

carenews

together we are transforming the future of health care

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In this issue:



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Good day!

For me, some of the most important and compelling stories we can share are those of our patients. Nothing is more rewarding than hearing about someone who has received care at one of our hospitals with life-changing results. Today, I am excited to tell you about not one, but two success stories. Wait until you see the results for yourself!

Frankie Washington, a professional illustrator, and Jessica Metcalf, a writer, both of Cranston, are a great couple who found themselves struggling with their weight. They knew they were overeating, not exercising enough and falling into a difficult and all-too-common cycle that can be nearly impossible to overcome alone.

Here's what Frankie had to say about his situation: "I used to weigh over 400 pounds and had lots of health problems including high blood pressure. I came from a family where everyone was overweight and I grew up thinking this is how life is."

On the advice of his primary care physician, Frankie decided to attend a free informational seminar at Kent Hospital hosted by Jeannine Giovanni, MD, program director and surgeon at the Center for Surgical Weight Loss at Care New England. Jess decided to go as well and since that day their lives have changed dramatically!

Both had surgery and continue to have regular follow-up visits with Dr. Giovanni. Today, Frankie proudly shares that he has lost more than 170 pounds. Jess has lost 140 and is still making progress.



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In a testament to Dr. Giovanni and her team, the program located at Kent Hospital, received national accreditation in just its first year. This is a major accomplishment and so is the success of Frankie and Jess. There are many more stories just like this that can be told.

In an effort to create broader awareness, today we launch a fun, new and compelling advertising campaign for the Center for Surgical Weight Loss at Care New England. In a nod to Frankie and Jess's creativity and outgoing personalities, this campaign highlights their personal success stories while offering stunning visual results and inspiration for others struggling with similar weight issues. To give you the first preview, click on following links to see the entire campaign, which will be aired on *television*, *radio*, in *print*, on *billboards*, on our *blog site* and across social media.

Said Dr. Giovanni, "Weight loss surgery is widely accepted as the most successful long-term treatment for obesity and weight-related diseases. However, it is only the first step in a journey. Surgery is a tool and is very effective when a person is dedicated to a healthier lifestyle including better eating choices and increased physical exercise."

Along with Dr. Giovanni's leadership, the program is supported by an experienced team including Vinay Goyal, MD, a surgeon from Memorial Hospital, a certified physician assistant and a program coordinator. In addition, a team of cardiologists, gastroenterologists, pulmonologists, nutritionists, psychiatrists, nurses, anesthesiologists and exercise physiologists provide multi-faceted clinical support to patients helping to ensure the best possible clinical outcomes from consultation, to day-of surgery, post-operation, recovery and long-term follow up.

Obesity is a disease that is chronic and often difficult to treat. It is often the root of many other serious illnesses including diabetes, heart disease, sleep apnea, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, joint pain, infertility, acid reflux and even cancer. Medical treatments such as diet, exercise and pills fail to help keep off the weight for more than 95 percent of obese people. Yet, surgery is successful more than 80 percent of the time in achieving weight loss outcomes.



In order to qualify for surgery, patients must meet criteria established by the National Institutes for Health (NIH). This criteria includes body mass index (BMI), as well as weight-related medical conditions.

"The results from surgery are not instantaneous," said Frankie, reflecting back on his journey. "You have to work at it—eat healthy and exercise. Now, both Jess and I feel that we've never been so healthy and happy!"

To learn more about monthly seminars at both Kent and Memorial hospitals, visit <http://carenewengland.org/bariatric> to connect to the program site and online registration.

