

THE Importance of

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Caring

my journey into health care



Jerrad Swanson
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Hospitals aren't just made up of doctors and nurses.

It takes many people with a variety of skills and training to ensure hospitals are able to care for patients well. For example, the maintenance department at Columbus Community Hospital (CCH) plays an important role in the health and safety of CCH patients and staff.

That's where Jerrad Swanson comes in.

Swanson is CCH's maintenance supervisor. A big part of his job is ensuring all employees and patients have a safe environment at CCH. The maintenance department does this by ensuring there are proper humidity levels and temperatures in critical areas, making sure all emergency exit devices are working, checking that the fire system is working correctly and overall, making sure the hospital looks good and is functioning well.

In his role as maintenance supervisor, Swanson also oversees projects, supervises 10 maintenance employees, meets with contractors and maintains some of the hospital's equipment.

This variety of tasks means Swanson has no typical day at work.

"Most days I have no idea what I will be doing and that is one of the best things about my job," he said.

Whatever the day throws at him, Swanson is well prepared for it, thanks to his years of experience. He has been at CCH since 2005, spending 14 years in the maintenance department.

Before coming to CCH, Swanson spent three years at Central Community College. He has a degree in industrial technology with extra electrical classes and it was actually one of Swanson's instructors who directed him to a position at CCH.

"When I was finishing school, my instructor led me into a position at CCH and I have never regretted my decision since," he said. **"My goal has always been to start in maintenance and move into more responsibilities as the opportunity arises."**

Over his years in the maintenance department, Swanson said he has been given many opportunities to attend conferences and trainings, especially in areas that he had not previously been trained in, such as Joint Commission standards and codes.

Though Swanson may not have ended up at CCH had it not been for his instructor, he's happy to be here.

He also enjoys working in the maintenance department where he said he and his staff take a lot of pride into making CCH look its best and run at its best, too.

"It is a very rewarding place to work," he said.

For more information on Swanson or the maintenance department at CCH, visit www.columbushosp.org.