

# carenews

together we are transforming the future of health care

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“Collectively, you are what makes CNE a special place of caring and healing, and once again, thank you!”

**Good day! Happy Nurses Week and Happy Hospital Week! I know amidst the pressures of the day—and there are many—it can be easy to simply forget to pause and recognize these opportunities that are hallmarks within our health care culture.** While it might not be elaborate, it is important to honor these days and more importantly, all of you! With all that is happening here at CNE, once again I do want to reiterate my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your contributions, professionalism and commitment to those we serve and to each other. I have attached a new recognition video on page 2 created for this occasion and, I encourage you to take a few minutes and watch with your colleagues. As you do so I would ask you to draw from this camaraderie and purpose. It's moments like those reflected in the video that we can use as a source of inspiration and strength when it seems our challenges are greatest.

In case you missed it, last week we finally kicked off the formal CON public hearings for Women & Infants. It went great, and I want to commend the entire team of presenters and the supporters who came out in force. I have attached a link to the front-page *The Providence Journal* article that appeared. There is a long road ahead but this was the way to really kick things off!

Also, as promised last week, in this edition you will find the full listing of CNE's Top Docs recently recognized by *Rhode Island Monthly*. There are so many examples of clinical excellence, caring, compassion and just really good people doing good work. Congratulations to all of you for this special distinction.

I hope you have a great week ahead, celebrating one another and your hard work. Collectively, you are what makes CNE a special place of caring and healing, and once again, thank you!

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## **CNE celebrates Nurses and Hospital Week**

Every year around this time we take a week to not only share and speak of the appreciation and gratitude we have for the nurses and staff across our system, but to specifically celebrate your dedication to the patients and the families we serve. From the nurses who console

ailing patients on their hardest days to our groundskeepers who've ensured we're greeted at work by spring flowers—this week is our time to say thank you for your service.



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I am pleased to share with all of you a [new CNE video](#) produced to kick off this week. The video connects us to the CNE mission, while still acknowledging that these are challenging times. It calls attention to the good people and good work we do and recognizes your importance and value. I am sure you will have a chance to view this at upcoming meetings and events but I wanted to give all of you a sneak peek here. I hope you enjoy it.

Over the course of this week you'll find opportunities to engage with one another and participate in small, but meaningful ways. From employee service and recognition gatherings, to cookie bake-offs and food truck lunches, I hope you will pause to connect with colleagues and staff and remember the great work you do for CNE and the community. This is just a sampling of what's in store so keep an eye out for information at your operating unit on specific times, locations and activities.

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## Women & Infants CON public hearing held

Last week, our team from Women & Infants made a very successful presentation at a public meeting of the Health Services Council. This group will ultimately make a recommendation to the director of the Department of Health about Women & Infants' certificate of need (CON) to renovate its Labor and Delivery suite, as well as Rhode Island Hospital's CON to build a new obstetrics service.

There was a front page story in [The Providence Journal](#) about the meeting. To help keep everyone informed, a web presence

has been created at <http://www.womenandinfants.org/trusted> which provides information about both CONs, letters of support and opposition, media coverage, and more.

This page will continue to grow in the coming weeks as the debate heats up. And, of course, I will provide updates and information here in *carenews* as the process unfolds.

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## Recognizing CNE's Top Docs

Sixty-one physicians with privileges at four Care New England hospitals—Butler, Kent, Memorial, and Women & Infants—have been named to *Rhode Island Monthly's* 2017 list of Top Docs in Rhode Island.

The physicians awarded this distinction represent the continuum of care offered across Care New England. Our broad range of services—primary care, surgery, cardiovascular care, oncology, psychiatry, behavioral health, newborn pediatrics and the full spectrum of women's health services—make us uniquely prepared to care for individuals and our community whether they're having their first child,

facing a cancer diagnosis, or in a sudden need for emergency services. In reinventing the way health care is delivered, Care New England has attracted many of the nation's top specialty-trained doctors who work diligently to ensure the health of those they serve.

