

## Newport Hospital & Health Services

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## Newport Resident Kim Lindell Returns to Newport Hospital

NEWPORT – Newport Hospital and Health Services officially welcomed Kim Lindell as the newest Physician's Assistant at Family Health Center. Lindell has lived in Newport for 18 years and started her healthcare career as a nursing assistant in the hospital's long term care facility. She then received training as a phlebotomist and joined the hospital's laboratory department before joining Dr. Benson as his medical assistant. From there, she became a surgical tech and then went on to physician assistant school through Medics Northwest through University of Washington.

Lindell says the progression to physician assistant school "seemed like the next logical step" and attributes her motivation to her love of medicine. When asked about her succession from nursing assistant to physician assistant, she said that the experience and contact hours at Newport Hospital helped her with the more vigorous requirements facing physician assistant students today.

Although she has an affinity for the operating room, she said that "surgery is not conducive to family life." Lindell has three children: Jacob, 22 (Coeur d'Alene); Savanna, 21 (Newport), Kale, 5 (Newport); and her granddaughter, Lila (3 weeks). She said that she has been welcomed with open arms by hospital staff and the community. Newport Hospital CEO, Tom Wilbur, added, "We are very pleased to add Kim as a member of our medical staff and know she will be a valuable asset to the care team we have assembled at our clinics. We are excited to have an additional provider with a local connection and know she will do a wonderful job for her patients and our community."

Currently, Kim Lindell is working four days a week, and will fill in as necessary.

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