

THE Importance of Caring

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my journey into health care



Mary Hall, RN, BSN

HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE NURSE

As a young child, Hall was very ill and had to travel with her parents 45 miles to the nearest hospital. When she was at home, two of her aunts cared for her, and she watched with admiration as they focused all of their attention on her, helping her feel loved and safe.

Hall's mother and uncle were also nurses, so she grew up with a front-row seat to all the wonderful ways nurses can make a difference in people's lives. She resolved to become a nurse when she grew up — and she did. Hall received her Bachelor of Science in nursing at Mount Marty University in Yankton, South Dakota. She has worked for 41 years at Columbus Community Hospital — 24 of which have been in home health and hospice.

In her current position, Hall visits patients throughout the day, coordinating their care with their providers, ordering and delivering supplies and contacting pharmacies. **"Flexibility is key, as we get changing requests throughout the day,"** she said,

"and we sometimes see patients late in the evening."

While Hall has worked in several other nursing positions at CCH, including the medical/surgical unit and the emergency room, home health and hospice is truly her greatest love. Even when she was learning how to be a nurse in college, she greatly enjoyed her rotation as a home health nurse.

She has also especially appreciated how the hospital has supported her work.

"It has been a positive environment that allowed much flexibility in my schedule," she said. **"I was able to work evenings to minimize child care, and then work part time as our children grew older. Co-workers and staff have always been supportive and work together for the good of our community."**

Hall encourages anyone who is interested in health care to pursue job shadowing experiences at CCH. **"All of our children took advantage of CCH's**

job shadowing, and three of them were employed by CCH either during or after college," she said.

When she isn't helping patients through home health and hospice, Hall enjoys family time, gardening, hiking, camping, baking, participating in church activities and music.

To learn more about Columbus Community Hospital or open positions available, visit columbushosp.org.