

carenews

together we are transforming the future of health care

february 29, 2016
volume 6 | issue 9



EMERGENCY ENTRANCE

“The Care New England Board and senior leadership hope that we will be able to maintain a presence in northern Rhode Island and to continue the programs and services Memorial does best.”

Good day!

In this issue:



We've been talking about the new arena of health care for a long time—how on a national level the Affordable Care Act has shifted the industry's focus from treating patients in hospitals when they are sick to a more population-centric system that emphasizes primary care and other services in an outpatient setting. This trend is forcing health care facilities and systems to redefine themselves in order to become more streamlined, nimble and responsive to the needs of their communities.

That is where Care New England now finds itself: at the precipice of redefining how we deliver care at one of our operating units—Memorial Hospital—against the national landscape of change and what experts say is a 200-bed surplus of hospital beds in Rhode Island. Today, we must make some very hard decisions that are designed to help right-size Memorial in order to operate more effectively and efficiently so we are able to continue to provide quality health care to all Rhode Islanders. We are issuing announcements about these changes to our internal staff and to the community today.

As many of you realize, this restructuring comes in the wake of extensive work we have done since we affiliated with Memorial in 2013 and attempted to execute a thoughtful plan to improve the dire financial situation that existed there. Despite our collective best efforts and the investment of millions of dollars over the last several years, the situation has not substantially improved. Memorial continues to struggle with declining inpatient volume, increasing competition and diminishing reimbursement rates.

We have decided that we need to act immediately to make significant changes and work toward a sustainable model of care at Memorial. Though these changes are difficult, they are being made in the hopes that Memorial can continue to serve its

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community in new and meaningful ways while maintaining the ongoing viability of our system as a whole. Among the plan elements that were approved at the February 26, 2016 meeting of the Care New England Board of Directors:

- Transferring certain Memorial services to other CNE affiliates pending the required regulatory approvals:
 - Obstetrical services will move to Kent or Women & Infants hospitals.
 - Medical/surgical and ICU units will be consolidated into existing units at Kent, with the exception of inpatient elective orthopedics and outpatient surgical patients who require an overnight stay.
- Moving the location of inpatient education for Memorial's Internal Medicine Residency Program to the Kent campus and continuing at the Providence VA Hospital.

Changes that will be made throughout the system include:

- Consolidating lab services.
- Eliminating duplicative positions which will result in layoffs, the number of which we hope to minimize through placing staff elsewhere in the system.

It's important to note that the changes at Memorial affect only a fraction of the services offered at the hospital. Memorial will remain open, serving its community in a newly defined way. The Care New England Board and senior leadership hope that we will be able to maintain a presence in northern Rhode Island and to continue the programs and services Memorial does best.

These exemplary programs include:

- Family medicine, including its residency program.
- Primary care practices, both family and internal medicine.
- Emergency Department, supported by a small, inpatient unit.
- Operating room for orthopedic and outpatient surgery with support from the same in-patient unit.
- Center for Rehabilitation for inpatient care, as well as an outpatient clinic.
- Outpatient specialty services such as:
 - Pulmonary and sleep medicine
 - Nutrition
 - Cardiology
 - The Cancer Center
 - The Endoscopy Center
 - The New England Pediatric Institute of Neurodevelopment
 - Clinics for dermatology, cardiology, gastroenterology, geriatrics and rheumatology

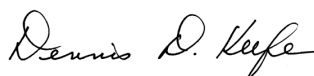
Work on the restructuring plan begins immediately, and it will take several months to complete.

We understand that change of this magnitude is exceedingly difficult. Memorial has a rich and deep legacy of meeting the health care needs of the people of northern Rhode Island, and many of its valued employees have worked there for decades. We will do our best to honor the legacy of the programs and the people of Memorial by making needed changes to assure opportunities for success.

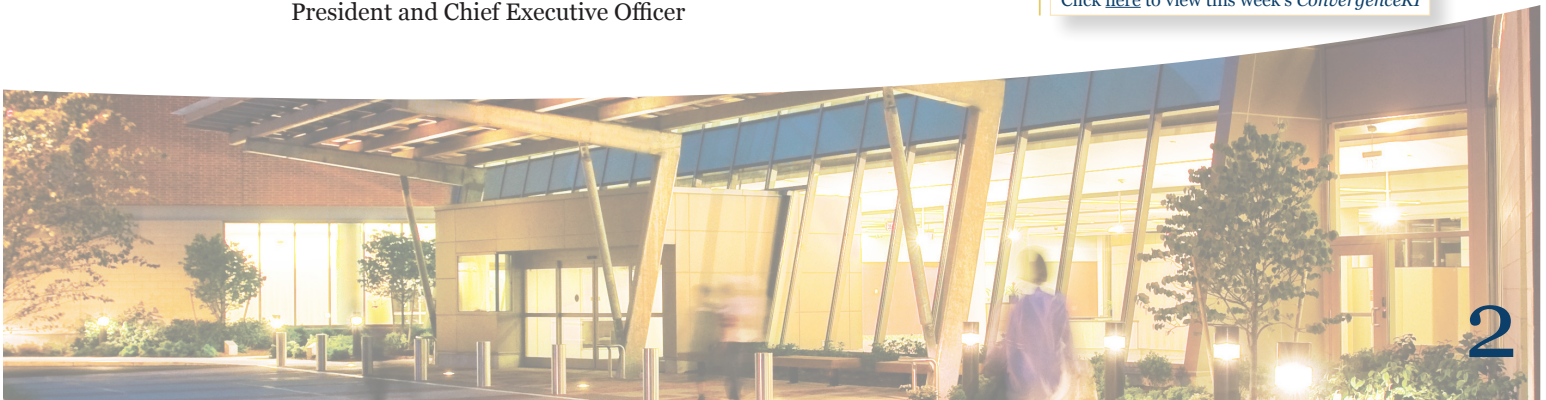
I ask for your understanding and support at this critical time as we transform in response to the changing environment. We will keep everyone across Care New England posted on our progress. If you have questions, please reach out to your supervisor.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer



