

NURSING

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MEDICAL CENTER

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Yeatman named VWCH chief nursing officer

Jeanne Yeatman, MBA, MOM, RN, CMTE, EMT, has been named interim chief nursing officer of Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital (VWCH). Yeatman succeeds Denise Boman, MBA, RN, who has been chief nursing officer and held executive responsibility for operations at the hospital since 2010. Vanderbilt University Medical Center acquired the facility from a subsidiary of Community Health Systems Inc. in August 2019.



Jeanne Yeatman, MBA,
MOM, RN, CMTE, EMT

Yeatman has more than 30 years of experience at VUMC. Her tenure began in 1989 as a patient care technician in the Emergency Department, a position she retained until graduating nursing school in 1990. She then became a graduate nurse within the department, progressing to charge nurse/shift leader. Her long association with Vanderbilt LifeFlight began when she started as a flight nurse in 1993, progressing to leader and administrator of the program.

"I'm honored to be asked to serve in this role, and I appreciate the

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I hope everyone is having a nice summer so far. Though we live in challenging times, there are still many things to celebrate at Vanderbilt.

In this issue, we highlight Jeanne Yeatman, who has just been named interim chief nursing officer at Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital (VWCH). Jeanne brings decades of experience to the position, and I offer my warmest congratulations. I would also like to extend my thanks to Denise Boman, who is leaving VWCH after 10 years as chief nursing officer. Denise has overseen

an important decade of growth at the hospital, and she will be missed.

Also in this issue, you can read about Cody Hamilton, a clinical staff leader on our adult COVID-19 unit. Cody joined me last month at Mayor John Cooper's news conference on COVID-19 and delivered an important message about his experience on the unit and the importance of wearing a mask in the community.

Enjoy this issue,

opportunity,” she said. “While LifeFlight has served community hospitals for more than 36 years, we’ve never had anyone on our team that has had this rare opportunity to be able to have a glimpse into how a community hospital operates. This will allow me to see the challenges that nursing faces in a community hospital setting and how we can capitalize on those challenges and provide better customer and patient service.”

In July, VWCH’s Emergency Department transitioned to become part of VUMC’s Department of Emergency Medicine, and VUMC recently invested nearly \$1 million to open a new ambulance base at the hospital, which included placing a Vanderbilt LifeFlight ambulance there.

“As we approach the one-year anniversary of VUMC’s ownership of Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital, we continue to have exciting plans for the hospital’s future that are being implemented in a coordinated manner. Jeanne is a talented and dedicated leader who will bring a wealth of experience to this role,” said C. Wright Pinson, MBA, MD, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Chief Health System Officer for VUMC. “As Jeanne succeeds Denise Boman, I want

to express my sincere appreciation to Denise for her guidance over the past year.”

“I am excited to welcome Jeanne to the team at VWCH,” said Jay Hinesley, MHA, president of VWCH. “She brings a wealth of experience as we continue to invest and grow to serve Wilson County and the Middle Tennessee region.”

While program director of LifeFlight, Yeatman grew the program 4-fold. She facilitated the purchase of three new American Eurocopter EC 145 aircraft, the first of their kind to be used by a hospital-based flight program in the United States.

Under her direction the program has grown to now have nine helicopters, an airplane for long-range transports and 14 ground ambulances. She also spearheaded a fundraising campaign to build the \$1.1 million original helipad at Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt in 2005.

“Jeanne has been a leader and innovator in nursing and emergency medicine services for three decades,” said Executive Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN. “Her expertise will be invaluable as we continue to grow in Wilson County.”



Denise Boman,
MBA, RN

During her 10-year tenure at the hospital, Boman achieved accreditation of the Chest Pain Center from the Society of Chest Pain Centers, among many other accreditations received. She was instrumental in improving the efficiency of the cardiology service line in collaboration with cardiologists. She helped oversee the construction of

a \$5 million surgery center project, keeping it on time and within budget. Recently, she oversaw the successful implementation of Epic at VWCH.

“Being part of a community hospital has enriched my daily life,” Boman said. “I have had the opportunity to promote quality and safety, leading to improved patient care while empowering our employees to recognize and reach their united and individual potential. I am proud of many accomplishments of our hospital, but mostly I am proud of our common goal of providing outstanding care for our community.”

