Deborah Senorat, RMA, AHI

Motivating others to be their best is a skill that Deborah Senorat has cultivated throughout her career. She brings her talent to a series of roles both as a hands-on care provider and an educator.

Starting out as an RMA, today Deborah serves as campus program chair at Florida Career College, in Hialeah. In this position at a school with two, soon to be three allied health programs, Deborah manages 30 instructors, training them to incorporate care, knowledge, confidence and motivation into their classrooms. Her coworkers have expressed that Deborah has the ability to explain facts and theories in a simple way, which is what encouraged her to become an allied health instructor after 5 years of hands on experience as an RMA.

Once she began teaching, Deborah discovered a gift for motivating her students, which she used to help them stay positive and excel in the classroom.

Deborah become an AMT certified Allied Health Instructor and is now able to develop curriculums that give students the tools they need to master the clinical skill set and prepare for their careers. Part of her method includes ensuring that her students get recognized for their efforts by congratulating them in front of their peers. She also incorporates a “medical movie” day to give students the opportunity to close

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their books and open their minds in a different way.

Deborah appreciates her AMT certification as both an RMA and AHI. “[Maintaining my certification] gives me the resources to stay updated on healthcare changes and encourages lifelong learning through continuing education.” To prepare for her own certification exam, Deborah found the AMT online RMA practice exam very helpful. Now, as a program chair guiding students through the certification process, Deborah meets with students prior to their externship and coaches them through the process of applying with AMT, obtaining practice exams and scheduling their test dates with Pearson VUE.

Deborah’s own motivation to work in allied health and become an RMA was inspired by the example of her mother, a nurse who Deborah observed being caring and loving towards her patients.

Deborah showed the same dedication to care in her role as a medical assistant. While employed at an oncology cancer center in an office connected to a hospital, Deborah would accompany the doctor on rounds occasionally visiting patients in the ICU post procedure. The ICU charge nurse recognized Deborah’s energy and capabilities and offered her a position as a patient care technician. Deborah accepted and believes the transition to working in the ICU from a doctor’s office was made possible by her certification and skills.

Deborah dove into her new responsibilities with characteristic commitment, applying her on-going learning to patient care. Deborah remembered reading an article saying that even unresponsive patients can still hear. So, while performing daily procedures on her patients, Deborah talked and sang to them. She even bought scented body wash and fragrances for aroma therapy to change the surroundings and help patients relax. One patient who had become conscious asked to meet “the singing nurse” before she was discharged. Her ICU colleagues knew immediately that the patient was referring to Deborah and informed the patient that Deborah was away on vacation. The following week, Deborah received a delivery of wild flowers and a basket full of bagels and pastries from the patient and her family who wanted to meet and finally see Deborah. “She (the patient) looked so different,” says Deborah “She was full of life, smiling from ear to ear, and I hardly recognized her. There she was, two feet away from me with open arms, humming the song that I would sing to her.

I felt amazing to know that I made an impact in her life and I touched her heart.”

Sometimes motivation comes in unexpected ways.

Deborah considers the sky as the limit for her career, but her short-term goal is to become a director of education and continue to help students find the motivation they need to meet their career goals. When she isn’t working, in addition to singing Deborah likes to write poetry, read and work out.