

Name: Michelle Helin, RN

Title: Staff Development Coordinator, Upland Hills Health

Professional Responsibilities: As the only staff member in the education department for our busy critical access hospital, nursing home, home care/hospice, and clinics, my responsibilities are varied. I spend half of my time supporting the acute care nursing departments as nurse educator, validating competencies and developing orientation, preceptor, and other programs and resources. I am the primary administrator for our learning management system for the entire organization; creating content, making assignments, scheduling classes, and recording completions. I also teach BLS/CPR, First Aid, and Safe Sitter classes and am the site coordinator for these training programs.

Professional Interests: I enjoy teaching and get such fulfillment when I see the “light bulb” moment. This is especially true for the resuscitation classes, when students are grateful for having mastered an important life-saving skill. I also like making technology and online resources more useful and available to staff, and working with managers to develop and implement training plans to meet their departments’ needs.

My Accomplishments:

- Successful implementation of two learning management systems across the organization, including transition from past to current system.
- Successful transition from American Heart Association to American Red Cross training programs.
- Developed a neonatal loss support program for our organization and as part of a statewide work group, contributed to authoring of a white paper for state organization. Received local Kaye Davis, RN Community Wellness Award and certificate of appreciation from state organization for these contributions.

Fun Information about me: In my free time, you can generally find me outdoors. I am an avid (obsessed) birder, member of multiple birding and conservation organizations, and active citizen science contributor. I also enjoy hunting, fishing, and a new challenge – trapping. My husband and I host and produce a hunting TV show, Own the Season, and conduct seminars at trade shows and online. We have two adult daughters, Alana and Elizabeth, and live with a crazy German wirehaired pointer named Easton Baloney.