

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Dec. 11, 2015

When hiring staff members, Pickaway-Ross has the advantage of seeking out people to teach who have already excelled in an industry and will share that knowledge with students.



In Adult Education, we were fortunate to have among our ranks two highly qualified instructors who were chosen to co-coordinate the health programs.

Avonia Dearth has worked at Pickaway-Ross for nine years and was hired as the Allied Health program coordinator this year. Avonia's focus is on EKG, Medical Assisting, Medical Billing, Pharmacy Tech and Phlebotomy programs.

Before assuming the coordinator position, Avonia served as the lead instructor for Medical Assisting and Medical Billing.

Avonia has a bachelor's degree in nursing and worked for many years as an ambulatory care nurse. A desire to affect more people spurred her to apply to work at Pickaway-Ross.

"As an ambulatory care nurse, I touched the lives of 20 people a day. When you teach, you are teaching students to touch other



Avonia Dearth, left, and Lolelita Holdren are the new Allied Health program coordinator and Nursing program coordinator, respectively, for Adult Education. They are based at our Mound Street campus in Circleville.

people's lives in a greater capacity than I could ever do alone," Avonia said.

Lolelita Holdren has worked at Pickaway-Ross for 12 years and was named the Nursing program coordinator this year. She also has a background in nursing, earning bachelor's and master's degrees from Indiana Wesleyan University.

Lolelita has been a hospital nurse and clinical instructor and has worked in nursing management and administration.

"After 28 years of being a nurse, I wanted to teach to help others become good nurses," she said.

While each woman will teach occasionally, they will focus on

the coordination of the health-care programs and work to increase enrollment.

"The jobs are out there," said Avonia. "But we need to give students the education."

Carrie Fife, director of Adult Education, said Avonia and Lolelita's backgrounds are a boon to Pickaway-Ross.

"Avonia and Lolelita are using their expertise to coordinate their program areas in the health arena and doing a great job at it," Carrie said.

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