

THE Importance of Caring

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my journey into health care



Yvette Webb

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LABORATORY

It is not a surprise to Yvette Webb that she ended up working in a hospital laboratory.

“From a very young age, I was interested in how the body worked, so I always knew I would be in health care in some way,” Webb said.

Webb has worked at Columbus Community Hospital for 13 years and has been assistant director of the lab for the last 10 years. She wears many hats in her position. **“I might attend meetings in the director’s absence, work the bench and everything in between,”** Webb said. **“No two days are alike, and there are always new things to learn.”**

Her regular duties include overseeing competency and proficiency testing, training new staff, handling lab procedures and assisting staff.

The lab at CCH includes technicians and medical laboratory scientists who perform a comprehensive range of testing on patient samples. It is critical that the lab staff provide timely and accurate results so doctors can diagnose patients and start a treatment plan.

Since earning a degree in clinical laboratory science from the University

of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Webb has worked at large and small hospitals. However, she said, other facilities don’t compare to CCH. Leadership here recognizes the vital role of the laboratory, which doesn’t always happen.

“Administration at CCH has always been very supportive with new instrumentation or methodologies,” Webb said. **“Many hospitals do not see the worth of a lab and the importance of it to patient care, but here they do.”**

There is a great sense of unity working in the lab, she said — a fact that has been especially evident during the coronavirus pandemic.

“Our staff worked under a lot of stress researching and acquiring COVID-19 testing platforms,” Webb said. **“With all the things needed to bring a test to patient care, such as training, validations and procedure writing, our staff pulled together and made it happen. We have a great team here, and they prove it again and again. That’s what I like most about my job — our team.”**

Since she began working in health care, Webb has sought out roles as a

“generalist” because she didn’t want to be limited to one department in a lab. When the assistant director position opened at CCH, she felt it would be the perfect fit because of all the job responsibilities.

Health care has been a gratifying career for Webb. With so many different jobs in the field, she would encourage others to work in health care because it is rewarding to make a difference in people’s lives each day.

“Helping others, whether it is a co-worker or a patient, is good for your soul,” she said. **“At the end of the day, you know you did something good.”**

For more information about the laboratory at CCH, visit www.columbushosp.org.