Multiple physicians have privileges at two or more hospitals in the system. The full list of 2017 Top Docs appears in the May issue, now on newsstands.



### Butler Hospital

Palliative Care — Dr. Kate Lally

### Kent Hospital

Allergy — Dr. John Zwetckhenbaum, Dr. David Katzen, and Dr. Anthony Ricci

Anesthesiology — Dr. Vijay Sudheendra

Cardiology — Dr. Alice Kim

Critical Care — Dr. Ehsun Mirza

Emergency — Dr. Christopher Zabbo

Family Practice — Dr. Denise Arcand

Gastroenterology — Dr. Christie Dibble

Gynecology/Oncology — Dr. Paul DiSilvestro and Dr. Katina Robison

Hematology/Oncology — Dr. Sundaresan Sambandam and

Dr. Robert Legare

Hospitalist — Dr. Daniel Peril and Dr. John Gelzhiser

Infectious Diseases — Dr. David Lowe

Nephrology — Dr. Christopher Cosgrove and Dr. Charles McCoy

Neurology — Dr. Arshad Iqbal

Otolaryngology — Dr. Prabhakar Tipirneni

Palliative Care — Dr. Kate Lally

Pulmonary Diseases — Dr. Thomas Raimondo

Rehabilitation/Physical Medicine — Dr. John R. Carbon

Sports Medicine — Dr. Jeffrey Manning and Dr. Razib Khaund

Breast Surgery — Dr. Candace Dyer and Dr. Jennifer Gass

Cardiac/Thoracic Surgery — Dr. Laurie B. Reeder

Colon/Rectal Surgery — Dr. Melissa Murphy

General Surgery — Dr. Joseph Brady

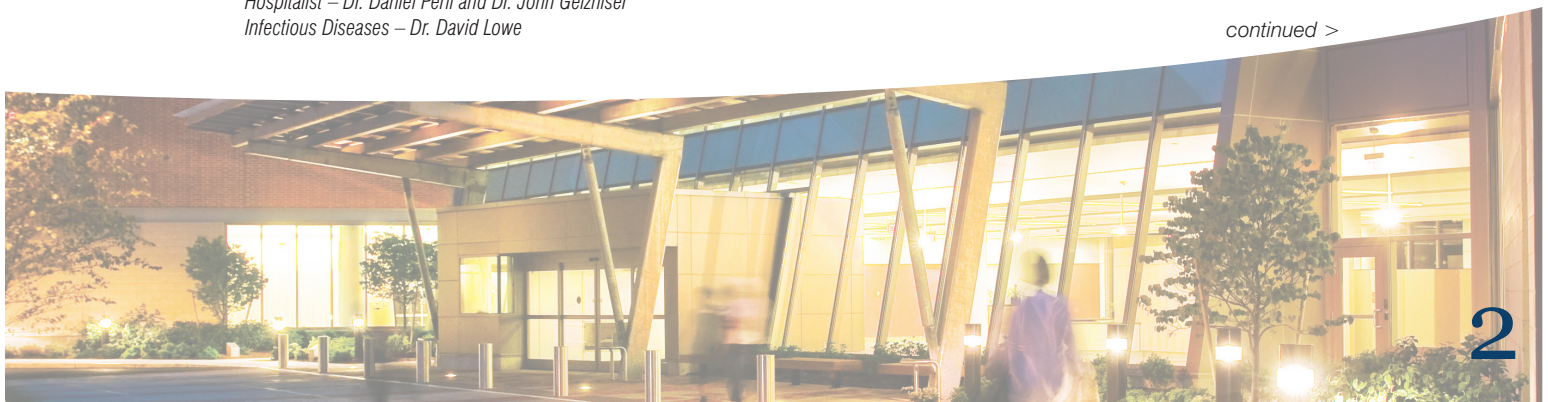
Orthopedic Surgery — Dr. Robert "Bob" Shalvoy

