

carenews

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In this issue:



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Good day!

At Care New England, our nurses are at the forefront of the care we provide to our patients on a daily basis. As we move forward on our journey to navigate this rapidly changing health care environment, it is important that we take the right steps to ensure we are supporting our nurses with the right education and tools for success. This is particularly the case for newly licensed nurses at the beginning of their careers who potentially could benefit from additional training and support.

This is why last week we were very pleased to announce the formation of an exciting new graduate nursing residency program at the VNA of Care New England. Designed for newly licensed nurses, the nurse residency program is currently accepting applicants for its inaugural class this fall. The goal is to facilitate the successful transition into independent practice for new nurses.

In describing this new initiative, Angelleen Peters-Lewis, RN, PhD, senior vice president and chief nursing officer at Care New England, had this to say, “This is an exciting initiative for both the VNA and Care New England as more and more patients will be receiving care in the community instead of in the hospital. Newly licensed nurses who enter this program will have the opportunity to transition to independent practice, learn about community health nursing, while also supporting Care New England in advancing population health. Nurses are critical to providing high-quality, patient-centered care, and we look forward to welcoming a new group of nurses who are passionate about community-based nursing.”

Lisa DiMaria, PhD, who joined the VNA in June, will oversee the program and help six newly licensed nurses learn all aspects of community health nursing. Dr. DiMaria comes to the VNA with years of clinical and academic program development and

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program evaluation experience. Since 2015, she has served at the University of Rhode Island (URI), College of Nursing as an adjunct faculty member, 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. She earned a doctor of philosophy in nursing and master of science in nursing education, both from URI, and a bachelor of science in nursing from Russell Sage College in Troy, NY.



“The VNA of Care New England is pleased to offer this unique opportunity to new nurses who may be looking to explore community health nursing and gain home-based patient care experience,” said Kathleen Peirce, vice president of clinical operations and executive director, chief nursing officer, VNA of Care New England. “With the guidance and clinical expertise of Dr. DiMaria, this residency program will help bridge the learning curve from student nurse to home health registered nurse, all while providing essential support to the VNA and the community.”

“I am really looking forward to leading this program and teaching new nurses to be independent clinicians in the home health environment and obtain the nursing experience that can often be challenging to find as a newly licensed nurse,” said Dr. DiMaria. “Residency programs are a great way to transition new nurses while also helping to enhance our nursing work force.”

The New Graduate Nursing Residency Program takes the newly licensed nurse from novice to advanced beginner in home health, in about one year’s time. The program will begin in September and will be offered annually. In addition to preparing the next generation of nurses, the New Graduate Residency Program will also 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 high demand.

Highlights of the curriculum include integrated case management training, didactics, wound care and diabetic services, patient safety training and secure and independent case management.

As we all know, a career in health care is rewarding and fulfilling. We have seen the tremendous success of graduate medical education across Care New England, and I am pleased that the VNA of Care New England can offer this opportunity to the next generation of nurses in our community.

Continue to do great things, and have a spectacular week ahead!

Sincerely,

Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer

How to apply:

Qualified candidates for the VNA’s New Graduate Nursing Residency Program are graduates, preferably from a bachelor’s program, who live locally, are willing to work full-time, and have passed the RN NCLEX exam. Eligible candidates must submit an online application to the position titled RN (New Graduates) at <http://carenewengland.org/jobs>. Please send a separate email to the director of workforce development and planning, Jody Jencks, at jajencks@carene.org, with the following documentation:

- Letter of intent.
- Resume with clinical information.
- One recommendation letter from a clinical instructor.
- Educational transcripts (unofficial).
- Nursing license, if available (required before starting program).
- Essay of 500 words or less on the topic “Why would you be a good community health nurse?”

For more information or questions regarding the program, please call Jody Jencks at (401) 680-4348.

ConvergenceRI
Click [here](#) to view this week’s ConvergenceRI



Application period for women's health innovation research now underway

The 2016 Constance A. Howes Women's Health Innovation Research Fund Grant Program is now accepting applications! Up to \$50,000 in seed funding will be awarded in 2016 to support innovative pilot projects focused on women's health and gender-based research. The total number of grants will depend on the size and scope of the applications received.



Hundreds of individual and foundation donors contributed to this fund in honor of former Women & Infants President and CEO Connie Howes. Research projects will be evaluated by a Scientific Advisory Committee as well as an ad hoc Donor Advisory Committee. This fall, finalists will be asked to present their projects before ultimate selections are made.

The application and selection process:

- Visit http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/398_forms.pdf for the full request for proposals.
- An informational call with members of the Scientific Advisory Committee on August 26, 2016 at 11 a.m.
- Finalist presentations in the fall. Awardees will be notified in December 2016 and award periods will begin on January 1, 2017.