Care New England Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Symposium slated

The seventh annual Care New England Safe Patient Handling and Mobility (SPHM) Symposium will be held on Wednesday, March 30, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Malcolm and Elizabeth Chace Education Center at Women & Infants Hospital. The intent of this conference is to share evidence-based practices and to identify valuable SPHM resources that will result in the provision of safe, efficient, and effective patient care services.



This year's topics will include:

- Worker's compensation practices.
- Care of the bariatric patient.
- Generational differences in the workplace.
- Patient falls prevention.
- Developing a De-escalation Team.

Who should attend?

- Patient care services providers; including, but not limited to: medicine, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, diagnostic imaging.
- Clinical educators.
- Risk managers.
- Employee health providers.
- Quality/safety specialists.

For information and to register, visit <https://secure2.carenewengland.org/events/?rid=029> or contact Gail Connolly at gconnolly@wihri.org or (401) 274-1122, ext. 42009.



Memorial physician elected president of the Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists

Rafael Padilla, MD, an anesthesiologist at Memorial Hospital, was recently elected president of the Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists (RISA) for a two-year term and will also serve on the Rhode Island Medical Society (RIMS) council. Dr. Padilla is the first to serve in this capacity from Memorial Hospital since 1986.

"I am humbled by this appointment and look forward to continue serving the citizens of the State of Rhode Island," said Dr. Padilla, who has been a member of Memorial's team for 16 years. He is past president of the Fall River Medical Society and the Pawtucket Medical Association. RISA serves the Rhode Island community as an advocate for the delivery of competent and safe care to all patients requiring anesthesia and pain relief.

Kent Hospital Women's Care Center nurse leaders present at annual conference

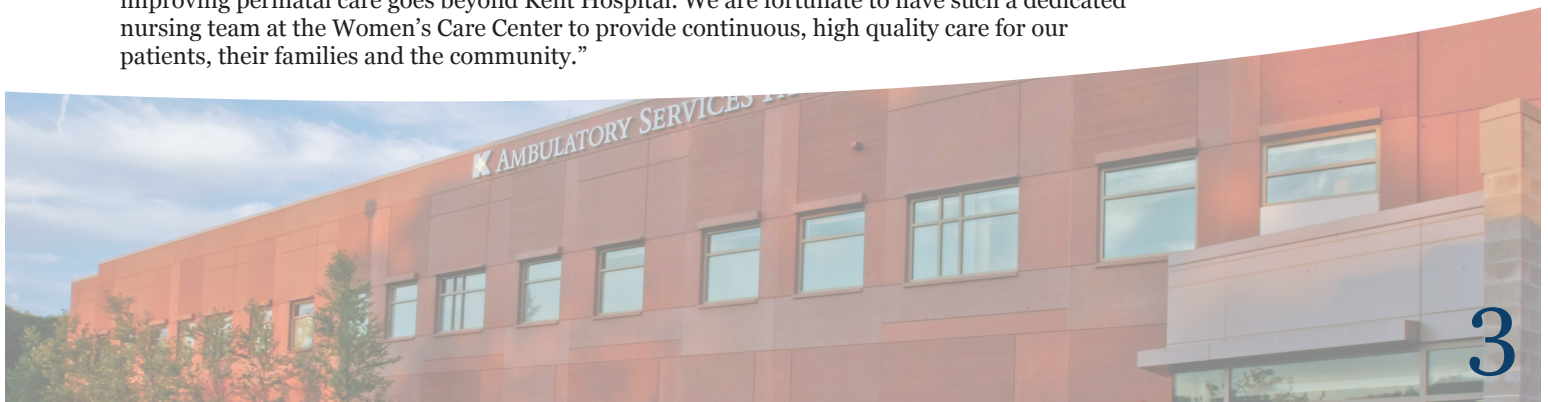
Kent Hospital nurse leaders recently took part in a national perinatal leadership forum in Dallas, Texas. Jean Salera-Vieira, advanced nurse clinician/perinatal CNS, Kent Hospital, presented the topic, Improving Safety Through Collaboration: The Interdisciplinary Perinatal Practice Committee (IPPC). The IPPC at Kent Hospital, co-chaired by nursing and medical providers, is held throughout the year to engage multiple disciplines in collaborative discussion about best practices in the care of the perinatal patient and her family.

