmacists, nursing staff, and physicians make evidence-based decisions that will help meet the hospital's mission of providing the highest quality healthcare to our community.

### 2) What does ASHP membership mean to you?

Our physicians and nurses look to pharmacy as a resource for the most current information in drug therapy. As a clinical coordinator my goal is to make sure all the pharmacists in my department have the resources at their fingertips to make the best clinical decisions for each patient every day. This means being up to date on hot topics like anticoagulation and antimicrobial stewardship, constantly rethinking and revising the clinical program structure to meet the changing needs of the organization, and always searching for innovative intervention opportunities. My ASHP membership, in various ways, is my source for much of this information. Whether through my attendance at Midyear Clinical Meetings (MCM) and Summer Meetings (SM) for the awesome programming on hot topics, or through my utilization of the ASHP Learning Center for staff education on focused topics, or sharing ideas with colleagues across the country via the Pharmacy Practice Section List Serves, ASHP has been there for me!