Applications are due Friday, September 16, 2016, at 5 p.m. Any questions or inquiries should be directed to Ashley Barrett at cahfund@wihri.org.

TPC nurse leader publishes research on opioid use

The Providence Center's Dr. Christine Gadbois, director of Nursing and Client Health Services, recently had her research published in the *Journal of Addictions Nursing*, the official publication of the International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA). Her study, titled "Health Promotion in an Opioid Treatment Program," investigates the disadvantages of individuals in treatment for opioid abuse when it comes to accessing preventative and primary health care.



Dr. Gadbois will present a continuation of this data that relates to opioid users having access to proper nutrition and teaching nurse practitioners how to treat this population at the 40th annual IntNSA Conference in Las Vegas in October (<http://www.intnsa.org>). She is also currently studying ways of integrating holistic treatment methods like reiki into traditional behavioral health care.

New COO named to CNE Medical Group

As part of the ongoing changes to the management structure of the Care New England Medical Group, Jean C. Butler has joined Care New England as its new chief operating officer. Jean joins Care New England from Cape Cod Healthcare, where she served as vice president of finance since 2014 and oversaw a team of 26 professionals responsible for accounting, financial reporting and internal controls for the \$800-million health care system. Cape Cod Healthcare consists of two acute care hospitals, more than 60 physician practices, a Physician Hospital Organization, homecare and hospice services, a skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility, an assisted living facility, laboratory services, and a captive insurance company.



Prior to Cape Cod Healthcare, Jean was the senior director of financial planning at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Plymouth from 2010 until 2014. While at BID-Plymouth, Jean led the department's efforts around decision support, cost accounting, reimbursement, managed care contracting, budgeting, financial analysis and performance management.



Phipps named to ABOG Board

Maureen G. Phipps, MD, MPH, obstetrician-gynecologist in chief at Women & Infants and Care New England, has been elected to the Board of Directors for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG). Dr. Phipps—who is chair and Chace-Joukowsky Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and assistant dean for teaching and research in women's health at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University as well as professor of epidemiology at the Brown University School of Public Health—will serve from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2022. ABOG (<http://abog.org>) is an independent, non-profit organization that certifies obstetricians and gynecologists in the United States. Founded in 1927, it is one of 24 specialty boards recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties.



Butler Hospital promotes Partial Hospital Program in latest marketing campaign

A marketing campaign for Butler Hospital's Partial Hospital Program launched this spring has reached more than 80 percent of the local market, was seen by more than 100,000 people, yielded 3,500 website visits, jammed up the phone lines in admissions and filled the six programs, booking a week out. Beginning in April with paid advertisements and posts on Facebook, the audience reach (number of people see/hear) and frequency (number of times) increased in May with the addition of four weeks of radio and six weeks of expanded online advertising. Each ad posed the question, "Are you struggling with depression, anxiety or an addiction?" and directed listeners and viewers to learn more about our Partial Hospital Program.



Thirty people who called for information specifically referenced hearing the radio ads. The online ads drove 110 clicks to our website and five phone calls to the program. One Facebook ad garnered more than 84,000 impressions, 3,500 website clicks, 80 shares, 1,962 likes, 7 loves, and 18 comments. Those comments included rave reviews about Butler Hospital and the life-changing, life-saving care provide here. One Facebook user wrote, "Suffered for more than four years with anxiety and depression. Finally enrolled in the outpatient program. Really helped me. Provided me with the tools to achieve positive thinking. Thank you, Butler Hospital."

The next phase of the campaign is highlighting some of those tools with tips from clinical staff on [talksyourhealth.com](http://www.talksyourhealth.com/dig-deep-what-are-your-priorities/) at <http://www.talksyourhealth.com/dig-deep-what-are-your-priorities/>, which will be shared on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Women & Infants adds new breast surgeon to staff

Women & Infants Hospital announces the addition of Hannah A. Bansil, MD, MPH, to the staff at its Breast Health Center in the Program in Women's Oncology. Dr. Bansil recently completed a breast surgery fellowship at Columbia University. In addition, she completed a residency in general surgery through East Tennessee State University. She earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Covenant College, a medical degree from East Tennessee State University, and a master's of public health in global health from Harvard School of Public Health. She is a member of the American Society of Breast Surgeons, the American College of Surgeons and the Association of Women Surgeons. In addition, she has published several articles on such topics as lymphedema prevention, global health care and HIV. She completed a global health research practicum through Harvard in Nicaragua, where she worked to establish collaborative partnerships and collect data. She has also served as a volunteer physician in Ethiopia and Bangladesh.



