

ONE TEAM.....

INSIDE

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S

LIVING YOUR
*LINE OF
SIGHT*

.....
A Look into Our Work

Join the
Club

FIND THE EMPLOYEE
RESOURCE GROUP FOR YOU

Lacing Up
FOR THE
MARATHON

*Making Every Step
More Meaningful*



One Team Inside Nationwide Children's Hospital celebrates our employees, medical staff and volunteers, together with their families, as one team achieving the best outcomes for children everywhere.



COVER STORY

18 LIVING YOUR
LINE OF SIGHT
A Look into Our Work

One Team Inside Nationwide Children's Hospital is the official employee magazine of Nationwide Children's Hospital. This magazine publishes four times per year and is mailed directly to the homes of all Nationwide Children's employees. The One Team Inside Nationwide Children's Hospital editorial staff welcomes all comments, questions and story ideas. Please send feedback to EverythingMatters@NationwideChildrens.org.



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**FREE
POSTER**

We Want Your Submissions!



Do you have a story to share? We're always collecting story ideas for future issues of *Inside Nationwide Children's*. If you share an idea, you'll receive the gift of an exclusive Nationwide Children's logo item.

From our last issue: Many thanks to all who shared their family tree connections, like Christine Clearly (pictured right) who works here with her niece, Tiffany Roberts (pictured left), both in Patient Accounts.

Please send your stories to
EverythingMatters@NationwideChildrens.org



“*the reasons why our One Team values matter...*”



Dr. Steve Allen

Every person at Nationwide Children's Hospital plays a role in the Journey to Best Outcomes. It's what we mean when we talk about our "One Team" values.

The feature story of this issue (page 18) highlights how three staff members contribute to our mission during their work days. Whether that means providing speech therapy to a patient, helping new care coordinators learn their jobs, maintaining a comfortable outdoor environment for our families or the countless other duties performed here, we are all making a difference in the lives of children.

The good work we do extends outside of our hospital jobs as well. The Nationwide Children's Hospital Columbus Marathon & ½ Marathon is on October 15, and you can read in these pages about employees who have special connections to the race – including two whose children are Patient Champions this year.

Those Patient Champions, and other children like them, are the reasons why our One Team values matter.

Steve Allen, MD

 **Be an Advocate**

Join the conversation on any of the Nationwide Children's social media channels:

 [Facebook.com/NationwideChildrensHospital](https://www.facebook.com/NationwideChildrensHospital)

 [Twitter.com/NationwideKids](https://twitter.com/NationwideKids)

 [Instagram.com/NationwideKids](https://www.instagram.com/NationwideKids)

 [YouTube.com/NationwideChildrens](https://www.youtube.com/NationwideChildrens)

 [NationwideChildrensHospital.Tumblr.com](https://www.tumblr.com/NationwideChildrensHospital)

 [Blog: 700Childrens.NationwideChildrens.org](http://Blog:700Childrens.NationwideChildrens.org)

 [Blog: PediatricsNationwide.org](http://Blog:PediatricsNationwide.org)

 [Facebook.com/NationwideChildrensHospitalFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/NationwideChildrensHospitalFoundation)



Tumblr Extra

“I have four kids myself. I really love kids, and I come from a family of 11. I'm the youngest. This is a great place to be. You see the beauty of medicine in pediatrics.”

Seth, Physician Assistant



Read Seth's story and many others at [NationwideChildrensHospital.Tumblr.com](https://www.tumblr.com/NationwideChildrensHospital)

Char Catt

A Name in Nursing: More than Four Decades of Service



Char Catt in her office

Forty-three years. That's how long **Char Catt** has been part of Nationwide Children's Hospital, beginning her career here as a staff nurse in 1974. After serving as a nurse for patients with gastrointestinal, renal and endocrine diagnoses, Char became a nurse manager. Her other roles included nursing director, vice president for critical care, NICU and hematology/oncology. Currently, she serves as vice president of Clinical Services including inpatient medical units, Pastoral Care, Family and Volunteer Services, Respiratory Care and Nursing Informatics.

As she retires at the end of this year, we celebrate Char and the hard work and time she's dedicated to Nationwide Children's over the past four decades. We learned about some of her favorite things, proudest moments and greatest accomplishments.

If I'm not at my desk/unit, you can probably find me...

Walking to or from meetings – getting my steps in! Or rounding on the units. I really miss patient contact and rounding gives me the opportunity to interface with patients. If I am having a stressful day I like to get out and walk around, almost always see kids smiling and laughing and suddenly I feel better too.

Why did you choose to pursue your work at Nationwide Children's?

I always wanted to be a pediatric nurse because I love kids. After graduating from OSU, I came here with the intent of staying two years and then hoped to move to Boston and work at Boston Children's. I had some health issues that kept me here and now couldn't imagine working anywhere else.

Are you involved in any community or volunteer work? Why?

My church community is very important to me and many volunteer activities center on it. I also volunteer when I can for an organization called "Run The Race," an organization that supports children and teens in the Hilltop area of Columbus.

