together we are transforming the future of health care

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Good day!

Late last week, Care New England and Southcoast took another step in moving our affiliation forward with the first of several regulatory filings necessary to secure approval on our proposed partnership. This first filing was our Notice of Material Change submitted to the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission.

Two additional regulatory filings are necessary in Massachusetts in order to move forward with the process—both to the Department of Public Health. One is for Health Facility Licensure and the other is for a Determination of Need.

Three filings will also be required in Rhode Island: an application with the Department of Health for a Change in Effective Control (CEC); Attorney General Hospital Conversion Act filing; and Department of Health Hospital Conversion Act filing. As in Massachusetts, the Rhode Island regulatory process also provides opportunity for public notice and input.

These filings in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island will include state-defined organizational information from both Southcoast Health and Care New England, as well as information regarding the proposed affiliation.

This is a start of an in-depth review which will give regulatory agencies from both states an opportunity to assess our proposal and to allow for a full public airing of all aspects of the affiliation. Perhaps even more so than when we announced our intent to partner with Southcoast last November, we remain four-square behind the affiliation. An affiliation with Southcoast will create the size and scale necessary to help us better manage population health for patients, reduce the cost of care, invest in the latest technology, continue our proud traditions in academic medicine, and attract the best doctors and providers—all resulting in exceptional care for our patients.

continued

Echoing these sentiments, in a statement to Southcoast employees issued today, Keith Hovan, president and CEO of Southcoast Health, said, "This filing is the beginning of what will be a thorough regulatory review process in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and is an important next step toward affiliation. We are excited to have entered the regulatory phase with Care New England and are looking forward to a transparent process that provides opportunity for public hearings and community input."

We believe it will be important that we share as much information as possible with our physicians and staff about the affiliation process, maintaining an open conversation throughout.

To help with that communication, we will be developing some new tools that we hope will facilitate dialogue and provide answers to questions you may have as information becomes available.

Affiliation Update Intranet Page: We will be creating a dedicated page on **care**net, which will include links to additional information, articles of interest and a link to a dedicated email box.

Email Box: We have created a dedicated email box on **care**net for you to submit questions about our **t3** initiatives and other matters of concern. If you have questions about the Southcoast affiliation, send them along! We will be adding Southcoast information to the regular stream of responses to your questions.

Affiliation Update Newsletter: We will be joining with Southcoast to create a dedicated electronic newsletter that will be published on an as-needed basis to provide answers to questions and share timely updates on our progress.

Town Halls: We will continue to provide late-breaking information about the Care New England-Southcoast affiliation in our regularly scheduled Town Halls. Watch for the next scheduled set of meetings across all of our operating units in early fall.

We may not have answers to all of your questions at the time you ask as much work remains and many decisions have yet to be made. But, as the affiliation process moves forward, more and more details will be forthcoming and we are committed to providing you with timely updates and information.

We believe we will be better together—stronger institutions to care for our patients, stronger workplaces to provide great jobs for our employees. I encourage you to learn as much as possible about the benefits of the affiliation and to help us advance it in the community!

Have a great week ahead.

Sincerely,

Dennis D. Keefe

Dennis D. Keefe President and Chief Executive Officer





Integra Community Care elects new Board chair

Albert Puerini, MD, president and CEO of RI Primary Care Physicians Corporation (RIPCPC), has been elected as chairman of the Board of Integra Community Care Network, LLC, a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)-certified Accountable Care Organization (ACO) and a Medicaid Accountable Entity certified by the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health & Human Services. Dr. Puerini has served as the ACO's vice chairman and a medical director since its inception in 2014. He succeeds Dennis D. Keefe, president and CEO of Care New England, as Board chair. Dr. Puerini will retain his role as a medical director.

The Integra care provider network is comprised of the Care New England and South County Health systems, RIPCPC—the state's largest primary care organization—and a number of independently employed and community physicians. In addition, Integra has formed a network of primary/urgent care providers who have extended hours in the evening, weekends and holidays. Integra is improving the patient experience through better collaboration of health care providers and a patientcentered focus resulting in better treatment outcomes.

"I am honored to help shape the future of Integra at such a critical time in health care, particularly in Rhode Island and southern New England," said Dr. Puerini. "The way health care is delivered is changing and we have to accept the important responsibility to continue to improve the health of the populations we serve. We intend to do this by better coordinating care among all health care providers."

"Since Integra was formed in 2014, we have been focused on our goal to provide high-quality care while reducing costs," said Keefe. "As a founding member of Integra, Al has played a crucial role in the ACO's success and has the vision necessary to lead the organization moving forward."

