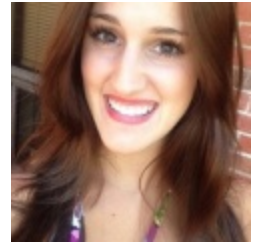


# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

## Gabrielle Kohr



**Graduation Year:** 2017

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** None

**Hometown:** Belle Vernon, PA

**Hobbies:** What I enjoy most is spending time with my family. Also, I like learning and studying during school, and I like to work out, stay fit, and be healthy.

**Campus Activities:** Psi Chi

- **Internship (company/your title):**

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC/Volunteer

- **What were your duties?**

I was positioned at unit 6E – the epilepsy unit. There, I would visit each room, asking the patients and their families if there was anything that they needed. Patients in the epilepsy unit could not leave their rooms, so you would often see me bringing toys to the patients or even playing Xbox with them. Next, I would visit what they called “the dirty room” just to see if there were any toys that needed to be cleaned. Then, I would make a trip over to Austin’s Playroom to provide company to anybody that was there. If there was no one in the playroom, I would visit the NICU. There, I would go around asking parents if they needed a break, and, of course, I would cuddle the babies who did not have any company.

- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**

I was there simply to make people happy, so some at the hospital would say that I had the best job there – and I would have to agree. ☺ A hospital can be a scary place, so what I enjoyed most was making peoples’ experience better. I also enjoyed helping the nurses and other staff members; they always made me feel appreciated and important.

- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**

I would have to say that the most difficult aspect of the internship was not to take it personally if I could not make a patient happy. Probably, the last place they want to be is at a hospital, so I had to be understanding. As long as I tried my best, I always left the hospital feeling satisfied about the time I put in there.

- **How did your experience at UPG and in the Psychology department prepare you for your internship?**

I was prepared for this internship because I knew how to approach different situations, the kind of people I would be dealing with, and I even knew some of the terms that were used at the hospital thanks to the Psychology department at UPG.

- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**

I was a volunteer working alongside Child Life Specialists, and this internship has helped me to realize even more that being a Child Life Specialist is definitely what I want to do.

- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**

An internship is not only good for your résumé, but it is good for you to get some sort of experience before you get a job or even move forward with more schooling. It is a win-win situation because if you are like me and you do an internship that you enjoy, then there is a career for you – an option you can choose from in the future. If you do an internship and do not enjoy it as much, then you have something ruled out and you can look further into something else. Also, UPG is so good with providing its students with such great opportunities (Thank you, UPG!) So when given good opportunities, I think that we should take them. Having said all of that, you should DEFINITELY do an internship! ☺