What is your greatest achievement/biggest accomplishment?

The establishment of Nursing Informatics as a distinct discipline here at Nationwide Children's. I was the nursing lead for the first version of the electronic medical record back in 1994. Nursing Informatics is such a growing area, and now we have five staff devoted to this aspect of clinical care.

What is your proudest moment?

My two boys make me proud every day! From a work perspective – successfully moving patients into the "new hospital" five years ago without a hitch and we had fun doing it. ■

About Char

Three words that best describe me would be...?

Empathetic, honest, caring

Favorite Cafeteria meal?

White chicken chili with lots of cheese and sour cream

Favorite movie?

Funny Girl, saw it nine times back in the 70s

At Clementine's, I most often order...?

Plain old large coffee

Favorite way to relax?

Hiking in the mountains when I can or reading a good book

Where would you most like to travel?

Europe. I already have a river boat cruise down the Danube booked for my retirement

For many years, Char has served as editor of *In Patient Care*. This quarterly publication is sent to our Clinical Operations staff and features great information about our clinical programs, research findings and more.

To read past issues, visit NationwideChildrens.org/In-Patient-Care.



Keeping Kids Active: The End Goal

Westerville Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center



Todd Degenhart has been a physical therapist here for 13 years.

Quick Facts:

- **Location:** 584 County Line Road West, Westerville, Ohio 43082
- **Opened:** 2007
- **No. of Employees:** 120 staff members
- **Services Offered:** Sports Medicine Clinic, Orthopedic Clinic, Nutrition Services, Sports Physical Therapy and Functional Rehab

Stroll into the Westerville Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center. Take a quick left and ride the elevator up to the second floor – you’ll find a most unique space in the Nationwide Children’s Hospital system.

“I LOVE TO WATCH KIDS GET OFF THE ELEVATOR WHEN THEY SEE THE SPACE FOR THE FIRST TIME,” SAYS LISA KLUCHUROSKY, SERVICE LINE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE SPORTS MEDICINE PROGRAM. “THEY’RE USED TO GOING TO THE DOCTOR’S OFFICE AND BELIEVE ME, THIS ISN’T A USUAL SIGHT.”

Engineering, planning and administrators began with the end in mind when building the first sports medicine center at Nationwide Children’s in 2007. The end goal: Get kids back on the field, back on the court and back to being the athletes and functional kids they should be. As the architects went to the drawing board, they envisioned a space that felt like a gymnasium. That felt like “we could kick balls, throw baseballs, run and have our patients do functional things... without breaking any lights.”

There was no precedent to build and design it the way they did – and in fact when it was built was one of only four like it in the country and the first in Ohio solely devoted to providing sports medicine and orthopedic care to student athletes. But it’s worked and it’s grown.



Tom Pommering, DO and Lisa Kluchurosky

“WHEN SPORTS MEDICINE FIRST STARTED IT WAS ME, DR. POMMERING (HALF-DAY A WEEK) AND A PART-TIME SECRETARY,” SAYS LISA. “NOW IT’S OVER 70 STAFF IN THE DEPARTMENT, AND MORE THAN THAT TO INCLUDE ALL OF THE REGISTRATION STAFF, RADIOLOGY STAFF, PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AND STAFF IN ORTHOPEDICS.”



Bonita Cherry, Jean Merezicky and Christa Will

The staff at Westerville Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center’s registration desk sit in front of a wall of framed jerseys, sports memorabilia and team photos. They shared how important it is to have a great environment to train in and recuperate in, because they’ve seen firsthand the physical and emotional benefits of training in a facility that feels like what the kids are trying to get back to. The goal of getting back on the court or back to full movement is staring them right in the face. And that’s motivational.

Lisa, who exudes passion for the student athletes just in speaking about them, says, “The neat thing about what we do is we rehab kids next to other kids. Instead of being next to a 70-year-old getting rehab for a knee replacement, it’s kids next to kids. There’s an unseen benefit there.”

The team at the Westerville Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center has helped many student-athletes get back to their sports, activities and lives. In fact, in 2016 the site saw roughly 29,000 patients. “We strive to provide outstanding services to all of our patients as well as to the community at large,” **David Koo**, site director, shares. “We incorporate wellness initiatives, in addition to treating injuries, and are active in community outreach efforts.” ✦



Learn more about this Nationwide Children’s Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center:
NationwideChildrens.org/Westerville-Sports-Medicine

Doing the Right Thing: Upholding Our Guiding Principles

Wendy Charles, ISN Nurse, Homecare

Nationwide Children's Hospital's mission is to provide the highest quality care to all patients, and our guiding principles are integral to that mission. Wendy Charles, a nurse at Nationwide Children's for five years, is no stranger to our principle of "Do the Right Thing."

Wendy received a Service From the Heart Award for her quick thinking to do the right thing for a patient in need. Here's what Wendy had to say:

"I was dropping off labs at the Dublin *Close To Home*SM, and that urgent care had been closed down temporarily. I heard a kid not breathing normally. I turned around and saw parents holding a child, probably about two years old."

