

THE Importance of Caring

MAY 2020

my journey into health care



Cheryl Griffiths

DIRECTOR, HOUSEKEEPING/LINEN

Cheryl Griffiths started working at Columbus Community Hospital in 2003 and has been a vital part of the hospital's housekeeping department ever since.

Before coming to work at the hospital, Griffiths had worked in a factory for 13 years and she wanted a change.

"I knew I did not want to do factory work the rest of my life so when an opening for a housekeeper became available, I applied for it and was hired on," she said.

Griffiths served as a float housekeeper for her first couple of years at the hospital before moving into a supervisor position. She served as supervisor of the department for almost 14 years before becoming the director of housekeeping/linen about seven months ago.

As director of housekeeping/linen, Griffiths is responsible for ordering supplies for the housekeeping and linen departments, putting supplies away, answering questions about the departments, providing staff with the proper tools and equipment they need to clean their areas, interviewing and hiring staff, doing white glove testing throughout the hospital, and more.

For example, one new task that has come with Griffiths' director position is learning

how to budget for more equipment and employees as the hospital grows.

"A typical day for me is about making sure we have staff to cover all areas of the hospital and the off-sites and if we do not, we work together as a team to get the job done," she said.

Griffiths said she has been very supported in this work by the hospital which has given her the opportunity to attend a leadership class and conferences that help her in her position. She has also been able to attend seminars about equipment and chemicals to keep the hospital up-to-date on the latest housekeeping and linen products.

Along with having the support of the hospital's leadership, Griffiths said she has the support of her co-workers as well.

"No matter what your job or what your title is, no two days are alike. You get to meet new people every day and the people you work with are friendly and supportive. They are like family here," she said.

Griffiths hadn't always planned on going into health care, but she's glad she found a job in the field. Once Griffiths started working at CCH, the only other career she briefly considered was another job in health care.

"If I did not become the supervisor for the department, I would have gone to school and taken classes for a certified nursing assistant license," she said. **"Working here at the hospital is a rewarding job. Knowing that you can make a difference in someone's life is very satisfying."**

For more information on Griffiths or CCH's commitment to maintaining a high-quality facility, visit www.columbushosp.org.