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“Opioid addiction is a public health crisis. Working together, we will break down barriers between intervention, intensive treatment, and sustained care management with the ultimate goal of doing all that we can to help Rhode Islanders be successful in recovery.”

Good day! Last week, Care New England took center stage in announcing how, in partnership with the State of Rhode Island and its leaders, we are fighting back against opioid addiction in an effort to curb its devastating effects on people.

Governor Gina Raimondo and Secretary of the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services Eric Beane joined CNE EVP/COO/Chief Clinical Officer Dr. Jim Fanale, Interim President of Butler Hospital Mary Marran, and Dr. Kevin Baill, unit chief of Butler Hospital's intensive inpatient adult treatment and chief of Care New England's Recovery Stabilization Program, in announcing a new Center of Excellence for opioid addiction. The full press release follows.

This is a perfect example of the partnerships that are necessary to bring about change in health care, bringing together our teams from Butler Hospital, The Providence Center, Continuum Behavioral Health, and Kent Hospital, to provide 24/7 access to substance use disorder services through the Recovery Stabilization Program.

Opioid addiction is a public health crisis. Working together, we will break down barriers between intervention, intensive treatment, and sustained care management with the ultimate goal of doing all that we can to help Rhode Islanders be successful in recovery.

This is great work, and I congratulate all who are involved.

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Raimondo, Care New England announce new center of excellence to combat opioid overdose epidemic

Governor Raimondo and Care New England (CNE) along with CNE members Butler Hospital, The Providence Center, and Continuum Behavioral Health, announced a new Center of Excellence for opioid addiction that will offer a longer treatment period and access to substance use disorder services. As part of a comprehensive, nationally-recognized

action plan, Rhode Island established a Center of Excellence model to provide outpatient treatment for Rhode Islanders suffering from substance use disorder. Centers of Excellence are certified by the State and offer medically assisted treatment (MAT) and additional supportive services.

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With the Center of Excellence designation, CNE received \$242,224 grant monies in June. Through this funding, the launch of the program was accelerated and clinicians began seeing patients in October at its Providence and North Kingstown locations. The funding is administered by the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) and will primarily be used for salaries to staff the new program.

"The opioid overdose epidemic is the most urgent public health crisis of our time," said Governor Gina M. Raimondo. "We created the Center of Excellence model so that Rhode Islanders can get the help they need to recover from the disease of addiction. I am thankful to Care New England for their continued partnership and support of our mission of recovery. As we continue our work to save lives, I ask our leaders in Washington to put politics aside and devote resources, not rhetoric, to combating this epidemic."

Fighting Rhode Island's opioid overdose crisis is one of Governor Raimondo's top priorities. In August of 2015, she signed an Executive Order creating the Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force. This July, she signed a follow-up Executive Order to implement Rhode Island's opioid crisis Action Plan and announced that CVS Health would be opening an Opioid Center of Excellence in Woonsocket. Since taking office, the Governor has worked with legislative leaders in the General Assembly to pass ambitious legislation aimed at preventing opioid overdoses, including a bill that increases the penalties for trafficking fentanyl.

The new treatment service is called the Recovery Stabilization Program and will be led by Butler Hospital's Chief Dr. Kevin Baill, unit chief of intensive inpatient adult treatment services; Continuum's Director of Operations Heather Lykas, LMHC; Medical Director Catherine DeGood, DO; and Clinical Director Gretchen Anderson, LICSW. Baill is also a member of Governor Raimondo's Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force.

"Centers of Excellence (COE) are the cornerstone of Governor Raimondo's Action Plan created by the Governor's Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force," stated BHDDH Director Rebecca Boss. "COEs are integral to our success in fighting the opioid epidemic and we are pleased that Care New England has become a partner in this effort."

For 2016, the Rhode Island Department of Health reports there were 56 accidental deaths from prescription drugs, 216 from illicit drugs, and 66 involving both pharmaceutical and illegal drugs in the state. This is 46 more deaths from opioid overdose than reported for 2015. There are almost an equal number of deaths for those 25 to 34 years of age as there are for those 45 to 54 years of age, respectively, at 96 and 97 accidental overdoses for each age group. Also alarming is a nine-fold increase since 2009 in the number of deaths related to Fentanyl, a highly potent opioid. Since 2009, 1,534 Rhode Islanders have lost their lives to opioids. James Fanale, MD, executive vice president, chief operating officer and chief clinical officer, Care New England Health System, said, "We are proud to offer this new program as part of Rhode Island's fight to stem and reverse the growing number of people suffering with addiction to opioids, and, through these efforts, to play a role in lowering the number of deaths from overdose."



At Butler Hospital, in the 12 months from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017, there were 1,549 discharges from inpatient addiction services of which 30.1 percent were for opioid use; 712 discharges from alcohol and drug addiction partial hospital (day) program with 25.8 percent related to opioid use treatment; and more than half (55.8 percent)

of the 254 discharges from Butler's ambulatory detoxification clinic were being treated for opiate use. Likewise, Continuum saw between 350 and 400 individuals over 500 treatment episodes, with a significant percentage returning multiple times for care.