Wendy took time to speak with the family and learned that their child had been sent by their pediatrician for an X-ray.

Knowing the urgent care was closed and tracking the child's breathing, Wendy, very concerned, called the child's pediatrician. The call resulted in the family being referred to the hospital to be treated for pneumonia. Thanks to Wendy's quick thinking, the patient received the treatment he needed.

Wendy recently transitioned to a role as Care Coordinator (she received her award in her ISN Homecare position), and she loves the patient education piece of health care and enjoys working with children. She's a mom to three boys herself! ■



Tumblr Extra

"The best way to describe my work is I'm in search of answers for rare diseases – both figuring out the cause and treatments. Outside of work, a lot of the stuff I do revolves around my children. They're now off to university so I'm trying to find something to fill my time. They're both in music. I picked up the violin just in the last month or so. I've never played much of anything in the past... Everyone has a guitar when they're in high school, right? So that was my experience. Watching my children, I thought, let's try it. I'm going to the same teacher they had for violin."

Dr. Kim McBride, Chief of Clinical Genetics

“CHILDREN ARE SO INNOCENT AND RESILIENT,” SAYS WENDY. “THEY HAVE A SMILE ON THEIR FACE WHEN THEY’RE THE SICKEST. I LOVE HELPING PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY KIDS AND THEIR FAMILIES.”



Visit [ANCHOR > Employee Activities](#) for more Service From the Heart winners, Employees and Volunteers of the Month and more.



Read Dr. McBride's story and many others at NationwideChildrensHospital.Tumblr.com

Lacing Up for the Nationwide Children's Hospital Columbus Marathon



Joseph Iozzi is a Patient Champion at Mile 14



Joseph Iozzi and Michael Iozzi

Michael Iozzi
 Manager, Information Security and Risk

Michael started working in Information Services the same week that his son Joseph was discharged from Nationwide Children's Hospital after an eight-month stay. Joseph was a micro-preemie, born at 24 weeks gestation – and Michael reports that Joseph is now a giggly, goofy 4-year-old. This year, Joseph was chosen as a Patient Champion for the race.

“YOU SHOULD COME OUT AND CHEER BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW WHO YOU ARE CHEERING ON AS THEY RUN BY AND WHAT IMPACT NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S HAS HAD (OR WILL HAVE) ON THEIR LIFE,” SAYS MICHAEL. “THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO SHOW THE COMMUNITY WHO WE ARE AND HOW MUCH WE APPRECIATE THEIR SUPPORT.”

From a parent to a Nationwide Children's staff member, Michael will be cheering loudly for the athletes from the sidelines!



Vickey Smeltzer's daughter Isabel is a Patient Champion at Mile 8

Vicky Smeltzer
 Clinical Nurse Leader, Emergency Department

“This race is special because it's for the kids. Helping children understand just how many people love and support them is paramount in the success stories of every child impacted by these various diseases,” says Vicky. “Just like my daughter, Isabel.” Isabel, who is 13 years old, has experienced 65 broken bones – she has Osteogenesis Imperfecta Type IV, or brittle bones disease. And she'll be cheering the runners at the Hospital Mile on the corner of Livingston and Parsons Avenue. “We can't wait to stand on the sidelines with Isabel and be a part of such an amazing event.” Between working in the Emergency Department and attending treatments and appointments with Isabel at the hospital, this family has a special bond with Nationwide Children's.



Children's Champions fundraise for the hospital and dedicate their race to the kids helped by our incredible institution. Say hello to two Nationwide Children's runners tackling the full marathon as Children's Champions this year.

Emily Harpur
 Behavioral Health Therapist, Eating Disorders Clinic

“This will be my first year running as a Children's Champion and completing the full marathon,” says Emily. “Our team is running for a girl named Madelyn, one of our co-worker's daughters who was born with CDKL5, a rare genetic disorder.” Emily needs you to come to the Hospital Mile, not only to experience the people cheering, the bands playing and the supportive atmosphere, but because “I know I could use extra support to finish my first marathon!”

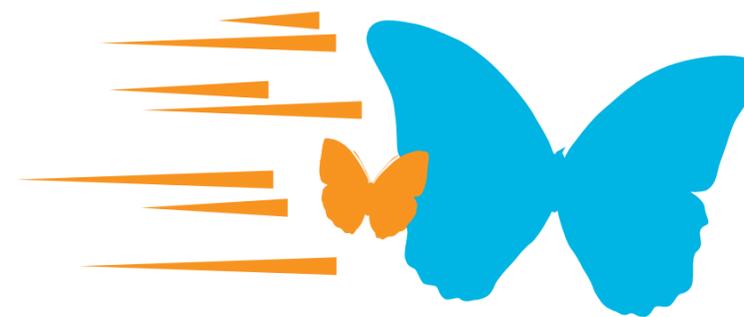
Kaci Gundin
 Nurse, H5A

This runner at heart has participated in the race six times. But for her seventh time, Kaci decided to make it extra special by becoming a Children's Champion. Kaci will be running 26.2 miles – go Kaci! ■

“EACH TIME I RUN THE RACE AND I SEE EACH KID AT EVERY MILE I AM REMINDED THAT WE CAN ALL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOME WAY,” SAYS KACI. “WITH EVERY STEP, WE ARE CLOSER TO HELPING THESE KIDS GET BETTER AND GO HOME WITH THEIR FAMILIES.”