Plastic/Reconstructive Surgery — Dr. Pierre R. Michaud

Urology — Dr. Andrew J. Tompkins

Vascular Oncology Surgery — Dr. Guy Lancellotti

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## **Memorial Hospital**

Hematology/Oncology – Dr. Sabrina Witherby  
 Nephrology – Dr. Richard Cottiero, Dr. Christopher Cosgrove,  
 Dr. Charles McCoy  
 Neurology – Dr. Julie Roth  
 Otolaryngology – Dr. John Tarro  
 Palliative Care – Dr. Kate Lally  
 Radiation Oncology – Dr. Scott Triedman  
 Reproductive Endocrinology – Dr. Carol Wheeler and Dr. Gary Frishman  
 Sports Medicine – Dr. Razib Khaund  
 Cardiac/Thoracic Surgery – Dr. Laurie B. Reeder  
 Orthopedic Surgery – Dr. Robert “Bob” Shalvoy  
 Neurosurgery – Dr. Deus Cielo  
 Urology – Dr. Andrew J. Tompkins and Dr. Rashmi Licht

## **Women & Infants Hospital**

Critical Care – Dr. Andrew T. Levinson  
 Dermatology – Dr. Abrar Qureshi  
 Gastroenterology – Dr. Christie Dibble  
 Gynecology/Obstetrics – Dr. Carroll Medeiros, Dr. Kathleen Cote Bowling  
 and Dr. Jane Sharp  
 Gynecology/Oncology – Dr. Paul DiSilvestro and Dr. Katina Robison  
 Hematology/Oncology – Dr. Robert Legare

Infectious Diseases – Dr. David Lowe, Dr. Erica Hardy and  
 Dr. Leonard Mermel  
 Neurology – Dr. Julie Roth  
 Otolaryngology – Dr. Jan Groblewski  
 Palliative Care – Dr. Kate Lally  
 Pediatrics – Dr. John Finigan, Dr. Kevin Clegg, Dr. Howard Silversmith, and  
 Dr. Jane Dennison  
 Radiology – Dr. Jeffrey Rogg, Dr. Brian Murphy, and Dr. Peter Evangelista  
 Rehabilitation/Physical Medicine – Dr. John Parziale  
 Reproductive Endocrinology – Dr. Carol Wheeler, Dr. Gary Frishman, and  
 Dr. Ruben Alvero  
 Breast Surgery – Dr. Jennifer Gass  
 Colon/Rectal Surgery – Dr. Melissa Murphy and Dr. Adam Klipfel  
 Plastic/Reconstructive Surgery – Dr. Pierre R. Michaud and  
 Dr. Andrea Doyle

Thousands of Rhode Island licensed physicians were sent a survey and asked to name the specialist they would choose if a family member or friend had a medical problem. The names that appeared most frequently on the survey make up 150 of the state’s finest doctors, as voted by their peers.

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## **March of Dimes celebrates RI for reductions in preterm birth rate**

The March of Dimes presented Rhode Island with its Virginia Apgar Prematurity Campaign Leadership Award at a ceremony this morning for hearing and vision issues in newborns. Rhode Island’s preterm birth rate fell from 9.6 percent in 2010 to 8.6 percent in 2015, a 10 percent drop. The national preterm birth average for 2015 was 9.6 percent.

“We are pleased to recognize the commitment, leadership, and collaboration required to reduce the rate of prematurity in Rhode Island. We are fully aware of the complexity of this issue and applaud the state for its notable accomplishment,” said Jordana Frost, Maternal and Child Health Director for the March of Dimes in Rhode Island.

Despite Rhode Island’s progress in reducing its preterm birth rate, disparities still exist. For example, the preterm birth rate among African Americans was 11.4 percent and it was 9.7 percent among Latinos. The preterm birth rate among white Rhode Islanders was 8.4 percent. Nationally, the preterm birth rate among African American women (13 percent) was about 50 percent higher than the rate of preterm births among white women (9 percent).

