

ASHI MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Sharon Skorupski
Leader, Senior Technologist
Henry Ford Hospital

Graduated from: Wayne State University

How long have you been an ASHI member?
25 years

When was your first ASHI Meeting? My first ASHI meeting was in 2005, I do not remember where it was held. I was so nervous about going to such a large meeting, not sure what to expect. Everyone was so friendly and welcoming, staff and fellow attendees. I loved meeting all the new people, checking out the new stuff from the vendors and hearing lectures about new things.

What made you decide to work in HLA? My first job out of college was at the American Red Cross in Detroit, Michigan working in the HLA lab to type platelet donors. From there I was hooked! I have worked in HLA ever since. I moved to the Detroit Medical Center HLA lab where we supported mostly bone marrow transplant patients and kidney transplant patients. Now I am at Henry Ford Hospital where we have a large solid organ transplant program for all organs and a stem cell transplant program. I feel like I can really make a difference in the care of the patients to help prolong their lives and give them a better quality of life.

What do you find to be the most rewarding aspect of your work? I love working with the transplant teams to get patients transplanted and help monitor to ensure they keep it working. We regularly review the patient's medical records as part of our resulting process. I feel like I am truly a part of the team taking care of the patients, helping to provide them with a second chance at life.

Tell us a fun fact about yourself: I love flowers! Every year I spend hours getting the dirt ready and planting annual flowers at my house and my parents. I love coming home to see my yard in bloom. I love to go hiking on

my vacations and am working on visiting all 50 states and the National Parks in them.