

THE Importance of Caring

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my journey into health care



Gie Hartzog-Bunn

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

When Gie Hartzog-Bunn was growing up in Alabama, she watched helplessly as her grandfather struggled with emphysema. That experience made her determined to enter a career where she could make an impact and help others.

Years later, Hartzog-Bunn received her respiratory therapy degree from a college in Dothan, Alabama, and this month, she will celebrate her one-year anniversary as a respiratory therapist at Columbus Community Hospital.

“The first time I walked through the hospital doors, I knew it was the place I wanted to be,” she said.

Hartzog-Bunn has a variety of duties as a respiratory therapist, but her primary job is to provide patient care for anyone who needs oxygen or has other respiratory issues. Her day typically includes performing breathing

tests, oxygen checks and emergency room visits for patients with scheduled cesarean sections. She also provides ventilator assistance for patients who use continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) or bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP) machines.

During her time at the hospital, Hartzog-Bunn said both her supervisor and the entire hospital organization have supported her. Health care is not the easiest path to pursue, but it’s very worthwhile, she said.

“Having a career in health care is hard, but just being able to help people is the most fulfilling career I can imagine,” she said.

In her free time, Hartzog-Bunn runs a non-profit animal rescue. She also loves horses and spending time painting and reading.

To learn more about Columbus Community Hospital or respiratory therapy opportunities available, visit columbushosp.org.