

carenews

together we are transforming the future of health care

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“Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others. ~ Winston Churchill”

Good day!

No matter where your political affinities lie, I am sure many of you were stunned by the results of last week's historical presidential election. While the result leaves us with some level of uncertainty, it has also left many of us with some unshakable truths. Our democracy does work. There can be a peaceful and orderly transition of power. It is always right, as both Secretary Clinton and President-elect Trump have shown, to fight for what you believe in.

Yet, for us, given the high-profile role health care played throughout the campaign, the anxiety that exists among the provider community is certainly warranted. As the parent company for what are called “essential” or “safety-net” hospitals, Care New England will work harder than ever to protect health care access for the vulnerable populations we have and will continue to serve.

While campaign rhetoric frequently focused on a repeal of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), we now have more than 20 million Americans insured who were previously not. We have people with pre-existing conditions who were formerly denied coverage being insured. We have expanded Medicaid eligibility for a broader constituency of the vulnerable. We have a host of screening and primary care services now covered at no additional out-of-pocket cost. We have young adults who can stay on their parents' health plans until age 26. Clearly, taking away any or all of these benefits would not be an easy task either politically or logistically. It remains to be seen if the rhetoric will turn to action. Very few elected officials like to be remembered for the ones taking away benefits.

Yet, even if the ACA is repealed, I am not so sure there we will revert to the old days of health care delivery and the fee-for-service model. So much of how we are paid and how we are rewarded is based on delivering value-based care. It's all about providing the right care at the right time at the right place. This is now so embedded in the commercial payment system that there will be no turning back. Population health is here to stay.

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Still, we all know the impetus behind some of the cries for repeal is the spiraling cost of care. Accordingly, the need for transformation in the health care industry will continue. At Care New England, we have made tremendous strides through our ongoing **t3** efforts, having trimmed close to \$90 million in costs to help meet the challenges of the new health care landscape. While this is a tremendous accomplishment we should all be proud of, no matter who is living in the White House in January, our work in this area is far from complete.

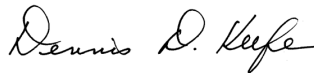
There are many other important issues that will require our focus. When Congress returns for its final weeks of the session, we will continue our advocacy on such important fronts as maintaining the sanctity of the 340B program that requires drug companies to sell discounted medications to hospitals that serve low-income patients, establishing a socioeconomic adjustment in the Medicare hospital readmissions program, and working for an increase in graduate medical education reimbursements for stand-alone birthing hospitals such as Women & Infants. Through our relationship with America's Essential Hospitals, a Washington-DC based trade organization focused on preserving access to health care for those who need it most, hospitals and health systems such as Care New England have built strong relationships on Capitol Hill, on both sides of the aisle. This is not to be underestimated.

The next few weeks and months will be predictably unpredictable. We will make every effort to continue advocating for what we believe is in the best interest of our patients and our employees, and will do everything we can to let you know what you can do to help.

In the meantime, I would ask you to simply do what you have done for the nearly two years that the presidential campaign was underway, continuing to provide the best possible care for the patients, families and communities we serve.

Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,



Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer

Open enrollment begins today, benefit fairs scheduled

Online enrollment begins Monday, November 14, 2016 and ends at midnight Monday, November 28, 2016.

Please visit <http://www.carenewengland.bswift.com>.

Download the instructions.

Benefit changes are effective January 1, 2017. Use your home computer, work computer, stop by one of our benefit fairs, or visit the Waterman House at 4 Richmond Square for assistance. Call Human Resources at 1CARE (ext. 12273) or (401) 680-4400 (option 1) with questions. If you have any questions about the medical plans and plan design, please contact our new BCBS Customer Service Team at 1-855-CNE-7707. For all other questions regarding enrollment, please contact the iCare Benefits Team at (401) 680-4400, option 1, or extension 12273 (1CARE).

Do you have questions? We have answers!

| Facility | Date | Time | Location |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--|
| The Providence Center | Thursday, Nov. 10 | 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Oster Board Room |
| Women & Infants | Monday, Nov. 14 | 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. | South Pavilion |
| Memorial | Tuesday, Nov. 15 | 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Sayles Rooms |
| Butler | Wednesday, Nov. 16 | 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Sawyer Lobby |
| VNA and Healthtouch | Thursday, Nov. 14 | 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. | Large Conf. Room |
| Kent | Friday, Nov. 18 | 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Doctors' Auditorium |
| CNE Service Rd. | Monday, Nov. 21 | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Room 42, 1 st Floor and outside Cafeteria |



Kent Hospital's Women's Care Center receives Baby-Friendly designation

Kent Hospital's Women's Care Center has recently received the prestigious international recognition as a Baby-Friendly® <http://babyfriendlyusa.org> designated birth facility.

