

THE Importance of Caring

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my journey into health care



Marina Channer, RDN

DIETITIAN/NUTRITION SERVICES SUPERVISOR

When she first started college at the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing in Norfolk, Marina Channer, RDN, thought she wanted to be a registered nurse. But when she crossed paths with a dietitian consultant at a veterans' home where she worked, Channer learned that dietetics would be a much better fit for her.

“I realized I could combine my love for cooking, baking, educating and helping others all into one field,” she said.

Channer transferred to University of Nebraska-Lincoln and obtained a Bachelor of Science in education and human services. After college, the Columbus native worked as a food service aide until she found a professional position with the WIC Program at the East Central District Health Department. There, her coworkers and mentors encouraged her to go back to school and obtain her dietitian certification.

In 2020, Channer was accepted to the University of Northern Colorado for a dietetic internship, and was able to complete her food service rotation right here at CCH. **“While working beside these dietitians, I expanded my work experience and cherished the comradery and mentorship,”** she said.

Eventually, Channer found her way back to CCH as a full-time employee. She now serves as a supervisor and dietitian in nutrition services, working some days in the nutrition services department, and some days helping patients who have diabetes.

Channer says she's grateful for all the opportunities that have come her way. **“I would tell people who are interested in health care that the field is full of different job opportunities,”** she said. **“If you are interested in a specific area, ask to shadow an individual in that area. Shadowing allows you to experience different job opportunities before selecting a career.”**

To learn more about Columbus Community Hospital or available careers currently open within the hospital, visit columbushosp.org.