



Forks Community Hospital

"Pioneers in Rural Health Care"



Dr. Rebecca Pfaff Family Practice with Obstetrics

Forks Community Hospital and Bogachiel Clinic are overjoyed to have Doctor Rebecca Pfaff join our growing list of local providers. Dr. Pfaff provides care to family medicine and obstetric patients. She is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine, is an instructor of Advanced Life Support for Obstetrics, and has her Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, and Neonatal Resuscitation Program Certifications.

Dr. Pfaff is a fourth generation resident of the Olympic Peninsula with family settled in Joyce. Her parents set an example of unconditional love by striving to help anyone in need, including opening up their home to others. Both of her parents provided social support and mental health care to communities stretching from Port Angeles to Neah Bay; demonstrating that meaningful careers can be built in your own backyard. In the 6th grade she watched a documentary on medical missionaries to Africa and decided that she would someday become a part of the Doctors Without Borders program; serving people in outlying areas of the world. As Dr. Pfaff grew, she realized what her parents had already discovered; you can gain joy and fulfillment by helping your own community and neighbors.

Throughout medical school, Dr. Pfaff never lost her desire to rise to the challenges faced by practicing medicine in isolated areas comprised of diverse populations and medical needs. She knew that she would be happiest meeting people's needs in medically under-served areas. While attending Meharry Medical College School of Medicine, Dr. Pfaff became interested in obstetrics and knew she wanted to deliver babies in addition to practicing family medicine. She completed the Baraboo Rural Training Track Residency at the University of Wisconsin and a Fellowship at Swedish Medical Center in Advanced Obstetrics.

Dr. Pfaff chose family medicine as it did not make sense to her to treat parents and children separately; for her it makes much more sense to treat whole families. Dr. Pfaff loves that her job allows her to be present for all of her patients' important life events. She enjoys her ability to participate in births, kindergarten physicals, sports physicals, career changes, and care throughout the life of her patients as they grow and age. She loves that her job affords her the opportunity to talk to people all day. One of Dr. Pfaff's great joys is the science of medicine and teaching a patient how that science applies to them as an individual.



Dr. Pfaff's resume prior to becoming a doctor is varied and colorful; ranging from wildland firefighting, to EMT, to chef. When asked what she would have chosen as a career if she had not gone into medicine, she felt that perhaps her love of people may have led her to pursue a career in anthropology, allowing her to learn from and meet a variety of people in remote locations. At the end of the day, medicine was a calling she could not resist.

Dr. Pfaff is happy to be back at home. She loves the rain and had missed the drizzle. The West End allows her the ability to work all day and still access nature. She has said, "Outside feeds my soul." When asked why she chose to come to Forks Community Hospital she spoke of how rural providers often come and go, however, nurses comprise the fabric of an institution, and ours have dedicated their careers to Forks Community Hospital. The longevity of the nursing staff let her know that we are something special. Her love of rain is a bonus.

When Dr. Pfaff is not working she can be found exploring nature, traveling, gardening, teaching medicine internationally, and spending time with her husband Richard and step-daughter Genevieve. She enjoys reading novels, road trips, and visiting her mother in Joyce. Dr. Pfaff has dedicated her career to critical access hospitals and we hope you will join us in welcoming her home to The West End.

