

# THE Importance of Caring

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my journey into health care



## Joan Bright

CHARGE HOUSEKEEPER

Joan Bright thanks the United States Navy for the success she has found as a charge housekeeper with Columbus Community Hospital.

**“Most of the jobs I’ve had throughout my life have had some component of cleaning to them,”** she said. **“When I was in the U.S. Navy, I served as a weather person, but everyone had to chip in doing various jobs all the time.”**

During her time in the Navy, Bright was assigned to her duty station, where she would help clean the kitchen and wash the dishes. She also cleaned the living quarters and prepared them for inspections. **“I would then go to my regular job, where there was always something to clean,”** said Bright. **“It was a lot of attention to detail, which the Navy helped me learn, and which greatly benefits my job today.”**

After she left the service, Bright was a stay-at-home mom while her husband continued serving in the United States Marine Corp. Bright and her family returned to the Columbus area, where she joined the family cleaning business. **“Cleaning is my thing — I really enjoy it,”** she said.

Once Bright saw a cleaning position become available at CCH, she knew she wanted the job and decided to apply.

**“For me, my job is cleaning, but working as a housekeeper for the hospital feels like my job means more,”** she said. **“It means I get to help people. I’m not a doctor or a nurse, but I’m able to help people by cleaning, sterilizing and making the hospital look nice for our patients and families while they are here.”**

As a float housekeeper, Bright is responsible for cleaning various areas of the hospital, depending on the need for that day. **“One day, I could be cleaning our clinics, and the next, I could be in the OR cleaning and preparing for surgeries,”** she said. **Ultimately, our job is to make sure everything is cleaned and disinfected, so we don’t have patients getting infected while they are here recovering.”**

Bright is thankful for the support she has received from CCH over the years. **“I like to bring up suggestions, and they always make sure I have the supplies I need to do my job efficiently and effectively,”** she said. **“The hospital**

**also likes to provide opportunities for personal growth. They know I have leadership skills and like to put those to use when they can.”**

**“I encourage anyone interested in a career in health care to go for it,”** she said. **“It’s a great place to work, and the people are wonderful.”**

To learn more about job opportunities at CCH, visit [columbushosp.org](http://columbushosp.org).