



News Release

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Columbus Community Hospital employees mentor youth through TeamMates

For Immediate Release

(COLUMBUS, Neb.) – Columbus Community Hospital is proud to recognize employees who invested in youth through their involvement in the TeamMates mentoring program.

Nicole Blaser, Deb Moore, Pam Perault, Mike Hansen and Karla Rosendahl served as volunteer mentors or board members during the past school year.

TeamMates is a school-based program in which an adult mentor meets one-on-one with students each week for one hour. Every mentoring relationship is unique, but they commonly focus on helping with homework, sharing a hobby or particular interest, or just talking.

Mentors have an opportunity to make a difference in a young person's life simply by showing up each week during the school year.

"I became a TeamMates mentor because someone once said to me that every child could use one more adult who cares about them," said Blaser, quality improvement director at CCH. "After I heard that, I felt the desire to be that one more adult for a child in our community pulling at my heart."

She said mentoring gives her an immense sense of personal fulfillment and there is nothing more rewarding than seeing a mentee succeed or achieve a goal.

Moore, nutrition services director at the hospital, wanted to be a mentor for students during a time in their lives that can be challenging. A mentor might not solve issues a student is experiencing, but that one hour a week can mean so much. It shows the student they matter and someone cares.

"I enjoyed seeing the smile of my mentee and their willingness to share new experiences they have in their life," Moore said.

Hansen, president and CEO of CCH, is mentoring his second student through TeamMates. Being in the program allows him to give back to the community, he said.



"I think I get just as much out of it as my mentee gets," Hansen said. "It's nice to be able to sit down with a young person and be a sounding board for them. A lot of kids have struggles and issues like anyone. To have another person there to listen and not judge is important."

CCH is a proud supporter of the TeamMates mentoring program. To learn more about the program or become a mentor, please visit

<https://chapters.teammates.org/chapters/columbus/>.

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