"Expanding access to treatment is a central component of our nationally-recognized strategy to address the addiction and overdose crisis," said Eric Beane, Secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. "Butler Hospital is stepping up to meet the highest standard as a level-one Center of Excellence. Their commitment to providing outpatient treatment to any patient within 24 hours ensures that Rhode Islanders will have access to the help they need as they embark on the path to recovery."

The outpatient Recovery Stabilization Program provides easy access to care and is offered at Butler and Continuum locations in Providence and North Kingstown. The specialized service is designed to provide six months or more of treatment. The recovery team may include an addiction specialty physician, registered nurse, licensed

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therapist, and case manager. The team manages the outpatient treatment and determines when someone requires more intensive services, such as inpatient, partial hospital, or ambulatory detoxification, because of early stages of recovery, relapse, or increased risk of relapse.

"Our team recognizes that recovery is not a straight path. Relapse is not uncommon, and we don't judge people when they stumble in recovery," added Dr. Baill. "Instead, we get them the right care they need at the right time, knowing that this is how treatment works and that recovery is possible."

Once patients are stabilized, long term treatment is transferred to a primary care provider (PCP) and a therapist to manage medications and continue counselling, respectively. The recovery stabilization team remains available for consults should there be a need to intervene or consider adjusting medications.

People are admitted to the program through a referral from their physician or therapist, an emergency department doctor, or when self-presenting to Butler Hospital's Patient Assessment Services in its Emergency Department. To start the process, individuals contact CNE's Call Center for Behavioral Health Services at 1 (844) 401-0111, which is available 24/7.

"The program will even cover the cab fare to transport someone from the Kent Hospital Emergency Department to Butler Hospital," said Dr. Baill. Once at Butler, the patient will be further assessed to determine if inpatient or outpatient medically-assisted detoxification is necessary before entering the program for a combination of medication management, skill-based therapy, and group support to treat the opioid addiction. This allows people to begin treatment seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

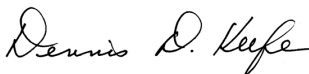
Dr. Baill commented, "We are very appreciative to the State and the Governor for recognizing the importance of creating these types of specialized medication assisted treatment services. The Center of Excellence designation also means those insured by the State can get the treatment they need without any barriers. Our goal is to offer comprehensive, wrap-around care that fully supports individuals in their recovery from opioid addiction, regardless of what behaviors or medical history has caused their addiction. This is a judgement-free environment."

For additional program information visit:
<http://carenewengland.org/services/recovery-stabilization/>

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Thank you and have a good week ahead.

Sincerely,



Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer



Dennis Keefe honored by *Providence Business News*

Providence Business News honored Dennis Keefe, president and CEO of Care New England, with its 2017 Business Excellence Corporate Citizenship Award at an event held last week in Providence. Dennis was honored for his work at Care New England and his efforts to move the organization out into the community and assume responsibilities beyond its core mission.

"As I look back on my career, the one area that does stand out is my work in communities. To me, that's where you can really make an impact," Keefe said in accepting his award. "It's why I'm such a proponent of Population Health, which I believe is the future of American health care. Whether it's the United Way, the March of Dimes, the Boy Scouts, or the American Heart Association, organizations that I've strongly and personally supported over the years, there is great value in volunteering your time and energy to whatever cause connects with you. It is a perfect way of giving back."

Dennis was joined at the event by his wife and children, as well as colleagues from Care New England.

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"The ability of Care New England to have a positive impact on the health of all Rhode Islanders, starting with the leadership of Dennis Keefe and running throughout the entire organization, cannot be overestimated," said Charles Reppucci, executive director and chief operating officer of Hinckley Allen & Snyder, and chairman of the board at Care New England.

"This award is about my role and Care New England's role to ensure we're being actively involved and engaged in communities, about improving the health of those communities, and actively supporting communities in these efforts," continued Keefe. "It is truly better to give than receive, and I promise that someday you too will reflect back and realize that beyond your impact within in your organization, your impact in the community is what will create your fondest feelings; where you made a difference; where you made a positive impact; and where you improved the lives of others. It's what being a good corporate citizen is all about."

Kent Hospital Emergency Department staff reunites with a patient and family

In late October members of Kent Hospital emergency staff were able to once again see former patient, Connor Barrett, only this time under extremely different circumstances. Connor's first interaction with Kent's Emergency Department was after accidentally consuming a peanut butter cookie, triggering one of "the worst allergic reactions we've seen in 15 years," according to Dr. Peter Graves, chief of the Emergency Department.

Connor consumed the cookie during his school lunch, where he recognized his allergy symptoms and headed to the school nurse. The school nurse administered an EpiPen and then called an ambulance for hospital transportation. While reminiscing of the day's events during the Kent Hospital and family reunion Elena Romanov, emergency RN expressed, "I can't say enough how thankful we were for the school nurse who knew Connor needed an EpiPen. Her decision was absolutely critical to Connor's survival."