Salera-Vieira also presented with Margaret Allaire, nurse manager of the Women's Care Center at Kent Hospital on another topic, Baby Friendly Carnival: Using Creativity to Educate. The Baby Friendly Carnival was an interactive staff education program that utilized a fun carnival theme to highlight the 10 steps of successful breastfeeding.

"Kent Hospital is honored to have two nurse leaders participate in this conference on such a critically important topic," said Rebecca Burke, RN, MS, NEA-BC, senior vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer at Kent Hospital. "Their hard work and dedication to improving perinatal care goes beyond Kent Hospital. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated nursing team at the Women's Care Center to provide continuous, high quality care for our patients, their families and the community."



Pictured left to right are Margaret Allaire, RNC-OB, nurse manager of the Women's Care Center and Jean Salera-Vieira, MS, RNC-OB, C-EFM, advanced nurse clinician/perinatal CNS, Kent Hospital.



Nurses advancing the future of health care: 'Baby on Board' focused on moms and babies

Last week we profiled Laura Aussant, The Providence Center nurse who saw an opportunity to help mothers-to-be in need by creating the Baby on Board program. Once the program was established, Aussant generated referrals for five pregnant women from TPC's Community Support and Behavioral Health Outpatient Programs. The curriculum was developed to help mothers deal with common pregnancy and post-partum issues including depression, anxiety, medication management, fetal alcohol syndrome, preparing for delivery, and a newborn essentials checklist.



"The curriculum for Baby on Board was need-based and tailored to what the women want to know," said Aussant. "We are prepared with topics we know they will have questions about, but it often leads to discussions about many other issues."

Donations to the program sparked other ideas to assist these expecting moms, leading Aussant to approach her supervisor about a baby shower at TPC. Within three days, TPC staff had donated more clothes, toys, and supplies than they could have imagined.

"The response was completely overwhelming," said Aussant. "We loved being able to honor these women's commitment to healthy pregnancies. One of the moms even remarked that this was the only shower she was going to have."

Baby on Board also presents opportunities to connect the women with other resources. For example, Healthy Families America (HFA) contributes material to each group, covering topics such as prenatal care and development. After Ashley delivered her baby at Women and Infants, the Baby on Board staff was able to go and visit with her.

"I'm really proud of our moms," added Aussant. "These women have created strong bonds with each other, and I've loved connecting with them on a personal level. I'm also a mom, so I can say that I have kids, and I don't have all the answers either."

As for the future of Baby on Board, Aussant hopes to generate enough referrals for a second session. For the current moms, she plans to create a support group focused on meeting the changing needs of mom and toddlers.

One woman's story of recovery—and happiness!

Joy Vaudreuil, outreach coordinator in the Marketing Communications Department, opened up and shared her personal story of recovery in a recent blog post that was posted on our Care New England Talks Your Health website. In recovery now for nearly 33 years, she talks about her personal journey in sobriety and provides her perspective on SOBERNATION's "5 Reasons You'll Never Get Sober." Joy says, "You only have to take one positive action at a time, live one day sober at a time. I never thought I'd be sober for almost 33 years and have such a happy and fulfilling life, but here I am."



Joy Vaudreuil celebrates sobriety—and living—along with "the love of her life," her husband Kenny.

{ Read Joy's full post at <http://www.talksyourhealth.com/getting-sober-one-womans-story>, the first in an occasional series on living in recovery. }



ACU nurse receives DAISY Award

Congratulations to Sarah Luczkowski, RN, an antenatal care unit (ACU) nurse, who was presented with this month's DAISY Award. The award is part of the DAISY Foundation's program to recognize the above and beyond efforts performed by nurses every day.



In nominating Sarah for this honor, a colleague wrote about a time when she saw Sarah in soaking wet scrubs in morning rounds. "When I asked her what had happened, she sheepishly yet discreetly informed me that she had gotten into the shower to assist a cognitively impaired patient who really needed some assistance with some hygiene issues," said her colleague. "The patient was extremely grateful and gushed quite a bit about how wonderful her nurse was!" Sarah has been a nurse with Women & Infants for nine years.

If you would like to nominate an extraordinary nurse, you can submit an application online or in person. Fellow providers and patients may nominate a nurse for the award.

Dress in blue for colon cancer awareness

Care New England is joining with the national Colon Cancer Alliance in observing Dress in Blue Day, Friday, March 4, 2016. Encourage your colleagues, friends and co-workers to join you in spreading the message that screenings save lives.



COLON CANCER ALLIANCE

If your group would like to show their colors in support of better health, take some pictures and send them along to Sarah Hurley, at Shurley@carene.org by 3 p.m. on Friday March 4. Please be sure to include the name of your department. The first few photos that come in from each operating unit will be posted on its Facebook page. The following Monday there will be a full photo album shared on the Care New England Facebook page.

Additionally, on Tuesday, March 22 at the Rhode Island State House, CNE will host a colon cancer awareness event from 2 to 5 p.m. This will be an opportunity to help educate our elected officials and the community about programs, services and overall colon cancer education and awareness. CNE employees and the general public are invited to attend. 