

Spotlight On: Laura Hampton, RRT, AE-C

2014 ASRC NE District

**Clinical Practitioner of
the Year Winner**

Day shift Team Leader

**St. Bernard's Regional
Medical Center**



Current Role: Day shift Team Leader at St. Bernard's Regional Medical Center

Day to Day Activities: Coordination of staff, treatment loads, and managing the Bronchoscopy Suite. Other duties include assisting with management of the ABG Lab, ordering stock, scheduling staff and assisting with NRP, PALS, ACLS, and CPR classes.

Your first Job: I graduated from the CRT program at Black River College in 1991 and began my career at SBRMC. I began working weekends a few months before graduating and I feel this was a great advantage to me as I could experience the real life scenarios that the classroom was unable to teach me. I went back to school and in 2007 I earned my RRT and AE-C. I never would have dreamed 23 years later I would be in this position and still working at the same hospital. SBRMC has been a good place to work and I hope to have many more years here.

How being an RT impacts your current role: I enjoy the variety that comes with the RT Team Leader role. As a team leader I have many responsibilities and expectations. On any given day I might assist with a bronchoscopy, attend a committee meeting, teach a CPR class, and end the day in the Emergency Department assisting with a code. Never knowing what my day will require of me is challenging but I enjoy it.

Your View of the future of Respiratory Therapy: Healthcare is constantly changing, some good and some bad, but we have to remain open-minded and be willing to adapt. I believe education is vital for the RT professional to stay on top of the ever changing healthcare environment. In doing so, we can educate our patients and community the best way possible.

Your Biggest Influences: I have had several great mentors throughout the years that were truly a blessing to me and helped me become the person I am today. Bryan Mattes believed in me and gave me my first RT job. One of my first supervisors, Lisa Carlton, introduced me to many firsts including the Bronchoscopy Suite. Terri Holmes showed me the management side of RT, and she encouraged me to pursue the AE-C. Brett Vinson has been an RT friend for most of my career but he recently came back to SBRMC and he has had a huge impact on me and our department for the good. The RT staff at SBRMC has a great group of therapist with many years experience, we are like family, and they too have had a great influence on me.