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“I hope you can find these personal moments for remembrance and the traditions that make this time of year special for you and yours.”

Good day! It might be hard to believe, but the holidays are here! With that in mind, let me begin by wishing a Happy Hanukkah to those who begin their celebration tomorrow night. I hope it proves to be a wonderful occasion for family, friends, reflection, and joy.

It can be very easy with everything going on here at Care New England to miss the smaller moments that the holidays often provide. Now, I hope you can find these personal moments for remembrance and the traditions that make this time of year special for you and yours.

It is also important to remember that the holidays can often be very difficult for many who are dealing with loved ones who are sick and perhaps, have recently died. I would like to commend our VNA for hosting its annual Circle of Love and Light Hospice Memorial. With more than 80 attendees, it is clear this event is an important part of the healing process for many. The empathy, compassion and even joy this gathering helps to kindle reflects on our professionalism and devotion to those who are in need year round, but particularly now.

On the Memorial front, the Department of Health held another public meeting last Monday night as it continues to conduct its review of our pending closure application. Additionally, the union at Memorial has filed suit in an attempt to halt this process. While we continue to await a final ruling on our Memorial Hospital closure application, it is important to reiterate that we have undertaken these steps in a manner strictly following the guidelines set forth by a clearly defined, state regulatory process. That said, we believe Thursday's court filing on behalf of the union is without merit and Care New England intends to file an answer disputing these claims early this week.

Both Dr. Fanale and I will continue to keep you updated on related developments in the days ahead.

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Dr. Ana Tuya Fulton named Care New England executive chief of geriatrics

The care of the older patient is of great significance in the care we deliver at Care New England. It is an essential component of the hospital care we provide as well as in our population health initiatives in Integra. I am excited to recognize the importance of geriatrics by announcing the establishment of an executive chief of geriatrics at CNE



and am extremely pleased to appoint Ana Tuya Fulton, MD, FACP, to serve in this role.

Dr. Fulton completed her medical school training at George Washington University School of Medicine. Upon completion of her internal medicine residency at Brown, she was named chief
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resident and subsequently completed a geriatrics fellowship also at Brown. Dr. Fulton is board certified in internal medicine and geriatrics and is an associate professor of medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. She joined Butler Hospital as chief of medicine in 2008, and in 2016 was appointed CNE chief of geriatrics.

She has led many key initiatives in geriatrics at CNE, including establishing inpatient and outpatient consultation programs. She has revolutionized the residency training in geriatrics across CNE and now, principally at Kent Hospital. She is actively involved in the HRSA GWEP grant and

serves as a medical director of Integra. Recently, she and her team have been involved in a new initiative at Kent in "geriatricizing" the care of older patients by implementing delirium prevention and other medical management initiatives. Kent Hospital is very quickly becoming the preferred hospital point of care for older patients. This collaborative work with the leadership and staff at Kent, community partners in long-term care, and specialists at Kent demonstrates how quality of care can be enhanced by working together. Ana has led this effort. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Ana Tuya Fulton as she assumes this new role.

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Dr. Jose Rengifo named director of education for Patient Assessment Services

A message from Dr. Mustafa Surti, chief medical officer at Butler Hospital

I am pleased to announce that Jose Rengifo, MD, has been named director of education for Patient Assessment Services (PAS). In this new role, he will supervise the education and training of residents, interns, and students working in PAS. His responsibilities include facilitating orientation, developing educational resources to supplement on-the-job training, and providing one-on-one supervision.

Dr. Rengifo joined Butler Hospital in June 2016 as a staff psychiatrist. He most recently served as preceptor for third year medical students and fifth year psychology residents from The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, and was a guest lecturer for the Memorial Hospital Internal Medicine Resident Conference.



He completed his residency at Cambridge Health Alliance in adult psychiatry. He was a clinical fellow in psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and attended Rush Medical College. He has published on a wide variety of topics in psychiatry. He is also multi-lingual, fluent in English, French, and Spanish, intermediate conversational in German, Portuguese, and American Sign Language. He also is currently learning Japanese and Mandarin Chinese.

In addition to his role as director of education, Dr. Rengifo will continue his clinical work in the Partial Hospital Program. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Rengifo.

