

**November
2020**

YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

NATALIE MARK

NATALIE MARK IS FOLLOWING HER PASSION FOR A CAREER IN THE MEDICAL FIELD THROUGH THE YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP (YA) PROGRAM FACILITATED LOCALLY BY CESA 11.

Natalie, a Plum City High School senior, is employed at the Plum City Care Center, a position she has held for the past year and a half. Natalie's mother was familiar with the YA program from her own experience working in a school, and initially encouraged Natalie to pursue the program.



Upon bringing the opportunity to her principal, Jeremy Kerg, she was immediately given approval to move forward with YA. Youth Apprenticeship (YA) is a program that integrates school-based and work-based learning to instruct students in employability and occupational skills defined by Wisconsin industries. Natalie shared that she loves her job at the Plum City Care Center and the variety of duties that come along with it. With around 40 residents, the job keeps her on her toes, but with a smile on her face. Her duties include feeding residents and assisting them with daily tasks and activities as well as charting health-related information and keeping track of important details for maintaining resident wellness.

OF NATALIE, PRINCIPAL JEREMY KERG SAYS "SHE IS A REMARKABLE AND DRIVEN YOUNG LADY. SHE IS REALLY GREAT."

Natalie starts work early, between 5 and 6am on the weekends. Natalie is able to work after school on the weekdays, taking advantage of extra release time to get in additional hours during the day, something that she said allows her extra free time to do homework or participate in other activities.



A highly motivated student, Natalie has completed some challenging coursework in conjunction with the YA program. After working through the bulk of related offerings at Plum City, Natalie went on to take courses through CVTC to further her skills and knowledge in the medical field. Upon completion of Chemistry 1&2, Natalie has her eyes set on an EMT license. Her future plans are to attend UW-Eau Claire for Nursing and Pre-Physician's Assistant (PA). Though the medical field has always been an area of interest, having the opportunity to work in the profession while simultaneously taking courses on related content has led to a better understanding of the career pathway, leading her to develop an interest in trauma care.

**Natalie,
CESA 11 wishes
you the best of
luck in your
continued
journey to
success.**



**Keep up the
great work!**

Natalie shared that Covid-19 has created some challenges in the workplace. Staffing issues due to the pandemic have forced employees to get creative in how they do the same amount of work (or more!) with fewer people. However, they have had some fun at the Plum City Care Center during 2020 as well. Because the high school prom had to be cancelled, the center hosted an in-house 'prom' that allowed the staff members to dress up and come visit- a perfect excuse to wear that fancy outfit.

**For more information on YA, Contact:
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