

THE Importance of Caring

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my journey into nursing



Becky Rother, RN, BSN

NURSE CASE MANAGER

Becky Rother, RN, BSN, has her aunts to thank for her career in health care.

Growing up, two of Rother's aunts were nurses and Rother was always intrigued by their stories about their work. So, after high school and one year of general education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Rother decided to follow in their footsteps and become a nurse.

She was drawn to the work because of what she'd heard from her aunts and because of the diversity a career in nursing can provide.

"It was appealing to me that as a nurse there are a variety of different working environments one can choose to work in, from clinics to hospitals to skilled nursing facilities and many more," Rother said.

Over the years, Rother has experienced this diversity herself as her nursing career has taken her to several different hospitals and care settings, and allowed her to work in many different positions.

While she was attending nursing school at the University of Nebraska Medical Center at Kearney, Rother worked as a certified nursing assistant and certified

medical assistant at a skilled nursing facility. Then, after graduation, she worked at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney before spending four years at the cardiac acute unit at Methodist Hospital in Omaha.

Rother started working at Columbus Community Hospital in 2005 in the emergency department and since then she has been able to serve in multiple roles at CCH.

Today, Rother is a nurse case manager in the transitional care department as well as the primary nurse case manager for CCH's Surge Center, a program for joint replacement patients.

In her role as case manager in the transitional care department – a position she started in seven years ago – Rother handles discharge planning for patients throughout the hospital. She keeps patients informed about their plan of care and coordinates with patients' physicians, physical and occupational therapists, nurses and more to make sure a consistent discharge plan is communicated to patients and their families. She also does insurance authorization and ensures the hospital is following Medicare/Medicaid rules and regulations.

Through her work in the Surge Center, Rother works with joint replacement patients both before and after their surgeries. She calls them before surgery to make sure they have a discharge plan in place, teaches pre- and post-op classes when needed, and helps schedule therapy and follow-up appointments as necessary.

Rother appreciates that these positions afford her plenty of variety in her work.

"As a case manager I feel I have had the opportunity to see how the hospital operates as a whole and it is quite interesting," she said. **"I truly enjoy my job and feel like I learn something new almost every day. It is nice that as a nurse there are so many different jobs available. If you enjoy working with people and caring for others it is a great choice as a career."**

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