Baby-Friendly USA, Inc. is the U.S. authority on the implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI), a global program sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The initiative encourages and recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that offer an optimal level of care for breastfeeding mothers and promote the best, evidence-based feeding practices for all babies.



"It is an honor to have Kent Hospital recognized as a Baby-Friendly facility," said Rebecca Burke, RN, MS, NEA-BC, vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer at Kent Hospital. "The staff of the Women's Care Center work tirelessly to ensure the best experience for new mothers. Becoming Baby-Friendly recognized, shows the commitment and dedication that our staff has to providing optimal care to breastfeeding mothers and their newborns. Kent Hospital has been working toward best practices and evidence-based national studies to improve the quality, support and the healthiest start to life."

Although breastfeeding is one of the most effective preventive health measures for infants and mothers, half of U.S.-born babies are given formula within the first week, and the rates of breastfeeding decline significantly by six months of age. Best Fed Beginnings sought to reverse these trends by dramatically increasing the number of U.S. hospitals implementing a proven model for maternity services that better supports a new mother's choice to breastfeed.

Care New England's Women & Infants Hospital was recognized as a Baby-Friendly designated birth facility back in August 2015. Women & Infants is the second-largest hospital in the nation to achieve this designation.

Butler honors two community advocates at A Gallery Affair fundraiser

Butler Hospital hosted A Gallery Affair, a fundraising event, at The Providence Art Club on the evening of Wednesday, November 9, 2016. In front of 150 attendees, Butler Hospital President and Chief Operating Officer Lawrence Price, MD, presented two annual awards to two members of the community for their contributions to Butler Hospital and impact on mental health in Rhode Island.

Robert J. Westlake, MD, received the 2016 Corporation Member of the Year award, presented each year to one of the 350 corporation members that make up the Butler Hospital Corporation. Dr. Westlake is recognized for supporting Butler and advocating for the hospital's work and service to the community. Dr. Westlake has been connected to Butler Hospital since 1973, and, during his tenure as a psychiatrist and administrator, is credited with creating Butler's partial hospital program and helping to establish the education program for psychiatry residents. He also served as the vice-chair of adult services, and professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior and professor emeritus of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. In presenting this award Dr. Price acknowledged Dr. Westlake for the support he provided during the earlier years of Dr. Price's career as a psychiatrist and researcher.



G. Wayne Miller, prolific author for more than 40 years and journalist with *The Providence Journal*, was presented with the Lila M. Sapinsley Community Service Award. This annual award honors a member of the community for his or her personal achievements and contributions to the field of mental health and behavioral health care in Rhode Island. Miller is honored for his longtime advocacy for individuals affected

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by mental health, developmental disabilities and other areas of brain health. He began covering mental health and developmental disabilities for *The Providence Journal* in 1984, shortly after his arrival at the newspaper. Over the span of his career at *The Providence Journal*, he has won more than a dozen awards for his coverage of mental health and developmental disabilities. This year he wrote widely-read stories about schizophrenia, suicide, and a front-page feature on Alzheimer's disease highlighting and, in turn, greatly impacting the work of the Memory and Aging Program at Butler Hospital. "His advocacy is helping to break down the stigma attached to mental health, which is why we honor him tonight," said Dr. Price.

The event raised \$65,000 to support the highest priority needs of Butler Hospital. Co-chaired by Patricia A. Thompson of Piccerelli Gilstein and John D. Sinnott of Gilbane the event was organized by the Butler Hospital Foundation and top sponsors included Cox Business, Professional Ambulance, Sodexo and an anonymous donor.

Women & Infants doctor honored by YWCA

B. Star Hampton, MD, of the Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery, was the recipient of a 2016 YWCA Woman of Achievement Award. Since 2005, the YWCA has sponsored this statewide recognition of women whose accomplishments span the fields of industry, culture and public service. Dr. Hampton was presented with the award at the 12th Annual YWCA Awards Luncheon held on September 27, 2016 at Kirkbrae Country Club. Charon Rose, a switchboard operator at Women & Infants and director of constituent relations for General Treasurer Seth Magaziner, was a 2015 Woman of Achievement.



