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TOMAGWA'S LEAD NURSE PRACTITIONER OF 23 YEARS ANNOUNCE RESIGNATION TO RETURN HOME TO MINNESOTA TO BE WITH HER GROWING MULTIGENERATIONAL FAMILY.

TOMBALL, TX - TOMAGWA HealthCare Ministries today announced Tamra Grotte, the center's long-time lead nurse practitioner, has resigned and will be transitioning to a new position closer to her children, grandchildren, and now new great-grandchild in Minnesota, effective April 1st, 2021. Tania Celia, FNP, a Texas Women's University professor and long-time volunteer, has been hired to lead nurse practitioner care at the Tomball center and will be working alongside Hannah Moffitt, FNP and quality assurance nurse, who runs TOMAGWA's Magnolia clinic to ensure there is no lapse in services.

Ms. Grotte has worked at TOMAGWA since 1997, initially as a staff nurse and then as a nurse practitioner in 2004. During her tenure, Tamra has played a critical role in helping TOMAGWA expand from a primary care "coughs and colds" practice to the multi-site, comprehensive health center that it has evolved into today, winning several distinguished awards and recognition for its treatment of chronic illnesses and "excellence in quality" programs.

"I would like to express my deep appreciation of working at TOMAGWA for the last 23 years. It has provided invaluable experience, lifelong friendships, and a patient base that I will miss more than I can express. TOMAGWA and its staff and patient will always be in my thoughts and prayers." Ms. Grotte wrote in her resignation letter.

Ms. Grotte has also served as a preceptor for several major universities, investing thousands of hours over the years in educating nurse practitioners; launching countless healthcare professionals' careers. Recently, Tamra has been fundamental in the success of caring for patients throughout the coronavirus pandemic by onboarding telemedicine, piloting a prescription-based Food Pharmacy, and ensuring access to care by facilitating curbside care which has prevented the staff and patients from encountering community spread of COVID-19 at any TOMAGWA location to date.

"I will greatly miss Tamra. I have known her for almost eight years. She was my preceptor when I was studying to be a nurse practitioner. She was a great encouragement to me during my studies and helped me grow in knowledge and experience. One year ago, I had the privilege of being hired at TOMAGWA to work alongside her. She continues to be a supportive influence and is always willing to help me and answer my questions," Ms. Moffitt shared.

Tamra has contributed 23 years of experience to the dynamics of caring for the low-income, uninsured, and underserved residents of Northwest Harris, Southern Montgomery, and Waller counties in Texas. Her contributions to changing lives and caring for the total person, physically and spiritually, will not be forgotten. She shows a true passion and patience for the many factors preventing those most in need from achieving optimal health and has committed a lifetime of work to ensuring that those barriers are



removed. Once patient wrote, "Tamra, I just wanted to tell you, you so 'Rock!' Thanks so much for your advice. I never thought someone that is not even related to me would make me feel that I can be someone in life!!! I really appreciate your words from the bottom of my heart."

TOMAGWA's Medical Director, Dr. Linda Flower, reflects on Ms. Grotte's positive spirit, high energy, and open confession of God's hand in her life and work, which will be remembered forever. She is one of a kind and will be greatly missed, but we wish her all the best in this new endeavor. Her family is looking forward to having her home again.

A going-away party will be held at TOMAGWA's Tomball Clinic on Thursday, March 25th, from 3pm-5pm. There will be a live scrapbooking session throughout the party, so guests are encouraged to come prepared to create a page in her scrapbook. Be as creative as you would like, be it a friendly letter, photos, or other keepsakes that Ms. Grotte can take with her. Scrapbook, paper, and supplies will be available.

Please contact Tami Sabey, tamiS@TOMAGWA.org or Deanna Lowenstein, deannaL@TOMAGWA.org for more information.

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