Colleen was born and raised in Detroit Michigan. After completing a Bachelor’s degree at Wayne State University, she attended the respiratory therapy program at Northwestern University in Chicago. Colleen moved to California in 1985 and began working at Stanford University Hospital. Early on as a respiratory therapist she specialized in pediatric and adult critical care, spending 10 years of her career in pulmonary diagnostics at Packard Children’s. During her years in the pulmonary lab Colleen gained insight into the lives of cystic fibrosis patients and knew that she had found her niche. In May 2000, she joined the CF Center at Stanford as a research coordinator and is presently the Translational Research Manager. Colleen earned a Master’s degree in Regulatory Affairs for Drugs, Biologics, and Devices from Northeastern University in 2018.  When not working, Colleen enjoys travelling, baking, exercising, and spending time with family, friends and her toy Australian Shepherd Lucy.