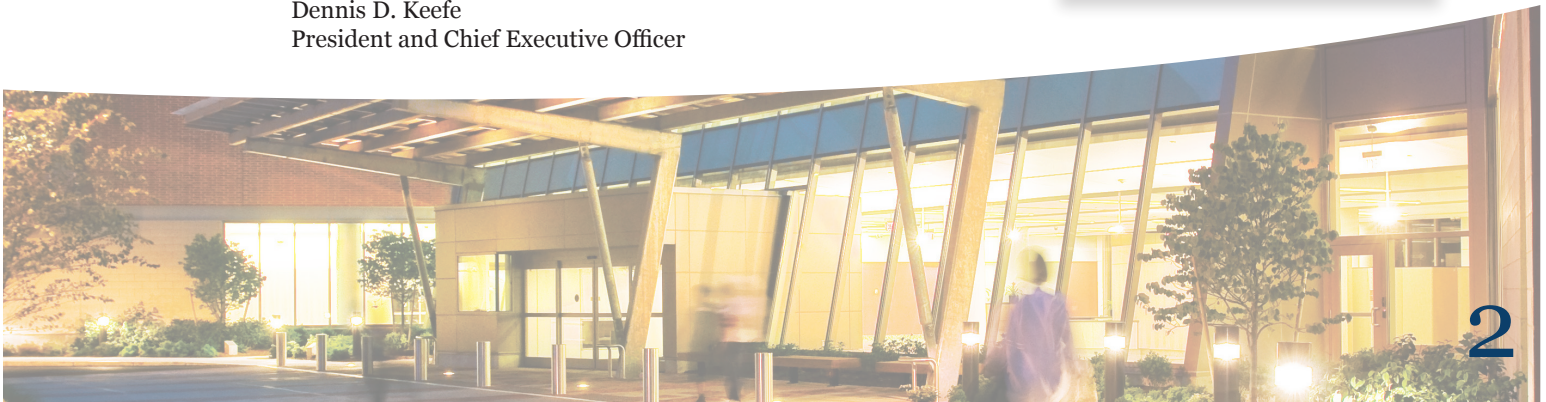
Way to go, Frankie and Jess!

What a wonderful way to inspire us all for the week ahead—make it a great one!

Sincerely,

Dennis D. Keefe

Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer



Getting to know you: Some facts about Southcoast Health

With the definitive agreement between Care New England and Southcoast now signed, work is underway on a number of fronts to bring our proposed affiliation to fruition. In order to familiarize you with our new partners, we will be featuring regular updates in *carenews* about Southcoast, its leadership and clinical team, its signature programs as well as how we are doing with the regulatory approval process and other key activities.

Here are some basics about Southcoast:

- Southcoast Health is a community-based health delivery system with multiple access points, offering an integrated continuum of health services throughout Southeastern Massachusetts and parts of Rhode Island.
- Southcoast Health's mission is to promote the optimal health and well-being of individuals in the communities it serves. To achieve this aim, Southcoast Health has built an integrated "Community of Care" that delivers safety, quality, convenience and an exceptional patient experience in an environment that offers the greatest opportunity for improved health.
- Southcoast Health is comprised of four hospitals—**Charlton Memorial in Fall River, St. Luke's in New Bedford, Tobey in Wareham and Southcoast Behavioral Health in Dartmouth**—two Centers for Cancer Care, two Urgent Care Centers, a physicians' network, an employed physicians group, a visiting nurse association and numerous additional ambulatory facilities that serve more than 719,000 residents in 33 communities covering more than 900 square miles.
- Southcoast Health is the largest provider of primary and specialty care in the region with more than 600 physicians, hospitalists and mid-level practitioners in the Southcoast Physicians Network—450 of whom are employed by Southcoast Physicians Group (SPG). SPG unites Southcoast Health's primary care, surgical, and specialty services into one seamless, region-wide provider. Physician practices are located throughout the south coast region and parts of Rhode Island.
- Southcoast Health is the largest employer south of Quincy, Mass., and the 17th largest employer in the Commonwealth, according to the *Boston Business Journal*, with more than 7,400 employees.



A global perspective on saving cost by properly treating depression and anxiety

Following the publication of new research in *Lancet Psychiatry*, Butler Hospital President and COO Lawrence Price, MD, took to our blog site talksyourhealth.com to discuss the economic cost associated with how depression and anxiety are treated on a global scale.



The study, conducted by an international group of researchers, showed how an investment in improving access to treatment for anxiety and depression on a global scale would have major positive economic impact. According to their findings, an investment of \$147 billion from 2016 through 2030 to improve treatment coverage would return more than \$700 billion in the form of 43 million extra years of healthy life and productivity. Read more at <http://talksyourhealth.com>.



Kent and Memorial hospitals recognized for quality stroke care by American Heart/American Stroke Association

Kent and Memorial hospitals have been recognized by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association for their commitment to quality stroke care.

Kent Hospital has received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®–Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award with Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll. Memorial Hospital has received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®–Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award. These awards recognize the hospitals' commitment and success in ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on the latest scientific evidence.

Hospitals must achieve 85 percent or higher adherence to all Get With The Guidelines®–Stroke achievement indicators for two or more consecutive 12-month periods and achieve 75 percent or higher compliance with five of eight Get With The Guidelines®–Stroke Quality measures to receive the Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award.

