

THE Importance of Caring

AUGUST 2020

my journey into health care



Stacy Baue, BSW, CSW
MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKER

As a medical social worker, Stacy Baue, BSW, CSW, cares for people when they need it most – something she learned how to do as a child.

Baue's father was a pharmacist in a small town and Baue often spent time in the pharmacy after school, helping customers, stocking shelves and trying any new candy bars that came in. But that's not the part of working at the pharmacy that stuck with Baue the most – what she remembers most is how her father treated people.

“I think, looking back, without realizing it, my dad had a part in my ultimate health care career,” Baue said. **“I saw how he interacted with people who were often not feeling well or feeling stressed by the illness of a sick family member. He spent time answering questions, lending a listening ear, all while trying to maintain a positive attitude and sense of humor.”**

Baue's father also took her with him when he made deliveries of medications to local nursing homes and Baue remembers these visits well. She remembers how her father would greet the residents who were sitting in the front lobby when they came in and how he would chat with all residents he

encountered on his way to make his delivery.

“I guess those interactions helped make me comfortable in a setting many might not have had much experience in at that age,” she said. **“I could see that even a small encounter with someone could help make them feel a little better and I thought that was pretty big.”**

Inspired in part by her work with her father, Baue would go on to get a Bachelor of Science degree in social work from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Shortly afterward, in July 1991, Baue became a medical social worker at CCH – a position she's held for 29 years.

In her role as a medical social worker, Baue helps families with the wide variety of psycho-social needs they may have as a result of being in the hospital. She works with the hospital's case managers to help do discharge planning, connects single mothers to resources they may need, and responds to all codes and level 1 traumas in the emergency department to provide support and crisis intervention.

“No two days are alike,” she said.

This variety allows Baue to work with many different departments throughout the hospital.

“It has been great to work and build relationships with many different people in many different disciplines through the years,” she said. **“This is a great environment to work in and I have been blessed to meet and work alongside many talented, compassionate people who support one another.”**

For more information on Baue and how CCH's social workers provide support for patients, visit www.columbushosp.org.