“This award is a testament to the incredible commitment and collaboration that exists throughout Rhode Island among OB-GYNs and other healthcare providers, healthcare facilities, insurers, the Rhode Island Department of Health and other state agencies, community groups, the Rhode Island Task Force on Premature Births, and so many others,” said Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH, Director of the Rhode

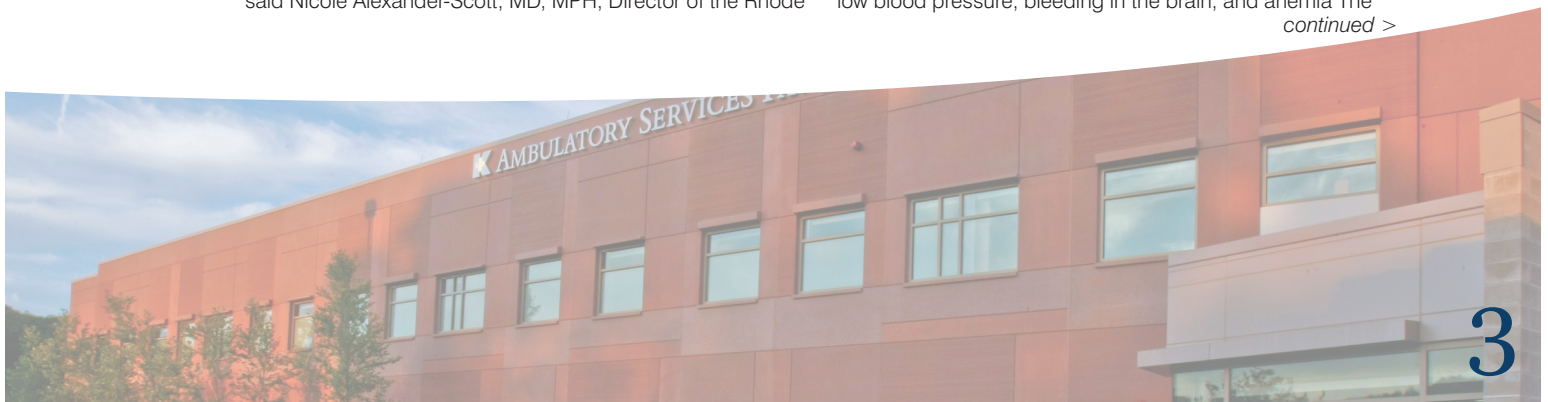
Island Department of Health.

“Moving forward, we need to narrow our focus even more on preterm birth disparities, including those based on race, ethnicity, city or town of residence, and insurance status. Every single baby in Rhode Island absolutely deserves an equal opportunity to have as healthy a start as possible, and to be on a trajectory that will allow them to thrive through childhood and beyond.”

“The Rhode Island Task Force on Premature Births includes a variety of groups and projects all aimed at ameliorating various adverse situations that can contribute to preterm birth,” said Katharine Wenstrom, MD, chair of the Rhode Island Task Force on Premature Births, director of the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Women & Infants Hospital, and professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. “Some are local grass roots projects, some are sponsored by local agencies, and some are headed by the Rhode Island Department of Health, but all are focused on working together in collaboration to share energy and resources, to be as effective as we can be in reducing the preterm birth rate in Rhode Island.”

A preterm birth is when labor that starts too early, before 37 weeks of pregnancy, giving the baby less time to develop in the womb. Preterm babies may have more health problems or need to stay in the hospital longer than babies born at full term. Specific complications include breathing problems, low blood pressure, bleeding in the brain, and anemia.

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preterm birth rate in the United States decreased from 2007 to 2014. This decline was in part due to declines in the number of births to teens and young mothers. Data indicate a slight increase in the national preterm birth rate from 2014 to 2015.

