



Cathy Durlfing is a Paramedic with ORMICS. Cathy's career with ORHC started 6 years ago working in the ICU with the goal of becoming a nurse practitioner. Two years ago she started with ORMICS while she continued going to school. Cathy will transition to a Nurse Practitioner in the ER next month. "I like working in the ER now as a Paramedic because it has prepared me for what I will see as a Nurse Practitioner," Cathy said.

Cathy's current role as paramedic includes assisting the ER with various tasks, driving the ambulance and responding to 911 calls, starting IV's, heart monitoring, administering medications, intubating and shocking patients, interpreting EKG's, treating the patient, and bringing them to the hospital. "You never really know what you're going to get. Even if you get paged for one thing at the scene it might be completely different," Cathy stated.

Many times a patient starts their experience with ORHC in an ambulance. Cathy and the team get the opportunity to greatly influence what that experience is like. "I try to make a dark day a little brighter for the patients I encounter. I try to explain to people what's going on, why we are doing what we're doing, and what to expect," Cathy explained. "I try to hear where they are coming from, be personally connected, and stay in communication with them."

"Cathy is an excellent patient care provider and she strives to make everyone else's job easier. She goes above and beyond every shift to help the nurses in the ED and sets the example of a high performer," said David Howard, Director of ORMICS. "She goes out of her way to make the patient experience excellent."

Cathy keeps her skills current by continuing education, classes through IHCC, and attending conferences. "I love working with such a caring group of people. ORHC is always growing and expanding, and I am always gaining a variety of experiences," Cathy shared.

ORHC thanks Cathy for always striving for excellence by expanding her knowledge as a healthcare provider.