

# IMPulse

Intermountain Media Pulse

A TRUETONE INCORPORATED COMPANY

news  
CLIP

11623 Lake Shore  
Nampa, ID 83686  
(208) 880-9814

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Star-News

McCall, Idaho

Thursday August 3, 2017

by Erin Roper

Page 1 of 1

## Teens get experience at St. Luke's emergency room

**BY ERIN ROPER**

For The Star-News

This summer, four teenagers have volunteered to observe and learn in the ever-changing setting that is the emergency department at St. Luke's McCall.

On of the volunteers, Abigail Blum, 18, of Troy, begins her studies this fall at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa to become a physician's assistant.

Blum initially thought of becoming a veterinarian, but later changed her mind, deciding "it would be easier to treat people because they can talk and tell you what is wrong."

What was a surprise for her at St. Luke's was learning the many aspects of care for just one person.

"A lot more goes into healing people than you would think," Blum said. "All of the documentation, all of the people involved, not just one doctor or one nurse. It takes a team effort."

Her experience was enhanced by the interactions with emergency department physicians and clinicians who helped her understand various approaches to care.

"I really appreciated it when Dr. Jon Kremer took the extra time, after the patient was taken care of, to explain to me about the process of treating patients based on their symptoms and injury," Blum said.

Blum participated in the Health Occupation Students of America program at her high school. One of their HOSA projects included developing and holding a hand hygiene clinic in the elementary school promoting the prevention of spreading germs and illness.

St. Luke's Volunteer Coordinator Jennifa d'ArcRaven is proud of how the junior volunteer program provides a chance for students to experience medical-based volunteering.

Nearly 24 junior volunteers have participated in the program over the past four years, d'ArcRaven said.

The program exposes students to the many elements of the inner workings of a hospital from supporting community health programs to working with physicians and nurses on special projects, she said.

"Hospital leadership and the emergency department team have embraced the program and are exceptional in

mentoring these young volunteers during the summer program." d'arcRaven said.

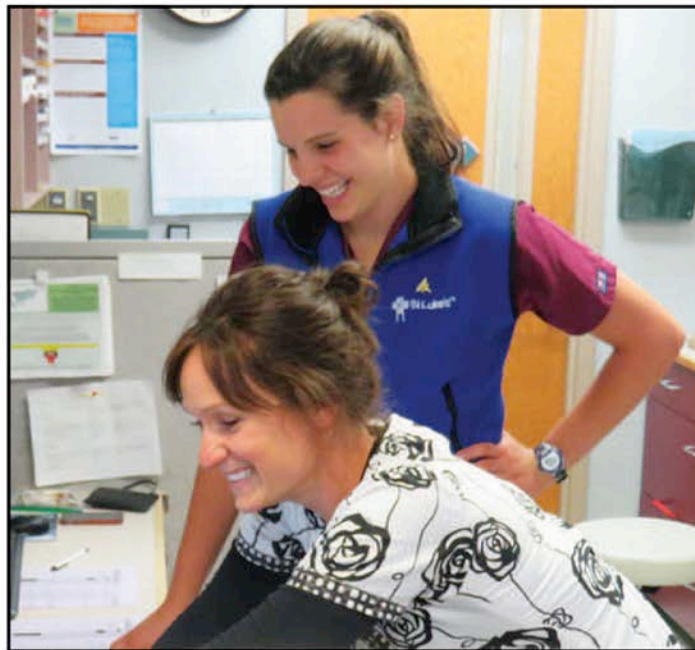


Photo by Erin Roper/St. Luke's McCall

**Abigail Blum, rear, a junior volunteer in St. Luke's McCall's emergency department, consults with Registered Nurse Mandi Johnson.**

###

Copyright 2017 The Star-News