The Rhode Island Task Force on Premature Births has been working to address preterm births since 2006, when Rhode Island's preterm birth rate was 12.5 percent. The work of the Task Force includes expanding access to contraception and working to reduce multiple pregnancies by assisted reproductive technology, which is a major risk factor for preterm births. Other risk factors include an interval of less

than six months between pregnancies, smoking cigarettes, using illicit drugs, poor nutrition, stressful life events, and other social and environmental factors.

Another major focus on the Rhode Island Task Force on Premature Births is addressing barriers to access to 17-hydroxyprogesterone, which is also known as 17P. 17P is an evidence-based intervention to help prevent recurrent preterm birth. Barriers to access to 17P include cost, insurance coverage, and availability. The six other states or territories to receive the Virginia Apgar Prematurity Campaign Leadership Award are Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, and Virginia.

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## *Dr. Pablo Rodriguez will receive honorary degree from Roger Williams University*

During Roger Williams graduation ceremony on May 20 the university will confer an honorary degree to Dr. Pablo Rodriguez, chair of the Women & Infants Health Care Alliance, president and CEO of Women's Care, former medical director of Planned Parenthood of Rhode Island, and a clinical associate professor at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Some 1,080 undergraduate and graduate students will take part in the 2017 commencement exercises, which will begin with a procession at the Bristol campus, One Old Ferry Road. The procession will enter a tent on RWU's main athletic field at 9:30 a.m., and the ceremony will begin at 10 a.m.

"Many universities honor certain individuals at their commencement ceremonies by inviting them to deliver an address to the graduates or by awarding them an honorary degree—and Roger Williams University is no exception to this tradition," RWU President Donald J. Farish said. "We think it is particularly important to recognize those who have contributed to the public good and who reflect our institutional mission of 'strengthening society.' This year, we honor two such individuals, well-known to many Rhode Islanders, whose life work reflects a deep and abiding commitment to making Rhode Island a better place: Patrice Wood and Dr. Pablo Rodriguez."

Rodriguez is a well-known community leader and active participant in civic and charitable organizations, both locally and nationally. He is past chair of the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals, the Rhode Island Foundation, the International Institute of RI, the Rhode Island Latino Political Action Committee, RI Project AIDS and the Democracy Compact. He led a \$1.5 million capital campaign to benefit Progreso Latino, the leading social service agency for new immigrants. He was involved in the Health Care Reform Commission, which was in charge of drafting the Rlthe Care legislation in Rhode Island. And he was chair of the Minority Health Advisory Committee and the Minority AIDS Taskforce.

Rodriguez has received many awards for his community involvement, including the Community Service Award from the American Medical Association in 1994 and Planned Parenthood of RI in 1996. The John Hope Settlement House gave him their highest honor, the Paris Vaughn Sterett Award for community service, and the Ministers Alliance gave him with the Martin Luther King Service Award. Providence Mayor Jorge O. Elorza has called him the inspiring force behind the creation of the Latino Policy Institute at RWU, which Elorza co-founded. Also, he is a host of radio and television programs. He co-founded and serves as chairman and CEO of 1290-AM, Latino Public Radio.



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Sincerely,

*Dennis D. Keefe*

Dennis D. Keefe  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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



## HIPAA privacy and security training—complete by June 28, 2017

On Tuesday, May 2, CNE launched the computer-based training required to comply with the Office of Civil Rights HIPAA Resolution Settlement. Our workforce members have received an email from HS-Alerts, [hs-alerts@healthstream.com](mailto:hs-alerts@healthstream.com), with a link to the training. Some staff have inadvertently deleted this alert. This address is not spam and is a safe email. All members of our workforce are required to complete training on HIPAA Privacy and Security by June 28, 2017. The training contains eight modules and should take approximately one hour to complete. You can click directly on the training link or copy and paste <http://www.healthstream.com/hlc/carenewengland> into your Google Chrome browser (use of Internet Explorer has created issues for some staff).