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
COLUMBUS MARATHON

10.15.2017



Meet Our Mile Patient Champions

On Sunday, October 15, Patient Champions will line the course to cheer on runners and walkers throughout the marathon. There are twenty-four individual Patient Champions, one Angel Mile for all those children who have already run their race, and one Encore Mile with all the 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 Patient Champions. These kids represent all of the patients and families who have been cared for by Nationwide Children's.

To learn more about our Patient Champions, please visit NationwideChildrens.org/Marathon.



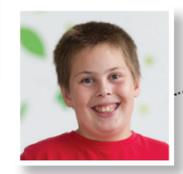
Age: 11



Amelia
Stage IV Neuroblastoma
Age: 7



Ally
Cleft Lip and Palate
Age: 9



Deacon
Hypoplastic Left Heart
Syndrome (HLHS)
Age: 11



Izzy
Down Syndrome
Age: 6



Joshua
Extreme Prematurity
Age: 4



Allie
Enlarged Tonsils
and Adenoids
Age: 6



Bella
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome
and Polymicrogyria
Age: 7



William
Non-Hodgkin's
Lymphoma – Diffuse
Large B Cell
Age: 16



Sawyer
Autism Spectrum Disorder
Age: 8



Olivia
Bilateral Hearing Loss and
Necrotizing Enterocolitis (NEC)
Age: 9



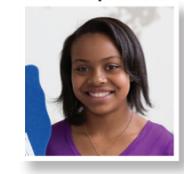
Halle
Down Syndrome, Atrioventricular
Septal Defect (AVSD)
Age: 13



Isabel
Osteogenesis Imperfecta
Age: 13



Carson
Cerebral Palsy
Age: 7



Mya
Atypical Septic Shock,
Supraventricular
Tachycardia (SVT)
Age: 15



Trevan
Hypoplastic Left Heart
Syndrome (HLHS)
Age: 4



Kyla
Tetralogy of Fallot,
Type 1 Diabetes
Age: 12



Bo
Short Bowel Syndrome
Age: 6

KEY

1 Mile Marker



Start/Finish

Route

Watch for Dispatch Race Guide

Look for the special race guide in the October 15 edition of the Columbus Dispatch. The special 32-page insert will highlight our Patient Champions, Children's Champion fundraisers and sponsors, as well as race day information.



Cheer On and Thank Athletes at Children's Corner

Join us at the corner of Livingston and Parsons from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 15 at Children's Corner, the official watch party for the Nationwide Children's Hospital Columbus Marathon and 1/2 Marathon.

Located between miles eight and nine, Children's Corner offers convenient parking in Livingston Garage, easy access to restrooms and treats from Panera, and one of the best spots to watch and cheer at this year's event.



LIVING
YOUR
*LINE OF
SIGHT*

What do you like about working at Nationwide Children's Hospital? There tends to be a common theme when we ask this question to our various staff: The mission and purpose of the hospital, which is to help kids everywhere. And what's behind that mission? Passion.

The passion we inject into our work, no matter the role at the hospital, showcases skills and talent as a staff of more than 12,000 strong.

To highlight that passion, we're giving you an insider's look into the day of three Nationwide Children's employees. These three individuals have very different roles, but their passion and purpose is clear day in and day out.



Val Pitaluga, Ali Hillard and Andie Todd consult with each other regarding different therapies.



Val Pitaluga (Almost Three Years at Nationwide Children's)
Speech-Language Pathologist, Speech Therapy at Hilliard *Close To Home*™ Center

Line of Sight: Clinically, I evaluate and treat patients with speech and language delays.

Val Pitaluga has known she's wanted to work with kids since she was very young. Born in Venezuela, she is bilingual. "A lot of my population is Spanish speaking," says Val. "At least 50 percent of my case load is culturally or linguistically diverse." She loves the challenge of how each child is different and there's no set way to teach something to every child since they learn differently. "It's a different puzzle with each patient," she says. "How are you going to put the pieces together to see what works?"



Bobby Heise (18 Years at Nationwide Children's)
Groundskeeper, Landscape Services/Engineering

Line of Sight: Providing a safe, clean and pleasing atmosphere. I look at it as putting a smile on the face of the hospital.

If you enter the hospital near the Outpatient Care Center or Education Building, there's a good chance you've seen Bobby working tirelessly to clean, maintain and beautify the outdoor spaces around our main campus. "I appreciate the opportunity to serve families and the kids," says Bobby. "I love kids. I'm like the unofficial patient greeter. Even though I'm not involved with direct patient care, I get to interact with families."