Dr. Puerini has been president and CEO of RIPCPC since 1995. RIPCPC is composed of 150 primary care physicians in the areas of family medicine, pediatrics and internal medicine. Over the past 15 years, he has successfully negotiated innovative contracts in Rhode Island with multiple insurance companies for RIPCPC physicians based on improving quality outcomes. In November 2014, RIPCPC won the prestigious "Business Excellence Award" from the *Providence Business News*.

Dr. Puerini is a native Rhode Islander who has been in private practice since 1983 as a founder of Family Health and Sports Medicine, LLC, in Cranston. He received training in his specialty at the Brown University Program in Family Medicine at Memorial Hospital, became a board-certified Diplomat in Family Medicine in 1982, and was elected a Fellow with the American Academy of Physicians in 1992. Dr. Puerini graduated from Providence College in 1974 and has been the school's head team physician for all sports since 1988.

Since 1990, Dr. Puerini has served as a clinical assistant professor of family medicine in The Warren Alpert School of Medicine at Brown University. With this appointment, he teaches sports medicine and office-based family medicine to medical students and family medicine residents. He is a former member of the RI Medical Society President's Executive Committee and has served on the Governor's Primary Care Physician Advisory Committee and the Governors Healthcare Reform Commission. He serves on the boards of directors of the RI Quality Institute, the Hospital Association of RI, and the Care Transformation Collaborative of RI.



Women's Health Innovation Research funding opportunity



The 2016 Constance A. Howes Women's Health Innovation Research Fund Grant Program is now open! 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 due date is Friday, September 16. Please contact Ashley Barrett at *cahfund@wihri.org* for more information. Click here for the full Request for Proposal.

Kent Hospital announces new pharmacy residency program

Kent Hospital has established a pharmacy residency program affiliated with the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy. The hospital's first class of pharmacists began in July and will take part in a one-year residency offering competency development in a broad area of pharmacy practice.

Kent's pharmacy residency program is one of four post-graduate, year-one pharmacy residency programs in the state of Rhode Island. Pharmacy residents contribute to the hospital's mission by providing patient care rounds, target drug monitoring and patient monitoring.

"We are very excited to announce our new pharmacy residency program which is a tremendous benefit to not only the new pharmacists taking part, but to the clinical staff here at Kent Hospital," said Michael J. Dacey, president and COO, Kent Hospital. "The program allows us to grow as a teaching hospital, while enriching educational opportunities for pharmacists, physicians and nurses. This residency program will allow the opportunity for increased pharmacy presence and expanded clinical services within the hospital."

Areas of rotations/learning experiences include: cardiology, critical care, infectious disease, internal medicine, neonatology, psychiatry, outpatient oncology, practice management and drug information. Pharmacists who comprise the program are:

- Kristen Butler, PharmD, who obtained her doctor of pharmacy degree in 2016 from Eastern Tennessee State University and an undergraduate degree from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Kristen's career interests include clinical pharmacy in cardiology.
- Sarah Hendrick, PharmD, who obtained her doctor of pharmacy degree in 2016 from the University of New England. Her career interests include emergency medicine, critical care and infectious disease.

The Kent Hospital Pharmacy Department is comprised of 27 pharmacists, 28 pharmacy technicians and inventory support personnel, and a department director. The pharmacy provides a wide-range of clinical services including: therapeutic drug monitoring, antimicrobial stewardship, interdisciplinary care team rounding, various hospital committees, rapid response and code blue situations. Pharmacists staff the Intensive Care Unit, Emergency Department, and multiple medical floors. In addition, the department has a clinical coordinator information technology and infectious disease specialist pharmacists. On average, the pharmacy processes 2,400 orders daily.



From left to right, Kristen Butler, PharmD, and Sarah Hendrick, PharmD, Kent Hospital pharmacy residents.

For more information on the Kent Hospital Pharmacy Residency Program, please contact Michelle Kelley, PharmD, clinical coordinator of pharmacy services and director of Kent Hospital Pharmacy Residency Program, at (401) 737-7000, ext. 31762.



VNA of Care New England offering treatments for patients with Parkinson's Disease

The VNA of Care New England is now offers LSVT BIG[®] and LVST LOUD[®] treatments to individuals with Parkinson's disease and other neurological conditions. Patients can be treated conveniently in the comfort of their own home. LSVT BIG specifically addresses unique movement impairments and LVST LOUD is an effective speech treatment that improves vocal loudness by stimulating the muscles of the voice box.

Participants in the LSVT BIG program demonstrate improvements in movement amplitude (trunk rotation/gait) which can improve speed in the upper and lower limbs, balance and quality of life. This can result in decreased risk for falls and improved safety. LVST LOUD is focused on a single goal, "speak LOUD!" The treatment improves respiratory, laryngeal and articulatory function to maximize speech intelligibility. It does not train people to shout or yell, rather, LVST LOUD uses loudness training to bring the voice to an improved, healthy vocal loudness with no strain.

