

Brush joins SageView Medical Clinic

By REBECCA YOUNG
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Compassion, quality and the idea of building a common vision attracted nurse practitioner Charlene Brush to the SageView medical clinic at Quincy Valley Medical Center. She started work Tuesday, Feb. 26 and said Quincy has been very welcoming.

"Our vision as a family has always been to move to the countryside. My professional vision was to work in family practice where my actual work presence makes a difference to the patients and people I work with. This position satisfies both visions," she said.

Brush works with Dr. Mary Klinger, handling the clinic's walk-in and urgent care patients, while Dr. Klinger sees scheduled patients. Brush said the clinic can do wellness exams, routine chronic care and primary care. She said they welcome walk-ins, but appointments can sometimes save patients a wait when the clinic gets busy.

"There are times when it will seem quiet, then all of the sudden we are very busy," she said.

As a nurse practitioner, Brush has a master's degree in nursing focused on providing direct care to patients. She can diagnose and treat conditions and prescribe medicine without the supervision of a physician.

Brush attended Seattle Univer-

sity's College of Nursing, where her focus of study was on family practice with an emphasis on childhood nutrition in rural communities. She had many hours of clinical practice in a variety of settings, but said her clinical training emphasized rural care. This is her first position as a nurse practitioner.

"Because the hospital is going through growth with new people and new systems, there is a lot of excitement among the staff. I feel their enthusiasm and welcome," she said.

She said she has enjoyed working with Dr. Klinger.

"She is friendly, easy to work with and smart. She really knows family medicine," said Brush.

The biggest challenge has just been adjusting to a new system and being apart from her family. Her husband, Donavin, and son, David, who will be 5 in a few months, are still living in Seattle and Brush commutes on the weekends to see them. Donavin is retiring from his job as a marine industry contractor.

The family plans to move here sometime soon. Brush said Quincy is what she and her husband were looking for in a small town and that it seems like a good place for their son to grow up.

"Hopefully David will start Mountain View in the fall," said Brush.

She said she looks forward to hiking in the summer and explor-



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Nurse practitioner Charlene Brush enjoys family practice.

ing North Central Washington. In her spare time she also enjoys cooking and reading "just about everything."

Brush said she also looks forward to developing a relationship with a local church, St. Pius

X Catholic Church, and said she hopes to sing in the choir.

"I feel honored and privileged to be here and look forward to serving the people of the Quincy Valley and Quincy Valley Medical Center," said Brush.