Val arrives to work. She works four 10-hour days per week. She'll hit the ground running with a speech therapy patient. "When a patient has a treatment, we follow the treatment plan and work on goals," says Val.

7:30
A.M.

"EITHER HAVE BACK-TO-BACK PATIENTS OR ONE EVALUATION," SAYS VAL. "AN EVALUATION IS A PATIENT NOT KNOWN OR NEW TO ME. THE PATIENT'S PARENTS, TEACHER OR DOCTOR HAS A SPEECH OR LANGUAGE CONCERN, SO WE DO A PARENT INTERVIEW TO FIND OUT THE CONCERNS AND THEN I HAVE THE PATIENT ONE-ON-ONE."

Document the morning's patient treatment sessions.

8:00
A.M.



9:30
A.M.

10:00
A.M. Back-to-back patient care sessions. Sessions usually last 30 minutes, but can sometimes be an hour.

12:00
P.M.

Lunch break



1:00
P.M.

Back-to-back patient care sessions.

3:30
P.M.

Document the afternoon's patient treatment sessions.

Back-to-back patient care sessions. There are two groups Val runs that might fall in this time frame, too. "One is SMART, which stands for Sensorimotor Affect and Relationship-based Therapy," says Val.

4:00
P.M.



6:00
P.M.

Val leaves work.



5:30
A.M.

Bobby arrives to work. During the early morning hours, Bobby works largely on cleaning initiatives. This starts with sweeping entrances and cleaning the parking garages.

8:30
A.M.

Team meeting in the breakroom area in the basement of the Orange Parking Garage. **"WE MEET EACH DAY AT 8:30 A.M. TO DISCUSS NOT ONLY THE DAILY GOALS BUT UPCOMING EVENTS AND MAKE CONSIDERATIONS."**

9:00
A.M.

After a brief meeting, Bobby (and team) heads off to landscape duties.

"THAT MEETING WILL FILL OUT THE REST OF OUR DAY," HE SAYS. "WE HAVE TO BE AWARE KNOWING HOW THE SPACES ARE USED, WE HAVE TO BE ATTENTIVE AND FLEXIBLE. OUR DUTIES ARE LARGELY ROUTINE BUT WE HAVE TO BE FLEXIBLE."

Duties include mowing, working on flower bed spaces, cleaning of garages and stairwells and street itself, snow removal in the winter, pruning, weeding and taking care of trees.



11:30
A.M.

Break for food **"I'M TAKING LUNCH AND LOOKING OUT ON THE HALLWAY AT MY SPACE," SAYS BOBBY. "IT'S NOT UNUSUAL FOR ME TO DO THAT ON BREAK TIME AND FEEL THE SPACE. EXPERIENCE IT AND TALK TO FOLKS AS THEY ARE HAVING LUNCH AND SEE HOW THEY FEEL. I LIKE TO KEEP THE PLANT MATERIAL INTERESTING AND DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT EACH YEAR. IT HELPS THEM THINK ABOUT HOW THEY CARE FOR THEIR HOMES."**

12:00
P.M.



2:00
P.M.

Continuing landscape duties. "So much of our deal is seasonal – a large spring planting, an autumn planting," Bobby shares. "Our winterscape is very important. I think of it as urban forestry. It's important to create interest as a measure of comfort but to be aesthetically pleasing and to have less of an institutional feel. That's a big part of the comfort."