Connor's parents, Mark and Melissa, joined with their son as an ambulance transported Connor to Kent's Emergency Department. Upon arriving to the ED Mark and Melissa realized the seriousness of Connor's reaction, as they watched a respiratory nurse utilize an ambubag, using her arms to pulse the air bag, essentially breathing for their son. Nursing staff encouraged the parents to stay calm as the emergency team diligently went to work. "Connor was a true fighter; his strength and perseverance certainly impacted this positive outcome," said Dr. Laura Forman, emergency physician who was part of Connor's care team that fearful day.

Working in tandem Kent Hospital's ED team was able to stabilize Connor. A pediatric LifePACT team then transported him to Hasbro Children's Hospital for the remainder of his care. Months later, when Connor and his parents reunited with the team, they expressed their everlasting gratitude for "saving their son's life."

"If there is one take away from this experience it's not to underestimate the seriousness of allergies," said Mark. "We are blessed for such a positive outcome, but I hope other people can hear of our experience and know that an allergy is not something to brush off."

During the reunion the family and emergency department team reminisced on the experience, expressed continued thanks for the quality of care and the parents support, and heard of Connors quick recovery—making it to hockey tryouts (and making the team!) just a few weeks after the incident.



Back row from left to right: Tonya Lesiuk, RN, emergency medicine; Paula Tassoni, RN, emergency medicine; Elena Romanov, RN, intensive care; Sherri Sprague, RN, nurse manager, emergency services; Dr. Laura Forman, emergency medicine physician; and Dr. Peter Graves, chief of the Emergency Department.

Front row, from left to right: Mark, father; Connor, former patient; Melissa, mother.



Dr. Don Coustan recognized as “Giant in Obstetrics and Gynecology”



Congratulations to Dr. Don Coustan, director of the Prenatal Diabetes Program in the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Women & Infants, who has been recognized as a “Giant in Obstetrics and Gynecology.” This recognition is part of a series by the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AJOG) through which AJOG recognizes individuals who have changed the practice of medicine.

Dr. Coustan is an internationally recognized expert on the management of diabetes in pregnancy and is the author of more than 200 research papers and scholarly publications. He was chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital and the Warren Alpert Medical School from 1991 to 2008.

“This is a wonderful honor for Dr. Coustan and the hospital in general,” said Diane Rafferty, interim president and chief operating officer. “Dr. Coustan, like so many of our physicians, works tirelessly every day to help improve the lives of women. Through his innovative work in the field of maternal-fetal medicine, and in particular his groundbreaking research on treating diabetes in pregnancy, he has impacted women’s health care in unique and valuable ways.”

According to Dr. Maureen Phipps, “In the field of medicine, there are physicians who rise above, break new ground, and inspire others, making an indelible mark on all aspects of medicine including clinical care, research, and education. Dr. Don Coustan has been a role model and mentor to so many physicians, and we are very proud of him on this wonderful recognition of so many of his achievements.”

The profile in this month’s AJOG offers insight into Dr. Coustan’s highly successful career in clinical care, education, and research, and answers such questions as why he chose obstetrics and gynecology and how he developed his passion for finding new and better treatments for gestational diabetes.

Butler Hospital Adolescent Unit and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Partial Hospital Program teams recognized for patient experience quality scores

At Butler’s Employee Recognition event, held November 1 in the Sawyer Building Arboretum, a quote from Patriots Coach Bill Belichick was shared to capture the essence of what’s required to earn high patient satisfaction scores. “On a team it is not the strength of the individual players, but is the strength of the unit and how they all function together.”

Likewise, the below representative quotes pulled from surveys capture how Butler’s Adolescent Unit and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Partial Hospital Program are exceeding patient expectations, and excelling at delivering utmost quality care.

Adolescent Unit survey comments:

- “AJ and Beth should be congratulated for the care they provide.”
- “The team was compassionate and helpful, but firm when they needed to be.”
- “It was better than I could have imagined.”
- “The experience was fantastic. Staff helped our son to adjust.”

Alcohol and Drug Addiction Partial Hospital Program survey comments:

- “All staff members could not have been more kind, helpful and informative—specifically, Dr. Sheehan and Stephanie as well as Kristina.”
- “This has been a very great time and I cannot stress enough how nice and professional everyone is.”

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Alcohol and Drug Partial Hospital team recognized.



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- “I can’t say enough good about Butler Hospital. All the counselors and doctors—the list just increases as I think about Kristy, Marissa, Bill and so on...God has innately used all of you in such a dark, ugly disease. God Bless all of you. Thank you!”

When we deliver exemplary, patient-centered care, those we are helping feel the difference. Thank you to all who are committed each day to improving the lives of our patients.

Chelo’s donates golf tournament proceeds to The Providence Center

Chelo’s has once again selected The Providence Center (TPC) to receive the proceeds of their recent 30th annual charity golf tournament, held on September 11 at Alpine Country Club in Cranston. The Chelo’s Charity Golf Classic has raised more than \$1 million since its inception, and this year earned more than \$13,000 for TPC programs.

Erica Donnelly, TPC’s annual campaign manager, expressed the organization’s gratitude toward the Chelo family. “Their generous donation will help ensure The Providence Center is able to continue to provide critical mental health and addiction treatment to thousands of Rhode Islanders in crisis,” Donnelly said.



Since 1955, the locally-owned restaurant chain has been supporting Rhode Island communities. 