The VNA of Care New England has two LSVT BIG-certified physical therapists and one LSVT LOUD-certified speech language pathologist available to treat patients four times a week for hour-long sessions. Each treatment is done individually over 16 sessions.

For more information about LSVT BIG and LVST LOUD, please contact Sarah Lovegreen or Emily Lyons, managers of allied health, at (401) 737-6050.

Providence Business News names TPC 2016 'Innovation Winner' The Providence Center (TPC) is among the 10 companies named the most innovative in the region by the *Providence Business News* (http://bit.ly/2bzLU3g).

Organizations were chosen on the criteria of "having a new product or process that has had a significant impact on the marketplace and/or the enterprise." TPC focused on its AnchorED program, which connects peer recovery specialists with overdose survivors in local emergency departments. Anchor ED's recovery coaches are on-call at all the hospitals in the state, 24/7.

George O'Toole, the manager of Anchor ED, is excited about the recognition for this groundbreaking work. "I think the community is discovering more and more how powerful the support of a peer with lived experience can be to someone suffering from the disease of addiction," said O'Toole. "We're honored to receive this award, and we hope we can continue to find new ways of reaching out to those in need of services."

Memorial staff participate at McCoy wellness night

Memorial Hospital experts and the Paw Sox recently teamed up to offer a healthy dose of prevention and education. Doctors, nurses, laboratory technologists and staff members provided a free wellness night on August 24, 2016 at McCoy Stadium before and during the PawSox game. The event took place inside the stadium next to the food court with various tables offering free screenings and information. The community took advantage of this convenient opportunity to ask an internal medicine doctor, oncologist, pediatrician or a nurse questions. Memorial Hospital staff offered glucose and blood pressure screenings. A representative of the Pawtucket Cancer Control Task Force was on hand with information as well.

Top photo: Pictured left to right, Roberta Zimmerly, parent consultant/ program planner/intake coordinator, Department of Pediatrics, New England Pediatric Institute of Neurodevelopment; Anthony Thomas, DO, chief of hematology/oncology, The Cancer Center; Viren D'Sa, MD, director, New England Pediatric Institute of Neurodevelopment and pediatrician-in-chief; and Joseph Diaz, MD, physician-in-chief of the Department of Medicine, staff the Ask the Doctors table.

Bottom photo: Alissa Musto, Miss Massachusetts 2016, visits Memorial's free glucose screening table. Bea Zamojski, phlebotomist, performs the free glucose screening.









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Flex benefit-eligible employees (non-union), learn your cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides, fasting glucose, HbA1c, and nicotine levels through a free blood draw, plus blood pressure and BMI check at one of our FREE, CONFIDENTIAL and private biometric screenings. To schedule an appointment online, please visit http://www.ehealthscreenings.com/signup (use screening key CNE01) or register by phone at 1-888-708-8807, ext. 1.



CARE NEW ENGLAND EMPLOYEE WELLNESS BENEFIT

Screening events will be held at various times and locations during August and September. Learn more at http://carenet/humanresources/cne/upload/CNE-2016-Employee-Screening-Schedule-carenet.pdf.

All you have to do to earn your monthly health contributions discount (discount begins January 1, 2017) is complete your biometric screening, prove that you are tobacco free or enrolled in a tobacco cessation program and designate a primary care physician.

Learn more at http://carenet/carenet/humanresources/CNE-Flex-Benefits.cfm.

Painting donated in recognition of Butler's Memory and Aging Program

In a dedication ceremony at Butler Hospital earlier this month, local artist Paul Coté officially unveiled a painting he donated to the hospital in recognition of Butler's Memory and Aging Program. With a strong family history of Alzheimer's disease, Coté is an advocate for the research being done by Dr. Stephen Salloway and the Memory and Aging Program, a world-class research center for Alzheimer's. The painting, titled "Alzheimer's Clock," measures 10 feet by 10 feet and is now on permanent display in the hospital's arboretum. Coté explains that he believes this painting belongs at Butler and nowhere else. He says the painting is of a clock about to strike 12, representing the imminent need to find a cure for Alzheimer's and how close he believes that discovery is.

In addition to his artwork donation, Coté has been involved in the Memory and Aging Program's research efforts. Today, Alzheimer's research is acutely focused on prevention, which has increased the need for individuals who do not have the disease to participate in clinical trials. The Memory and Aging Program at Butler is currently asking individuals ages 55 to 85, with and without memory concerns.

To sign up for their Alzheimer's Prevention Registry (http://bit.ly/2bjAroL). 🚥