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VNA holds Annual Circle of Love and Light Hospice Memorial

On November 27, more than 80 members of the community gathered together at the Warwick Public Library to honor and remember their loved ones who are no longer with us. The evening included speaker Susan Audet, the daughter of Mary T. Read, and Ann Paolilli, the wife of Richard Paolilli. She shared how the VNA of Care New England's hospice team supported their family while caring for their loved one during this difficult time.

During the event, the VNA of Care New England's hospice chaplain, Diana Anderson, offered words of encouragement

and insight to attendees regarding the world of coping with grief. The Ocean State Women's choir provided live music for the evening as attendees received candles to honor their loved ones.

For many, this time of year, a time that has typically been joyous and filled with holiday traditions, is now diminished by the passing of someone they hold dear. The VNA of Care New England is honored to offer this memorial event that promotes peace, comfort, and a time to reflect on the love and light each of our loved ones have left as their legacy.

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Thank you and have a good week ahead.

Sincerely,

Dennis D. Keefe

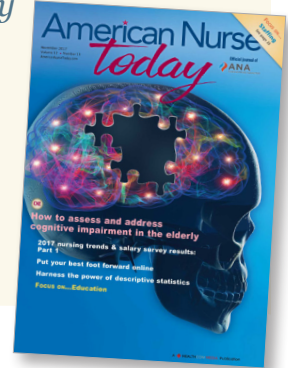
Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer



Nurse Manager Idrialis Perez-Carter published in *American Nurse Today*

The November 2017 edition of *American Nurse Today*, the official journal of the American Nurses Association, published an article on quality improvements at Butler Hospital's inpatient geriatric psychiatry unit with the introduction of a rounding program. Idrialis Perez-Carter, MS, RN, outlines the challenges of the patient population on these units with a mix of high- and low-functioning adults with diagnoses including dementia, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia.

The story shares how the ICARE rounding tool was applied to this patient group's disposition, resulting in a 70 percent reduction in patient falls within the first three months of the program. Additionally, staff surveys collected during the same time period reported increased staff satisfaction with higher level of confidence in meeting patients' needs. Read the entire article online, and extend your questions and congratulations to Idrialis at IPerezcarter@butler.org.



The Providence Center receives grant award from Blue Cross & Blue Shield of RI

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island (BCBSRI) has awarded a \$20,000 grant to The Providence Center (TPC) to support development of the Anchor Youth Recovery Community Center, the first youth-focused recovery community center in Rhode Island.

"Blue Cross is encouraged by The Providence Center's focus on this particularly vulnerable population," said Gus Manocchia, MD, BCBSRI chief medical officer. "By better supporting adolescents in recovery, we can make a measurable difference in Rhode Island's overall substance use disorder rates and create healthier communities."

The announcement was made last week at the premiere of "Inside the Epidemic" A Second Opinion Special at Rhode Island PBS. Following the screening, Anchor's director, Deb Dettor, participated in a panel discussion about the stigma associated with addiction, and ways to better address the opiate epidemic. The panel was moderated by Dr. Manocchia, and included URI pharmacy professor Anita Jacobson and Dr. James McDonald from the Rhode Island Department of Health.



The center is slated to open in early 2018 and will be located at 1280 North Main Street in Providence. For more about the Youth Recovery Center, visit: <http://bit.ly/2z4AXoA>.

Dr. Renee Eger certified as menopause practitioner



Renee R. Eger, MD, FACOG, medical director of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Care Center (OGCC) and the Menopause Program at Women & Infants Hospital, has passed the examination necessary to become a North American Menopause Society (NAMS) Certified Menopause Practitioner (NCMP). Dr. Eger is a member of the Care New England Medical Group (CNEMG) and is an assistant professor (clinician educator) at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Founded in 1989, NAMS is North America's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to improving health and quality of life through an understanding of menopause. Those who hold the NCMP certification have demonstrated special interest and competency in the field of menopause. These include physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurses, and pharmacists, among others.

Women & Infants introduced its Menopause Program in 2013 with a multidisciplinary team of providers that includes obstetrician/gynecologists, internal medicine providers, cardiologists, behavioral health specialists, and endocrinologists. Dr. Eger has been serving the health care needs of the women of Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts for more than 20 years. Her interests include minimally invasive gynecologic procedures, evaluation of abnormal Pap smears and abnormal bleeding, contraceptive services, adolescent gynecologic care, and routine gynecologic care. In 2013, she was certified by the Center of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology. 