To qualify for the Target: Stroke Honor Roll, hospitals must meet quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient's arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster tissue plasminogen activator, or tPA, the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat ischemic stroke. If given intravenously in the first three hours after the start of stroke symptoms, tPA has been shown to significantly reduce the effects of stroke and lessen the chance of permanent disability. Kent Hospital earned the award by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients at a set level for a designated period.



These quality measures are designed to help hospital teams provide the most up-to-date, evidence-based guidelines with the goal of speeding recovery and reducing death and disability for stroke patients.

"A stroke patient loses 1.9 million neurons each minute stroke treatment is delayed. This recognition further demonstrates our commitment to delivering advanced stroke treatments to patients quickly and safely," said Michael Dacey Jr., MD, president and COO, Kent and Memorial hospitals. "Both Kent and Memorial continue to strive for excellence in the acute treatment of stroke patients. The recognition from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®–Stroke further reinforces their hard work."

Get With The Guidelines puts the expertise of the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association to work for hospitals nationwide, helping hospital care teams ensure the care provided to patients is aligned with the latest research-based guidelines. Developed with the goal to save lives and improve recovery time, Get With The Guidelines has impacted more than three million patients since 2003.

TPC's relocated Imagine Preschool accepting applications

If you know any Providence residents who are looking for free, high-quality Pre-K education for their children, The Providence Center's Imagine Preschool is opening three brand-new kindergarten classrooms at 520 Hope St. in September. The new preschool is made possible through funding from the Rhode Island Department of Education, and applications are chosen through a lottery system. Construction for the brand-new Pre-K space will begin next week.

Eligibility requirements are:

- Children must be four years old on or before September 1, 2016.
- Children must reside in Providence

The program runs from September 2016 through June 2017. There is no fee associated with participation in State Pre-K programs. Families can download an application at <http://ride.ri.gov/EC-Programs-PreK> or apply online at <https://www3.ride.ri.gov/PKLottery/>. If you know any parents who would want to take advantage of this, please be sure to let them know.



Dr. Lisa DiMaria joins VNA



The VNA of Care New England welcomes Lisa DiMaria, PhD, who will oversee and precept a group of six new nurse graduates hired for the VNA's New Graduate Nursing Residency Program. This specialty residency program takes graduates from novice to advanced beginner in home health, in just about one year's time. The program will begin this fall and will be offered annually.

Dr. DiMaria comes to the VNA after years of clinical, academic, program development and program evaluation experience. Since 2015, she has served at the University of Rhode Island (URI) College of Nursing as an adjunct faculty member and community health clinical instructor and nursing research lecturer. She previously served as project director for a state implementation plan for the Rhode Island Action Coalition for the Future of Nursing. Dr. DiMaria has also served as a graduate teaching and research assistant at URI and as a nurse corps officer for the United States Navy.

Dr. DiMaria received a doctor of philosophy in nursing from URI in 2015, has a master of science in nursing education from URI, and a bachelor of science in nursing from Russell Sage College in Troy, NY.

Along with offering nursing knowledge and advancement to new graduates, the New Graduate Residency Program also will help provide critical clinical support for the VNA. The opportunities offered through the program will help to fill vital visiting nurse jobs, which are in critical demand.

Melissa D'Abate, RN, receives DAISY Award

Congratulations to Melissa D'Abate, RN, a labor and delivery nurse, who was presented with this month's DAISY Award. Melissa has been a nurse with Women & Infants since 2005.

In nominating Melissa, Jennifer Graham, a patient who needed an emergency c-section wrote, "Melissa's combination of a very natural and positive bedside manner and calming attitude were exactly what I needed...Melissa stayed while surgery was being finished even though I believe her shift was over. That type of dedication goes a long way. It may not always be obvious in these hectic situations, but having a nurse that truly listens and communicates well is what keeps a mother (relatively) sane during labor and delivery. Thank you for being there, Melissa!"



Melissa is pictured here with Jennifer, Joseph and baby Samuel Joseph Graham.

To nominate an extraordinary nurse at any Women & Infants location, submit an application online at <http://www.womenandinfants.org/daisy-award.cfm> or in person. Fellow providers and patients may nominate a nurse for the award.

Care New England celebrates dads

In commemoration of Father's Day, we recently asked Care New England employees about the amazing father figures in their lives. What we collected was heartfelt, genuine and celebratory in the way folks from our CNE community felt about their "Dad." To read these stories, please visit <http://talksyourhealth.com>, where there is also a collection of personal stories from dads in the community and men's health and wellness tips. 