



Health Hub Host

STEVO ROKSANDIC
 MOUNT CARMEL HEALTH SYSTEM,
 COLUMBUS, OH

When Stevo Roksandic arrived in Columbus in 1999, the Croatian native decided it was time to drop anchor in landlocked Ohio after 15 years in the tourism industry—the last two sailing the world three times as a cruise ship employee.

“This is the story of how I became an ‘Accidental Librarian’ and my American Dream came true,” Roksandic says.

He landed a job as a cafeteria cook at Franklin University, where he became friendly with hungry university staff—especially librarians, who encouraged him to apply for a library assistant job. Sixteen years and two advanced degrees (MBA and MLIS) later, Roksandic is the regional director of library services for the Mount Carmel Health System (MCHS), where he plans, directs,

deeply inspires his colleagues—he received ten nominations for the Movers & Shakers award—and goes out of his way to help them succeed.

“He is a visionary innovator who at the same time focuses on team spirit and mentoring others,” says Donald Pearson, an IT specialist at HSL. “His accomplishments are almost too many to remember because they span the spectrum of electronic resources, library space design, community service, organizational restructuring, and professional organization leadership.”

A prime example is Roksandic’s creation of the Consumer Health Library (CHL), which opened in 2011 to provide free in-person and virtual health and wellness information to central Ohio residents. Within two years the small office became so established that the Mount Carmel Foundation made the CHL a major part of its newly developed Community Health Resource Center.

The facility also attracted attention from the National Networks of Libraries of Medicine, which gave CHL a technology improvement award to purchase laptops and a hot spot for teaching community classes on how to find reliable health information online.

Roksandic also established library on demand services, which deliver requested circulating materials and online education materials to MCHS’s six operating sites and two campuses 24-7, 365 days a year.

“I love what I do,” Roksandic says. “My working and living philosophy is: It’s not about me, it’s about we.” ■

vitals

CURRENT POSITION Regional Director, Library Services, Mount Carmel Health System, Columbus, OH

DEGREE MBA, Franklin University, 2004; MLIS, Kent State University, OH, 2008

VISIT FOLLOW Consumer Health Library (chl.mchs.com); @stevorok; @MountCarmel; @MCHSLibrary

and coordinates operations for the system’s Health Sciences Library (HSL), Consumer Health Library, and corporate support library services. He established the MCHS Library Services as a central hub within the multisite health system, which includes corporate, academic, medical, and public services.

During this time Roksandic has become an industry leader who