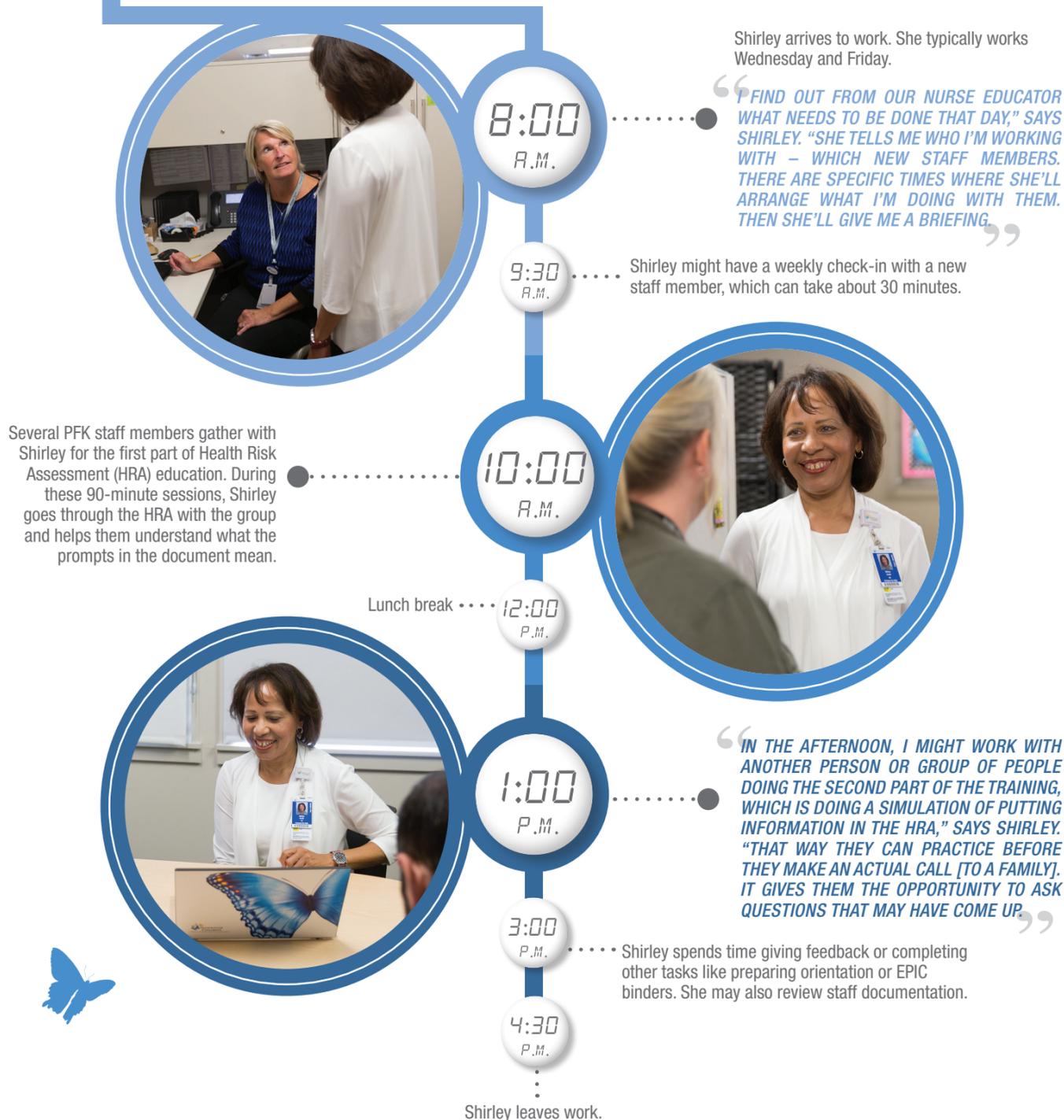
Bobby leaves work.



Shirley Smith (Five Years at Nationwide Children's)
RN Care Coordinator, Partners For Kids

Line of Sight: I'm in a position to influence people to have a perspective of our population... to engage them in a partnership relationship to work toward improving the health outcomes of our patients.

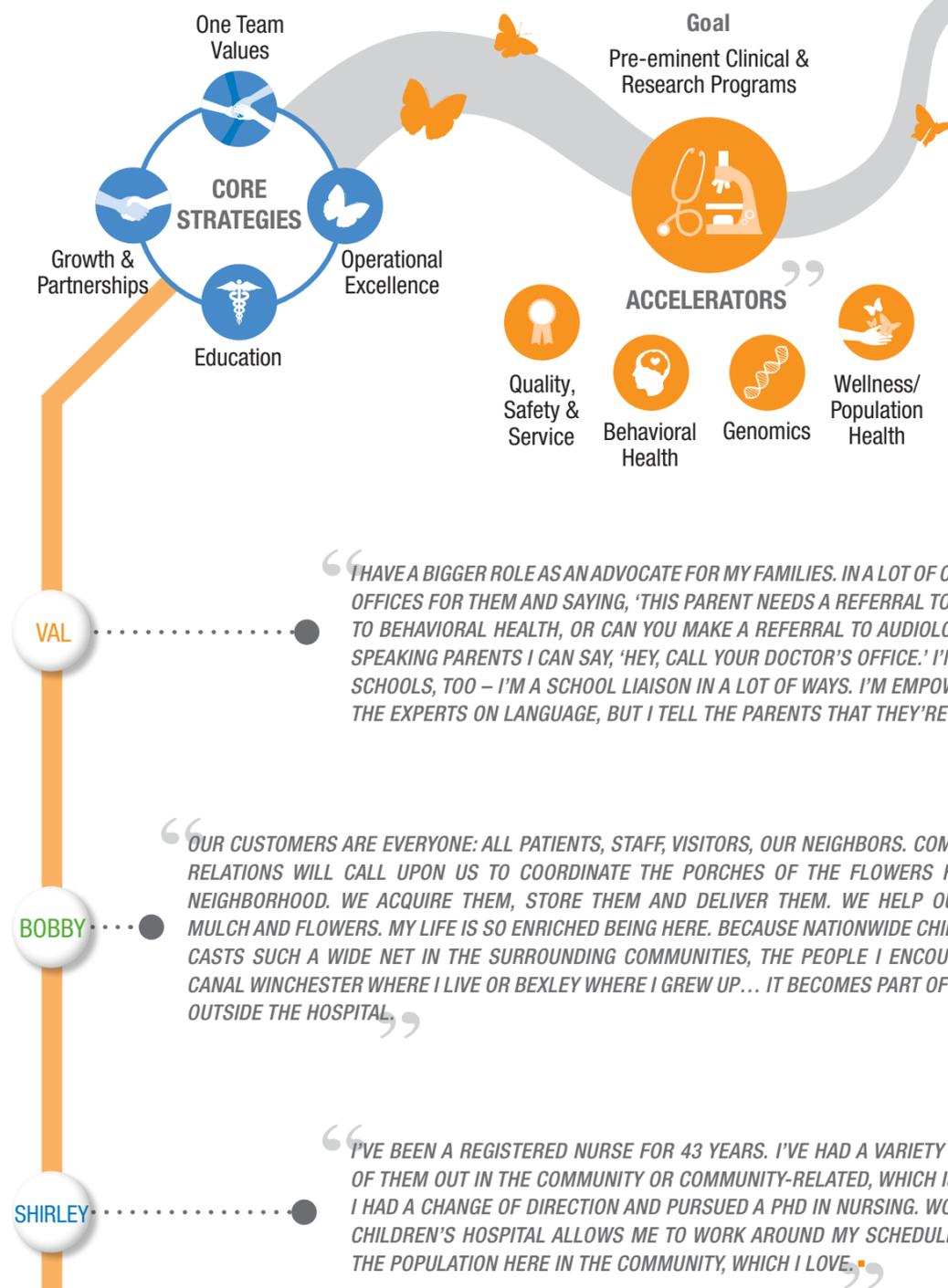
Shirley has a vital job as part of the hospital's Partners For Kids (PFK) team: She helps the care coordination team learn their roles. "In EPIC, there is a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) document that they complete," says Shirley. "That's how the team identifies what the needs are for that child and family."