Your user ID and Password will be provided to you in the alert. The training contains attestations and quizzes which must be completed for each module.

Compliance Services is developing a tip sheet to assist users having problems accessing the training. Questions may be referred to Compliance Services at extension 11277, by dialing (401) 277-3660, or via email to [cnecompliance@carene.org](mailto:cnecompliance@carene.org).

## Educating patients and families about palliative and end of life care

Connie Ducharme, a nurse care manager at Integra Community Care Network, is working with senior centers across the state to help educate community dwelling seniors about palliative care, geriatrics and the importance of aligning care with patient's wishes. Connie is focused on educating patients and families in order to help them understand their diagnosis and prognosis, as well as assist them in clearly articulating their wishes. Connie also talks about The Conversation Project, a nationwide initiative that encourages patients and families to talk about what matters most to them.



"Having goals of care conversations is not just a medical issue, it is a human issue," said Ducharme. "Many people shared stories of their experiences dealing with the death of a family member. We had one woman cry and say she wished that she could have had this conversation with her mom before she died. Holding these sessions can help to normalize talking to your loved ones about the care that you would or would not want at end of life."

Ducharme is working with the URI Geriatric Education Center on a GWEP (Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program) grant, which complements much of the work CNE and Integra are doing in palliative care and geriatrics around aligning care with patients' wishes. Ducharme is collaborating with Dr. Ana Tuya-Fulton and Dr. Kate Lally who are also on the GWEP grant. Together, they are working closely with primary care practices to help them better engage with patients about what matters most.

## Study finds multifaceted intervention lowers risk of new suicide

The results of a clinical trial involving nearly 1,400 suicidal patients in the emergency departments of eight hospitals was recently published in *JAMA Psychiatry*. Lead on the study is Ivan Miller, a Butler Hospital psychologist and a professor of psychiatry and human behavior at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. As corresponding author along with 14 other authors, the team found that a multifaceted intervention lowered the relative risk of new suicide attempts by 20 percent.



In results, emergency department (ED) patients who received the intervention composed of specialized screening, safety planning guidance and periodic follow-up phone check-ins made 30 percent fewer total suicide attempts compared to people who received standard ED care. "We were happy that we were able to find these results," said Miller. "We would like to have had an even stronger effect, but the fact that we were able to impact attempts with this population and with a relatively limited intervention is encouraging." Also from Butler are contributors Drs. Brandon Gaudiano, Lisa Uebelacker and Lauren Weinstock. Last week, the study, likely the largest intervention trial conducted so far in the U.S., began receiving national coverage in the media; read [Brown's full news release](#) for more details.





## Kent Hospital nurse honored with DAISY Award

Kent Hospital recently presented Courtney Page, RN, 2 North unit, with the spring 2017 DAISY Award. Courtney is from Warwick and began working at Kent Hospital in 2009. This award is part of the DAISY Foundation's program to recognize the above-and-beyond efforts performed by nurses every day.

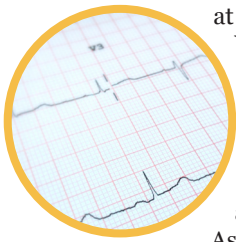
Courtney was nominated by a patient, who wrote, "Courtney took care of me post-lower back surgery and immediately brought a positive, caring attitude the moment she introduced herself to me. She took initiative offering me a soft ice pack, so much more comfortable than a bulky, sharp one; the only choice I thought I had. She entered my room with a smile each time. She was making sure I was comfortable and safe every time she checked on me. She explained every change in medication and/or treatment and care. I was really happy to see her the following day, knowing that I was in good hands and up for the best care possible two days in a row. I feel really lucky to have such a caring and kind nurse in charge of my well-being. I hope you realize what a treasure you have in Courtney and how glad I am to have had her as my caregiver! Thank you."