Memorial School of Nurse Anesthesia holds graduation

Ceremonies for the 50th graduation of the Memorial Hospital School of Nurse Anesthesia Program took place on October 28 in the hospital's Sayles Conference Center. Hospital administration, staff, family and friends were on hand to honor the nine graduates.

This year's graduates are: Mikayla Jarratt of Bellingham, Washington; Lisa Strait of Arizona; Catherine Keyo of Dorchester, MA; Jessica Gregson, Hopkinton, MA; Travis Henderson of Nampa, Idaho; Christopher Manion, Seekonk, MA; Richard Guillaume, Revere, MA; Artur Rozentsvit of New York City, NY; and Micah McRae of Henderson, NV.

Mark A. Foster, CRNA, MA, director of Memorial's School of Nurse Anesthesia Program, recognized the accomplishments of the nine nurse anesthetists. He noted how the graduates devoted the past 29 months to a comprehensive didactic and clinical curriculum, earning a master of science degree in biological sciences/anesthesia.

Foster also thanked the following individuals who supported the program: Susan Walker, MD, interim anesthesiologist-in-chief and medical director of the School of Nurse Anesthesia; anesthesiologists with Anesthesia Care; Ruth Rollin, PhD, and Mark Jackson, PhD, academic coordinators of Central Connecticut State University; Keith Macksoud and Elena Litmanovich, both faculty; the surgeons and staff in the operating room, Post Anesthesia Care Unit, Surgical Place Recovery Unit; and Pulmonary Function Lab at Memorial; Cyndi Hannaway, secretary for the Department of Anesthesia; and the clinical coordinators and adjunct faculty at the following clinical sites—Susan Roessle, CRNA, from St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford, MA; Katie Bourski, CRNA, coordinator at Kent Hospital; and Dr. Sana Ata, chairperson and coordinator at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center.



Pictured, from left to right, are: Mark Foster, CRNA, MA, CRNA program director; Lisa Strait; Catherine Keyo; Mikayla Jarratt; Christopher Manion; Micah McRae; Travis Henderson; Richard Guillaume; Artur Rozentsvit; Jessica Gregson; and Susan Walker, MD, medical director and interim anesthesiologist-in-chief.



Women & Infants plans second annual cancer survivors tea

At Women & Infants Hospital, the staff with the Program in Women's Oncology put special emphasis on survivorship and helping women enjoy quality of life while they battle their cancer and even later after their treatment ends.



With this in mind, the Program's Oncology Patient and Family Advisory Council will sponsor its second annual Cancer Survivors Tea on Sunday, November 20, from 10 a.m. to noon, at its headquarters, 668 Eddy St., Providence.

The focus of the tea is "Journaling." With tea and treats, the free event will include a presentation by clinical social worker Shakay J. Kizirian, MSW, LCSW, on the tradition of journal writing. Writing tools will be provided.

The tea is open to all patients, family members and friends. To sign up, survivors can call Donna MacDonald, RN, OCN, CCM, at (401) 430-7267, or email her at dmacdonald@wihri.org.

An attitude of gratitude

Next week, our Thanksgiving tradition in Carenews continues! We will feature quotes about why we are thankful in our CEO message. Let us know what you are feeling grateful for at this time of Thanksgiving. Send your quotes to May Kernan in the Marketing Communications Office at mkernan@carene.org.

TODAY I AM
thankful

Memorializing lost loved ones at VNA 'Circle of Love & Light' event



As part of the VNA of Care New England Hospice Program's Circle of Love & Light and Hospice Memorial being held Wednesday, November 30, 6 p.m., at Warwick City Hall, the VNA is encouraging Care New England employees, as well as hospice families, to share photos of loved one(s), whether they are able to attend or not. Those who would like to submit a picture to be included in the evening's slide show should send them electronically to Kiel Mitchell at KWMitchell@vnacarenewengland.org or drop them off to the VNA office at 51 Health Lane, Warwick, RI, 02886, prior to November 18, 2016.

The Circle of Love & Light and Hospice Memorial is co-sponsored by The Honorable Scott Avedisian, mayor of the City of Warwick. The evening will feature an opportunity to honor lost loved ones through reflection, song, candlelight and remembrance. Music will be provided by The Ocean State Women's Choir.

For more information or to RSVP, please call Kiel Mitchell at (401) 921-7661. 

