



Deb Arendt started at St. Joseph's hospital forty years ago. She started as an aide, then worked in long term care, and then transitioned into ward clerk. Deb is currently unit secretary for the Acute Rehabilitation Unit. She helps with progress notes, payroll for the acute rehab employees, helps therapists put charges in, organizes supplies, and coordinates admissions and discharges. Deb is also Certified Nurses Assistant so she helps out in patient rooms when needed.

"I see my job as a puzzle piece. The doctors, nurses, and myself are pieces of the puzzle, and when we come together we make a whole picture, and that picture is what the patients see," Deb explained.

Deb has a deep compassion for the patients in her unit. "I like getting the chance to talk to them. I can typically find patients that have the same interests as I do, and it creates a bond. Making time to talk to them is important."

Deb spends a great deal of her time working with therapists and making sure communication is continually open. "Deb is very consistent and steady in her work. You can relax when she's there because you know she will do her job and do it well," said Robin Honomichl Director of ARU. "Deb has a great ability to multitask and keeps track of everything going on around her which helps improve communication in our department. She goes above and beyond to communicate about patients to all members of the team. This contributes to patient safety and patient satisfaction."

"I like being around people. I really enjoy working and helping a day go smooth for everyone else. When I'm not here at the hospital, I miss it," Deb shared. "We miss her greatly whenever she's not around," Robin explained.

ORHC is grateful that for over forty years Deb has communicated our aim towards excellence.