

Meet the Instructor

Name: Phyllis Hart

Program: Nursing, Coordinator of STNA (Nurse Aide Training Competency and Evaluation Program)

About You: Phyllis has lived in Mt. Vernon since she was 13 years old. She has 4 grown children, (2 boys and 2 girls), as well as 3 grandchildren (all boys). Outside of work she enjoys spending time with her family.



What is your educational background and career experience? Phyllis obtained her Associates Degree from COTC where she started her first 2 years in the business program and then changed to nursing and obtained her RN. She has spent 37 years as a nurse. Phyllis started her career at Country Club Nursing Home, Riverside Hospital and then was employed by Knox Community Hospital (for 35 years). She started with KTC in March 2025.

What do you enjoy most about teaching this subject? “I have always enjoyed educating others and watching them become more confident and independent. It is refreshing to use my creativity and desire to help others in such a positive environment. The students are appreciative and the staff is very supportive. I feel blessed to be able to educate and prepare our future Nurses and Certified Nursing Assistants, while continuing to professionally grow.”

What is your approach to teaching adult learners, especially those who may be returning to education after a break or changing careers? “Our program has a good mix of new graduates and adults that are returning after an extended break. I enjoy helping students identify their individual strengths and build confidence. I believe giving students more autonomy in their learning can boost their engagement and motivation, which ultimately improves their overall learning outcomes.”

How do you stay current with the latest evidence-based practices to put into your class? “As a new Instructor I look to my coworkers for guidance and instruction. They are a great resource! KTC also has frequent educational seminars available for continuous professional development in our field.”

What career paths are students typically prepared for after completing this course?

“We have three professional pathways for our students:

1. NATCEP (Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Program) this program allows individuals to become Certified Nurse Aides, which they can use as a career in itself or as a needed prerequisite to all nursing programs.
2. Our LPN program prepares an individual to become a Licensed Practical Nurse which again can be a career in itself or a step needed before advancing to the RN program
3. Our RN program prepares individuals to become a Registered Nurse which opens many opportunities in our health care field today. I will be the Program coordinator for our NATCEP program and assist with educating our LPN students.”