



## Gill Galea

### Operational Manager

“Everyone I have supported has left an imprint.”

#### **What is your job title, what does it involve day-to-day and how long have you been working in that role and/or at the Trust?**

I am the operational manager for the Specialised Supported Living Service. We support over 90 people who have a learning disability and additional health needs that live in their own home.

#### **Why did you choose to work for the NHS?**

I started nurse training when I was 18. At that age I don't think you always really know what you want to do. I knew that I wanted to work with people and doing my RNMH seemed like a good place to start.

I started as a student nurse in the early eighties working at Meanwood Park Hospital and over thirty years later I'm still at the Trust, having worked through lots of changes. When I started out as a nurse we were always trying to work in a person-centred way, however it was still very task focused. Thirty years later I believe we now offer person-centred care.

#### **What's your favourite part about the job?**

I feel privileged to have had such an exciting and interesting career. For me, working with people and promoting person-centred care is my motivation to come to work.

At times I've dealt with some difficult and challenging situations and can honestly say no day is ever boring. I'm proud of my colleagues and the people we support who I have had the pleasure to share my career with.

**What's the most challenging part about your job?**

The biggest challenge for me, as I'm sure it is for many, is recruitment. Finding the right and most talented people to fill the large number of staff vacancies we have within the service.

**Tell us about:****a time you were really proud of your work**

I am proud of the people we support, who continue to inspire me every day. I'm particularly proud of the people I first started supporting in the early eighties who continue to impress me with their achievements.

**your fondest memory of working at the Trust**

There are so many, but playing a pivotal part in the closure of Meanwood Park Hospital and seeing people move into their own homes, has to be up there at the top.

**What do our values of integrity, simplicity and caring mean to you? How do you show these values in the work that you do?**

The values to me are core values that we should uphold in our everyday work, so that we provide the best care possible. I hope that I show these values by respecting everyone I come into contact with in my day-to-day work.

**What message would you give to inspire the future NHS workforce in your area of work or in general?**

I think that it's vital that we inspire young people. To do this we need to help people make a career choice and show how they can make a real difference in someone's life.

**How has the NHS made a difference to you/how have you seen the NHS help people?**

I've been fortunate to work with, and support, some fantastic people. Everyone I have supported has left an imprint, some greater than others, but all have shaped the person I am today.