"It is a pleasure to recognize Courtney for all of her hard work and dedication to her patients and Kent Hospital," said Rebecca Burke, RN, MS, NEA-BC, SVP patient care services, chief nursing officer at Kent Hospital. "In the nomination that Courtney's patient wrote, it is conveyed that Courtney certainly goes out of her way to make her patients happy and the appreciation from her patient is apparent. High quality patient care is a top priority and Courtney demonstrated just that."

## Care New England Cardiovascular Care to host third annual Atrial Fibrillation (AFib) community forum for patients

Care New England Cardiovascular Care along with the Brigham and Women's Cardiovascular Associates at Care New England will offer its third annual educational forum, free to the community, on **Wednesday, May 24, 2017, from 5 to 8 p.m.** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick. Atrial Fibrillation (AFib) affects more than two million people in the United States and is the most common type of irregular heart rhythm (arrhythmia).



"We are very excited to provide this third annual educational forum to the many patients in our community who have atrial fibrillation," said Bruce A. Koplan, MD, MPH, director of the cardiac arrhythmia service for Care New England and a member of the Brigham and Women's Cardiovascular Associates at Care New England. "Although atrial fibrillation is very common, there are a number of different treatment options that we can offer to patients with this condition to help them live a normal life. We will answer many questions patients may have about the symptoms of AFib and how to maintain an active, healthy lifestyle once diagnosed. We look forward to building on the tremendous success of our prior events."

Forum topics will include:

- Recognizing atrial fibrillation (AFib)
- Medications for rate and rhythm control
- Stroke risks and prevention
- Understanding pacemakers and Afib
- What is atrial fibrillation?
- Lifestyle and nutrition for atrial fibrillation
- Catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation

This educational forum for patients with AFib is being sponsored by Care New England and Brigham and Women's Cardiovascular Associates at Care New England. The event is free and includes dinner.

Attendees are welcome to bring a guest. For more information or to register, please contact Lisa Palmer at [LPalmer@KentRI.org](mailto:LPalmer@KentRI.org) or (401) 737-7000, ext. 31650.



## The Providence Center to attend DCYF fairs

Representatives from The Providence Center's (TPC) Child and Family programs will attend upcoming provider fairs held by the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) over the next two weeks. Program staff will travel to every DCYF location and talk with their representatives about TPC's offerings.




TPC receives DCYF referrals to the following programs:

- **Transitional Living Program** – provides adolescents 17 to 21 who have lived in residential programs much of their life with stable housing, and prepares them to live independently through ongoing education and support.
- **Multi-Systemic Therapy** – addresses the complex clinical, social and educational challenges for adolescents who have been court involved, have a history of out-of-home placement and/or exhibit high-risk behavior.
- **Teen Assertive Community Treatment** – provides case management and support services for young adults ages 12 to 21 in the Greater Providence area with co-occurring mental health and substance use issues.
- **Young Adult Health Home Program** – coordinates all aspects of care for teens, including psychiatry, primary care, specialty care, medication, hospital discharge and wellness needs.

In addition to DCYF, these programs accept referrals from other sources. For more information, please call TPC's Child and Family department at (401) 276-4155.

## Save the Date!

Got sneakers? Get Inspired! Join us for the 2017 Southern New England Heart Walk on **Sunday, June 4** at Station Park in Providence. Visit the Care New England page at <http://bit.ly/2qjhuJp> to learn how you can get involved in a day dedicated to supporting lifesaving research and advocating for healthier hearts in our community. While walking in the name of heart health is the day's highlight, you can also expect to see and enjoy health screenings, entertainment, giveaways, and a kids' zone.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women. In fact, one in three women dies of heart disease each year. The American Heart Association is taking on the challenge of fighting heart disease and stroke, and all walkers, donors, and volunteers are key to their success. We all have a heart, so let's walk to keep them healthy while raising hope for a healthier future right here in Southern New England! 



# Care New England