

## In Loving Memory and With Deep Appreciation for 43 Years of Exceptional Service to PCH



**DARREL C. BELCHER, MD**

MARCH 11, 1940 – JANUARY 19, 2022

**Darrell C. Belcher, MD**, 81 of Bluefield, West Virginia, passed away on January 19, 2022. He is survived by his partner of 28 years, Regina Gwinn Eckle of Green Sulphur Springs, West Virginia; brother Danny Belcher, Burlington, North Carolina; wife and mother of his children, Ollie B. Belcher (married 1961-1981); four children, Julia Belcher (Philip Rupp) Knoxville, Tennessee; Darrell Belcher II, New York, New York; Sharon Belcher-McRorie (Chadwick McRorie) Asheville, North Carolina; Sarah Belcher (Cary Tilton) Eureka, California; and grandson Ezekiel Belcher-McRorie, Santa Monica, California.

Dr. Belcher was a father, mentor, companion, world traveler, doctor, husband, and dear friend to many. He was a generous spirit and gave his time, money and help to anyone who needed it.

A man of few words with a sly, dry wit, and excellent sense of humor, Dr. Belcher was the king of the one liner.

In addition to being a dapper gentleman, he knew where the best food was, from soup beans and cornbread in his own kitchen to dining in some of the finest restaurants in Atlanta, New Orleans, New York, and abroad.

He traveled the world in style, loved live music, enjoyed art, and knew how to throw a great party. His generosity sprang from his humble beginnings – he was truly one of a kind.

Darrell Belcher was born March 11, 1940, in the tiny rural community of Red Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, to parents Otis and Faye Belcher, who preceded him in death.

He grew up in Monroe County with his younger brother Danny, plus many cousins, aunts and uncles who loved him dearly. He was an exceptional student and in 1954 was the winner of the West Virginia Golden Horseshoe award, topping all eighth grade history students in the state. He graduated from Greenville High and was accepted to

*(continued)*



*Dr. Darrell Belcher (center) performing bilateral knee replacement surgery with Dr. Fred Morgan (front left).*

Berea College in 1958 to study Scientific Agriculture. He made money for expenses by painting barns in his home county.

While at Berea, his focus turned toward pre-med, and he attended medical school at West Virginia University. He paid his way by working as a barber at one dollar a head, and still got the clippers out at home years later to trim up unsuspecting family members.

He volunteered for the Army and served two years in the late 1960s as a captain in Vietnam. He received accolades including a bronze star for valor and performing surgery under fire in active combat.

His first child was born while he was in med school, and along with his growing family, he made several moves around the country to accommodate many years of medical training and internships. This culminated with a residency at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, in Orthopedics, 1971-1975.

Dr. Belcher was an exemplary practitioner, always focused on helping in his quiet, confident way. He made many fast friends among his peers, mentors, and those he took under his wing, including Drs. Philip Branson, Fred Morgan, Joe Crow, and James Powers.

His entrepreneurial drive led him to start his medical practice in Mercer County, West Virginia, in 1976 which

continued until his retirement in 2019. He specialized in total joint replacement of the knee and hip.

No assignment was too difficult. He worked night and day being the best doctor and orthopedic surgeon that could be found anywhere. His ability to diagnose and repair any orthopedic break or wound and diagnose other bone and joint problems is well known in the state of West Virginia and beyond.

He was a small-town doctor on a first name basis with Ortho GODS, and he was referred to as “the secret weapon” at Princeton Community Hospital where he worked for 43 years.

He always knew a way to get out of a jam in the operating room. He was generous and never demeaning with his knowledgeable, plain-spoken advice, and he helped a multitude of patients in his many years of practice.

He will be fondly remembered and greatly missed.

Donations to Berea College may be made in memory of Darrell C. Belcher. His experience there gave him a path to greatness.

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<https://give.berea.edu/give/191405/#!/donation/checkout>

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# PCH Welcomes WV National Guard Troops

With the large number of employees out with COVID, Princeton Community Hospital gratefully welcomed eight members of the West Virginia National Guard to our campus on Tuesday, January 25, 2022. Over the next few weeks, the Guard volunteers will provide much-needed help in the areas of laundry, housekeeping, and nutrition services.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Mark Pickett, RN, met the Major and National Guard members and welcomed them to PCH. Corporate HR Compliance Manager Terri Dart conducted the non-medical orientation.

After a nice lunch prepared by Nutrition Services, Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Patient Care Services Rose Morgan, and Vice President of Operations Albert Boland welcomed the group and discussed the nature of the work they would be doing.

Director of Nutrition Services David Ratliff, Kevin Hager from Environmental Services, and Mark Smith from Laundry Services provided orientation tours of the various departments.

Every PCH representative thanked the Guard members, not only for the work they would be providing the hospital, but also for their service to the country.





## *Letters of Appreciation*

Dear PCH,

I want to acknowledge the work of an outstanding employee – Traci Thompson in Case Management. She went out of her way to help find a bed for my mother at a nearby nursing home. My mother passed away peacefully on January 6, 2022.

I wanted to ensure that Administration was made aware of Traci's kind assistance.

Thank you,  
**Mike Hamm**

Dear CEO Karen Bowling,

The nurses at PCH acted so quickly to deal with my severe preeclampsia, and I can't thank them enough! They were patient and understanding. One of the nurses, Kennedy, held my hand and helped me start breathing again. She wiped away my tears and talked me through it. I had nothing but amazing nurses for both me and my daughter. Thank you for all you've done and continue to do for all mothers and babies!

Thank you,  
**Katelyn Matthews and Baby Girl Elizabeth**



# New Faces and New Roles in the Human Resources Department



The Human Resources Department • Front row from left: Jennifer Bridges, Terri Dart, Winnie Newberry, and Janet Horn. Back row from left: Megan Goff, Heather Poff, Jillian Cockerham, and Melissa Ellison.