Passion that Perseveres Beyond Our Walls

Val, Bobby and Shirley share how their jobs at Nationwide Children's Hospital connect them to the community

 vision
Best Outcomes
for Kids Everywhere



The Pursuit of the Edge

Bringing Genomics to the Forefront



Catherine Cottrell, PhD, FACMG has never been afraid of the cutting edge. One of the first integrated biomedical sciences students in her graduate program at The Ohio State University, she completed her PhD and clinical fellowship at Nationwide Children's. She became medical director at the first academic clinical lab to validate and offer tumor somatic profiling while at Washington University School of Medicine in Saint Louis.

“I RETURNED TO NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S BECAUSE THE HOSPITAL HAD GREAT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SETTING OF PEDIATRIC CLINICAL RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TESTING,” SAYS DR. COTTRELL. “AS AN INSTITUTION, NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S EMPHASIZED GENOMICS AND COMMITTED A LOT OF RESOURCES TO BRING EXPERTS HERE AND SUPPORT THE CLINICAL APPLICATION OF GENOMIC STUDIES.”

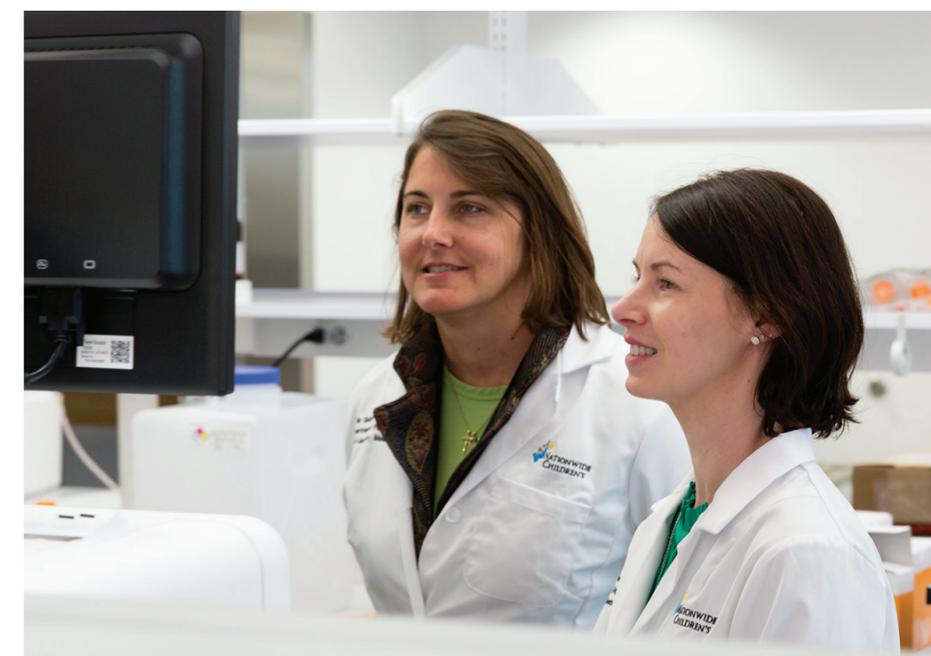
Since 2016, Dr. Cottrell has worked as a clinical director of the Institute for Genomic Medicine. She uses whole exome sequencing, WES for short, to guide patient diagnosis and management.

