



Community Medical Clinic Excited to Welcome New Physician

The Community Medical Clinic and Pana Community Hospital have been waiting more than a decade to welcome Dr. Brooke Dean to their practice and our hospital and the time has finally come. Dr. Brooke Dean, a high school graduate of Hillsboro, IL, will join the provider staff at Community Medical Clinic. She will join Dr. Terry Cunnington and Dr. Catherine Teodoro as well as Nurse Practitioners, Deb Anklam, Blair Angel, and Marc Scholes. Dr. Dean began seeing patients on October 2nd.

In the summer of 2012, after Brooke's first year in college at Truman State University in Kirksville, MO, she participated in a summer internship at Pana Community Hospital. Through the internship she explored many different healthcare related fields by shadowing various departments within the hospital. The purpose of these internships is to encourage young adults to consider a career in healthcare, especially jobs in a rural hospital setting. "We offer summer internships to students interested in learning more about healthcare careers in hopes that they will return to work at their hometown healthcare provider. We were very blessed to have Dr. Dean participate in this program and return to work with us once she completed her education," stated Trina Casner, President & CEO of PCH.

At the end of the summer internship with PCH 11 years ago, Brooke decided to pursue a career in family medicine. She went on to receive a Bachelor of Science from Truman majoring in Biology with minors in Business Administration and Philosophy & Religion. Throughout Dean's college years, she continued to shadow Dr. Terry Cunnington during her breaks. "Dr. Terry was a great mentor for me and inspired me to keep pushing through my education in pursuit of my medical career." In the summer of 2014, PCH hired Dean as an intern helping to create polices and in 2019, Dean worked 16 weeks for Community Medical Clinic as part of her Rural Preceptorship which was required by her medical school. "During my four months at the clinic, I met many patients that I hope to see again and learned so much from the staff at CMC," stated Dean.

Dean received a master's degree in microbiology and immunology from Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, LA and in 2020, she graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Rockford. At this point in her education, she knew she would like to come back to her roots and work in Pana. The staff at both the hospital and clinic were excited to welcome a new doctor in the near future and offered Dean a letter of intent to work at Community Medical Clinic following her residency in Family Medicine at the University of Missouri.

"After 11 years of watching Brooke work hard, I am excited to welcome her as a colleague," stated Dr. Terry Cunnington. "She will be a great asset to our practice!"

As a Family Practice physician, Dr. Dean can care for all types of patients and has a special interest in women's health and prenatal care. Dr. Dean is the daughter of Todd and Lora Dean of Coffeen and the granddaughter of Tom and Mayola Dean of Pana, Jim and Carol (Keller) May of Hillsboro, and Deborah Dougherty and the late Bill Hosick, formerly of Hillsboro. Dean will reside in Nokomis, IL. She will see patients in Pana, Nokomis and Assumption clinic offices.