

THE Importance of Caring

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my journey into nursing



Dustin Hill, MSN, RN

SERVICE LINE COORDINATOR -
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Dustin Hill, MSN, RN, was practically destined for a career in health care.

He was surrounded by health care workers his entire life. His grandmother was a licensed practical nurse for many years and his mother, brother and sister are all registered nurse anesthetists.

Hill started his own health care career in 1998 when he became a certified nursing aide at Mosaic. Four years later, a nurse there recommended that he become a nurse himself. At the time, Mosaic was offering a full ride scholarship to two staff members who were interested in applying to nursing school. Hill applied and was accepted.

“I told myself, ‘Well, I guess I’m going to nursing school.’ The rest is history,” he said.

Hill became a licensed practical nurse and spent five years working with people with developmental disabilities in a long-term care setting. After receiving his associate degree and becoming a registered nurse, Hill started working at Columbus Community Hospital in the acute care unit in 2009.

He went on to complete his Bachelor of Science in nursing degree in 2017

and then a Master of Science degree in nursing in 2019. Hill left CCH in February 2019 to pursue a director of nursing position at Genoa Community Hospital, but he returned to CCH in May 2020 to become service line coordinator in the education department.

In this position, Hill is involved in nurse orientation, nurse residency and nurse preceptor programs. He is also getting more involved in the Simulation Lab with guidance from the lab’s staff. On a typical day, Hill corresponds with, plans and does scheduling with his education department peers, and provides education on various topics.

Though Hill is happy in his position, it’s not where he expected to end up. While he was pursuing his bachelor’s degree in nursing, Hill had every intention of applying to an anesthesia program and becoming a certified registered nurse anesthetist like so many members of his family. But two weeks prior to applying, Hill changed his mind and decided to apply to the Master of Nursing program at Nebraska Wesleyan University with an emphasis in management, leadership and entrepreneurship.

“Upon completion of my graduate degree, I found myself having an increased interest in nurse mentoring and education,” Hill said. **“CCH has**

provided me with the perfect position to pursue these interests. I now have the perfect platform to train new nurses and share what I have learned over the years. Nursing is a very progressive career, so I am always learning as well.”

Along with providing opportunities for continued growth, nursing and all health care careers also offer plenty of variety. That’s one of the reasons Hill recommends people pursue careers in the field.

“Health care careers are very diverse, so navigate where your passion or passions really lie and actively pursue them,” he said.

Throughout his own diverse nursing career, Hill said he’s been very supported by CCH and he is happy to work here.

“There hasn’t been a single day that has gone by where I didn’t feel supported at CCH. From fiscal support to professional advice and guidance, the staff at CCH have always been there for me and each other. We are truly a family,” he said.

For more information on Hill or the variety of nursing opportunities available at CCH, visit www.columbushosp.org.