“WES is a tool that examines the sequence of expressed genes, those which can code for protein, with the aim of detecting genetic variation. Certain variants are associated with genetic diseases, and discovery of those variants can clarify or provide a diagnosis for a patient,” says Dr. Cottrell.

After running a patient's exome data, she and the experts in the Institute for Genomic Medicine (IGM) set to work researching each variant and analyzing potential diseases associated with those variations. The team identifies and understands each variant, then reviews and discusses their findings in order to draft and refine a clinical report. On average, a patient's exome sequence might have hundreds of genetic changes, including those representing normal variation, as well as rare variants with varying amounts of medical understanding and the potential for disease association.

“Many of the patients who we sequence have had long diagnostic odysseys without answer to this point. It's almost like solving a medical mystery with every one of our patients. We know that our work directly impacts the patient and their family.”

The IGM Clinical Laboratory has received more than 100 patient exome orders in the eight months since WES was



Dr. Julie Gastier-Foster and Dr. Cottrell in the lab

offered as a clinical test in January 2017. Dr. Cottrell emphasizes that WES is a team approach with involvement and support of numerous colleagues in the IGM including senior leadership, clinical directors, genetic counselors, variant scientists and analysts, technologists, bioinformaticians and technology development specialists. The hospital is continuing to refine the best practices in sequencing for our patient population and are seeking to incorporate new approaches in sequencing technologies to support both the IGM and Nationwide Children's mission to provide high quality genomics as a clinical resource.

And it's on the cutting edge of pediatric medicine, where Dr. Cottrell is quite comfortable.



To see how genomics plays a part in our strategic plan, search **Strategic Plan** on **ANCHOR**.

Everyone Matters: Join the Club!



Did you know Nationwide Children's has a network of Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) that help impact our culture here at the hospital? Made up of members of all ages, positions and departments, here's a glimpse into the ERGs we offer.

CONNECT WITH US

Supporting professional development for those who identify as Black, African American, West Indian or of African descent.



“CONNECT WITH US CONNECTS WITH OUR HOSPITAL'S MISSION AND VALUES THROUGH OUR DIVERSE WORKFORCE AND COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING EXCELLENT SERVICE TO OUR PATIENT FAMILIES AND ONE ANOTHER.”

 **Winifred Payne, Chair of Connect With Us**

APAN (ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN NETWORK)

Networking and mentoring employees of Asian Pacific descent.

“WORKPLACE DIVERSITY FOSTERS MUTUAL RESPECT ALLOWING EMPLOYEES TO RECOGNIZE THE STRENGTH AND TALENTS OF EACH OTHER DESPITE THE DIFFERENCES IN CULTURE AND BACKGROUND.”

 **Wei Chen, Co-chair of APAN**

MILITARY & VETERANS

Implementing initiatives that offer meaningful support to faculty and staff who serve or have served in the Armed Forces.



“THE COMRADERY IS INFECTIOUS! WE HAVE MANY DIFFERENT PROJECTS, ALL DEVOTED TO GIVING BACK TO NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND THE COMMUNITY.”

 **Joseph Quackenbush, Chair of Military & Veterans**

¡HOLA!

Building awareness and community around Hispanic/Latino cultures.

“JOINING A GROUP LIKE THIS CREATES OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN SKILLS THAT CAN NEVER BE TAKEN AWAY FROM SOMEONE.”

 **Gilda Begly, Co-chair of ¡HOLA!**

ALL EQUAL

Empowering LGBTQ employees by increasing visibility of the community and acting as a safe space.



“[THE ALL EQUAL ERG] HAS GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADVOCATE FOR NOT ONLY LGBTQ EMPLOYEES, BUT OUR PATIENTS AS WELL.”

 **Jenna Merandi, Co-chair of All Equal**

L.E.A.D.

Providing professional development, mentoring and service avenues for young professionals and emerging leaders.

“AS I BECOME MORE CONFIDENT IN ONE SKILL, THAT LEADS TO CONFIDENCE IN OTHER AREAS.”

 **Sharice Minter, Co-chair of L.E.A.D.**



For more information about ERGs and how you can join, visit [ANCHOR](#) and search [Employee Resource Groups](#).



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ON THE SPOT



David Koo

*Site director of Westerville, Lewis Center
and Mansfield locations*

When: 3 p.m.

Where: Westerville Sports Medicine
and Orthopedic Center

There is no typical day in the life of a site director who oversees a number of Nationwide Children's locations spread throughout central Ohio. "I travel a few times a week for meetings, to walk through my facilities and to check in on my staff," says David. David, who has worked at Nationwide Children's for 12 years, sees his role as creating the environment where our clinical services can focus on providing the best quality care to our patients. His current position also allows him to be the representative for Nationwide Children's to the greater community. "I serve on a number of community boards and have been very active with local events and initiatives."

To nominate someone for "On the Spot," email EverythingMatters@NationwideChildrens.org