“Denise has been a trusted advisor, a strong leader and a fierce advocate for our community,” Hinesley said. “She has had a tremendous impact on the hospital that will last for many years to come.”

COVID unit nurse speaks at Nashville mayor's news conference

Cody Hamilton, BSN, RN, was serious when he looked into the television camera at Nashville Mayor John Cooper's news conference on COVID-19 in July. Hamilton knows firsthand how serious the disease is. For most of the last four months he has worked 12-hour overnight shifts as an intensive care nurse on the adult COVID unit on the eighth floor of Medical Center East.

His message: If only people could see what he sees, they would wear a mask in public.

"I really wish there could be an opportunity for the average person to kind of do a drive by or be a fly on the wall in the unit, because I think you would reconsider wearing a mask as something that's difficult," he told people tuned into the live broadcast. "Because these patients are, without a doubt, the sickest patients any of us who have worked there have ever seen. As an ICU nurse, it's a physically, mentally and emotionally demanding job, but with COVID-19 patients, and the intensive care, it is really testing what is withstandable on the nursing end in these categories."

Hamilton had no notes in front of him. He was speaking from his heart.

"These patients, they don't recover quickly," he continued. "They stay very, very sick for a long time. And even once they battle and win against the virus, the residual effects often require longer periods of time in intensive care units to recover and rehab them from the damage done.

"Also, we have learned through research of how vital family is in intensive care units and having these patients recover. And these COVID-19 patients, they don't get to have fam-

ily there with them. We're the only interactions they get with people and oftentimes we are protecting ourselves, so the lack of touch, the lack of a familiar face or a familiar voice are all absent.

"Also, this virus has zero bias. Young people, old people, middle aged, it's affected them all and it's continuing to do so. So ultimately, I just encourage people to stay safe because, like I said, if you could really just be a fly on the wall in that unit, I think it would change people's minds."

In one minute and 50 seconds, Hamilton had distilled months of experience on the COVID unit. He was on the

unit when Vanderbilt had its first COVID patient in March and is now a clinical staff leader.

Hamilton, a native of Columbia, Tennessee, started at Vanderbilt as a care partner while studying for his Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Tennessee State University and became a nurse resident in 2017 after graduating. He became a member of a communicable disease response team, originally trained to deal with the Ebola outbreak.

Hamilton said the extraordinary team members on the COVID unit support each other.

"I don't think I can say enough good things about the team that I'm able to be a part of, honestly," he said. "It's the best team from top to bottom from physicians to nurse practitioners to nurses. Everybody is so hard-working. They're committed to each other. They're always trying to help each other out, keep each other's spirits high."



Cody Hamilton, BSN, RN

Nurse supports colleagues, one cup of coffee at a time

Erin Blatchford, BSN, RN, is a nurse in the float pool at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, which helps staff the pediatric COVID-19 unit. Because COVID-19 affects adults more than children, the unit has not been nearly as busy as the adult COVID unit at Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital.

That got her thinking about what she could do for her colleagues on the adult side COVID unit, on the eighth floor of Medical Center East (8MCE).

Blatchford was at Starbucks when the idea hit her. "It would be nice to buy a cup of coffee for them," she said. So, she did — for 100 of them.

She raised funds from the wider community over social media, bought 100 Starbucks gift cards worth \$5 each and created a poster board for the



Kim Hurt, left, the manager of the main adult COVID unit at Vanderbilt, 8MCE, accepts the donation of Starbucks gift cards from Erin Blatchford, a nurse in Children's Hospital who works with pediatric COVID patients.

unit inviting her adult-side colleagues to "have a cup on us."

Every gift card came with a handwritten note from the community thanking them for their efforts, Blatchford said, from coworkers and people in the community.

"I wanted to make sure that they knew that we appreciated

their efforts," she said.

Kim Hurt, MSN, RN, NE-BC, manager of 8MCE, said, "Staff really appreciated the handwritten words of support in addition to the gift cards. They were all so excited to be on the receiving end of such a kind gesture. I had a lot of fun passing them out as well!"



DAISY Foundation shout out

Two nurses at Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital (VWCH) got a shout out in The DAISY Foundation's email newsletter.

Laren Edwards, RN, coordinator for The DAISY Award at Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital, was recog-

nized for rounding each unit in the hospital and presenting pins to nominees. One of the nominees was pictured in the newsletter, Esther Lorenzo, RN, a nurse in the Emergency Department, left.