**Heather Poff, MBA, SPHR**  
*Vice President, Human Resources  
Princeton Community Hospital*

Heather Poff joined PCH in January 2012, celebrating her 10th anniversary at PCH this month. She currently serves as the Vice President, Human Resources. Heather is working with the HR team and the WVUM HR team to

prepare for PCH's transition to full membership of WVUM in 2023. She is excited about the opportunities and benefits this transition will bring to PCH, its employees, and the community.

As a native of Mercer County, Heather enjoys "being home" and working at PCH. She is an alumna of both Radford University and Virginia Tech. She holds a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Radford University. In addition, she earned a MBA from Virginia Tech in 2011. Heather earned her certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) from the HR Certification Institute in 2001. Heather is a member of the Rotary Club of Princeton, which allows her to volunteer in many different areas of the community. She and her husband, Rick, and their son, Alex, currently reside in Princeton. Heather also serves as a member of the Executive Leadership Team and administrative liaison/advisor for Education, Marketing, Volunteers, and Chaplain Services.



**Edwina "Winnie" Newberry**  
*HR Director*

Winnie Newberry is a proud graduate of Bluefield University with a bachelor's degree in Leadership and Organizational Management. It was during the completion of that degree that she met the person that would become a lifelong friend, Janet Horn. A couple of years later, Janet

reached out to Winnie about a job opportunity with PCH HR team and Winnie came on board in November 2014. She has served in the roles of Benefit Specialist, Employee Relations manager and most recently, HR Director.

Outside of work, Winnie enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, traveling, and participating in church activities.

Winnie feels the most rewarding part of HR is working with and visiting with the care team members at all the different locations in our organization, supporting them as they provide top quality care to our patients.

Winnie enjoys working with the different departments, managers, and staff to create an engaging, rewarding work environment in which our care team members can thrive.

Winnie said, "I am in awe of the great things our care team members accomplish every day, making an impact in lives of our community. It is my heart's desire to be of service in any way that I can to help them in accomplishing their goals.

"We have a terrific HR team that is dedicated to recruiting quality team members and providing support to each care team member throughout their career with PCH. I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead for our care team members and community as we become part of WVU Medicine.

"I know some of our team members are anxious about the changes to benefits and systems that may occur, but they can count on our HR team to help them work through those challenges."



**Jennifer Bridges**  
*HR Assistant*

Jennifer Bridges joined PCH in August 2012, and will soon celebrate her 10th anniversary with PCH. She currently serves as the HR Assistant, Human Resources. She graduated from Bluefield State College in 2007 with a Regents Bachelor of Arts degree majoring in business. She is excited to see the opportunities the transition to WVUM will bring to PCH and the community.



**Jillian Cockerham**  
*HR Generalist*

Jillian Cockerham joined the PCH HR team in November of 2021 as

the HR Generalist. Jillian's focus will be Worker's Comp, FMLA, coordination of Volunteer Services, co-leading the IMPACT Committee with Winnie Newberry, and leading new hire orientations.

Jillian is a native of Mercer County and earned a bachelor's degree in Business Management with an emphasis in Human Resources from West Virginia University. Jillian recently moved back to the area from Lexington, Kentucky, where she served as the Compensation & Benefits Analyst for US Equestrian Federation. Jillian is certified through the Society of Human Resource Management as a Certified Professional (SHRM-CP).



**Terri Dart**  
*Corporate HR Compliance Manager*

Terri Dart joined PCH in April 2013 and joined the PCH HR team in 2014. She is currently the Corporate HR Compliance Manager. In this role, Terri works to ensure that staff HR records are in compliance for job descriptions, evaluations, competencies, staff licenses, and certifications. Terri enjoys the I.T. aspects of Human Resources and provides system administration for Performance Manager, Kronos HR, and Evercheck.



**Melissa Ellison**  
*Benefits Specialist*

Melissa Ellison joined PCH as the Human Resources and Volunteer Coordinator in October 2015. She was promoted to Benefits Specialist in December 2020. As the Benefits Specialist, Melissa administers PCH benefit programs such as health, dental, and vision insurance, Life and LTD disability programs and retirement plans.

Melissa graduated from Concord University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She loves spending time with family, enjoying the outdoors, and traveling outside of work.



**Megan Goff**  
*Non-Clinical Recruiter*

Megan Goff started her journey with PCH as an intern in the HR department while completing her bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Concord University. This experience encouraged her to pursue a career in Human Resources. She was excited to join the PCH team full time in 2020 where she served as the HR Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator until recently when she took on the new role of Non-Clinical Recruiter in Human Resources. Megan feels that every role in the hospital setting is critical to accomplishing our goal of providing quality care to our

patients. Megan is excited to focus her efforts on recruiting care team members who will take pride in providing non-clinical support services throughout the organization.

Outside of work, she loves to spend time with her family enjoying the outdoors, traveling, and exploring new places.



**Janet Horn**  
*Clinical Recruiter*

Janet Horn began employment at PCH in 1988 as an on-the-job trainee in Cardiopulmonary. After moving to Human Resources in 2005, she returned to college at Bluefield University to complete her BS degree in Management and Leadership. She thoroughly enjoys her current role as a Clinical Recruiter and feels those initial years of patient care gave her a passion for finding the most highly skilled and compassionate employees for our hospital. Janet works closely with area colleges and technical education centers to help recruit such individuals. Janet is active in children's ministry at her church and loves spending time with her family (especially her grandchildren, Jackson and Hannah).

## *Letter of Appreciation*

Dear CCU and 3-South,

To all of those that aided in the care of our dad –  
Thank you for your kindness.

Respectfully,  
**The Family of Darrell C. Belcher, MD**