"Dr. Bansil is intelligent and enthusiastic about improving the health of women facing breast cancer. She will be a valuable asset to our team," says Jennifer Gass, MD, co-director of the Breast Health Center and surgeon-in-chief at Women & Infants.

For more information, contact the Breast Health Center at Women & Infants can call (401) 453-7520.



Breast Health Center at Kent Hospital's Women-In-Need Program receives \$10K donation

Inspired by her mother's recent battle with breast cancer, a Cranston resident has raised \$10,400 to support the financial needs of other local women in treatment. Cait Amirault recently donated the funds to The Breast Health Center at Kent Hospital's Women-In-Need (WIN) Program, which supports cancer patients with financial hardships by helping them pay for personal expenses.

Cait's mother, Patricia Amirault, was diagnosed with Stage III breast cancer in the summer of 2015, two days after her 60th birthday. "My family was devastated," said Cait, who stayed by her mother's side as she received chemotherapy and radiation treatments over eight months. Although the Amiraults could afford treatment and other services, Cait often thought about the financial impact of cancer treatment on other women and their families. After learning about WIN, Cait literally hit the ground running and decided to run a marathon and Crowdfunder campaign to raise money for the program.

Cait's initiative is outlined on her GoFundMe site: "The wonderful people at the Breast Health Center have taken great care of my mom over the past eight months and our family and I can't thank them enough. It's not easy watching someone you love suffer but it's comforting knowing that they're well cared for. Although I can give my mom an okay foot rub and toast a mean bagel, I thought that the best way to show my support would be to spend the next few months raising money for the WIN Fund. On May 1, I'll cap off my fundraising efforts by running the Providence Marathon in whatever pink outfit my mom deems appropriate."

Cait recruited a team of runners who joined her mission to support her mother and WIN. With an initial goal of raising \$5,000, Cait had a modest minimum ask of \$26.20, a dollar for every mile she would run. Donations came in not only from runners, but from people near and far who wanted to support the cause. On May 1, Cait completed the full 26.2 miles, joined by a crowd of family and friends there to support her. In the end, she more than doubled her fundraising goal. But the true win was her mother's health. Patricia received her last treatment in April 2016 and currently has no evidence of disease. "I have a greater appreciation for life. I've learned I'm a lot stronger than I ever thought I could be. I have been the recipient of so much love, compassion and kindness from my family, friends and the many people I have met during this journey," said Patricia.

The WIN Program is completely funded through donations. One hundred percent of proceeds go back to women in need. For more information about the program or how you can donate to this worthy cause, please contact Kim McDonough, RN, BSN, nurse manager, at (401) 736-3737.




Photo from left to right, Kim McDonough, RN, BSN, nurse manager; Cait Amirault; Patricia Amirault; Dawn Sheehan, RN, BSN; Jessica Collorone, patient access associate; and Maggie Rego, CNA.

Fundraiser generates \$106,000 for Memorial ED improvements

A Summer Breeze—Memorial Hospital's 5th Annual Golf Tournament and dinner reception held recently at Pawtucket Country Club—raised more than \$106,000 for improvements to the hospital's Emergency Department.

The event included one flight of golf, a poolside dinner reception with a steel drum band, awards, live and silent auctions and raffles. Guests heard news about Memorial from President Michael Dacey, MD, and Foundation Chair Virginia Roberts. "It's always wonderful to see the community come out in support of Memorial Hospital. This year's focus is on the Emergency Department, which serves a vital role in this area, helping patients of all ages who are in need of emergent care. Thanks to the committee that planned the event, and everyone who donated to this worthwhile cause," said Michael Dacey, MD, president of Memorial. In addition, Victor Pinkes, MD, chief of emergency medicine, spoke about the Emergency Department and its critical role as the front door of the hospital and guests heard one grateful patient's story about his Emergency Department experience and subsequent surgery.

In recent years, Memorial Hospital has taken steps to reduce wait times in its Emergency Department and improve overall efficiency. Proceeds from the tournament will help Memorial to further improve care by focusing upon the patient experience, investing in equipment and using innovative strategies to ensure that every patient receives the right level of care in a safe, comfortable and compassionate setting. Special thanks to tournament co-chairs Gary Reis, president and CEO, and Beth Reis, certified public accountant and CFO, both of Med Tech Ambulance Service, members of the Golf Tournament Planning Committee and members of the Memorial Hospital Foundation. 



Speakers from *A Summer Breeze* assemble at the June event. From left to right, they are: Stephen Silva, vice president supply chain, CNE; Gary and Beth Reis, event co-chairs; Virginia Roberts, chairperson, Memorial Hospital Foundation; Victor Pinkes, MD, chief of emergency medicine; Michael Dacey, MD, president.