

SHANNON LUETKEMEYER, RN Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston

Dialysis is difficult – especially for pediatric patients. But Shannon Luetkemeyer, RN, clinical manager of dialysis at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston, goes the extra mile to ensure that her patients have as normal and comfortable a life as possible. Luetkemeyer has personally driven many children, who had no means of transportation, to Camp Independence, a camp for children and adolescents who have had or are scheduled to have a kidney, heart or liver transplant, to ensure that her patients still get to enjoy things that all children should. When a kidney became available for one patient while he was at Camp Independence, Luetkemeyer packed his belongings and drove him back to Children's, so that he would not miss his chance for a transplant.

To her patients' families, she is both a trusted resource and an emotional support, calming and comforting them during long hours of dialysis. Mindful of the financial burdens of dialysis, hospital visits and medications, Luetkemeyer always finds creative ways to provide care in the most cost-



Shannon Luetkemeyer, RN constantly goes the extra mile to ensure her pediatric dialysis patients have a normal and comfortable life.

effective way. Luetkemeyer also extends herself to her colleagues, serving as a mentor to other dialysis nurses and as a leader on numerous hospital and unit committees.