

# Employee Spotlight: Lisa Ignasiak



## **Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?**

I graduated in 1995 from Grand Valley State University. It's hard to believe I've been a nurse for almost 30 years! I started my career in hospital nursing but soon realized I wanted to spend more time with my patients. I've worked in various Kent County Health Department clinics ever since and am currently a Public Health Nurse at the North County complex in Cedar Springs.

I've been married to my husband for 28 years and have four grown children—a son and three daughters. We love seeing our 17-month-old granddaughter grow and do new things. She has quite the vocabulary already! Recently, she learned the word 'sassy' after her mom used it to describe her personality.

## **What is your position at Kent County and what individuals do you work with?**

As a Public Health Nurse, I work with clients of all ages, from birth to older adulthood. I help educate on nutrition and breastfeeding through the Women, Infants, and Children program and earned my Lactation Educator credential last year.

## **What are two or three things that staff should know about your role?**

I spend the majority of my time educating clients of all ages about immunizations, including counseling and administering travel vaccines. I'm also the primary Vaccines for Children Coordinator for the North County clinic, responsible for tracking vaccine usage and ordering supplies each month.

## **What is the most rewarding part of your job? What is the most challenging?**

The most rewarding part of my job is that I go home every day knowing I've helped someone and made their lives a little better.

The most challenging part of my role is when there are limited resources, like low-cost housing, to meet specific needs of clients.

## **Do you have anything else to share about working in Kent County?**

I'd like to mention that as we do our jobs every day, they can become routine. It's easy to overlook our impact. Clients often comment on how smooth their experience was while getting services at Kent County, and I feel a sense of pride that I may have contributed to this reputation.