

JANUARY 8, 2018 | VOLUME 8 | ISSUE 2



**I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all those who worked extremely hard to assist patients and staff before, during, and after last week's winter storm.** As we have seen in the past, our amazing staff took the opportunity to prove themselves as leaders in emergency preparedness and response, during what were certainly challenging conditions, to say the least. By all accounts the Command Centers ran smoothly and proper planning showed that efforts to put systems into place ahead of these events are well worth the time and energy.

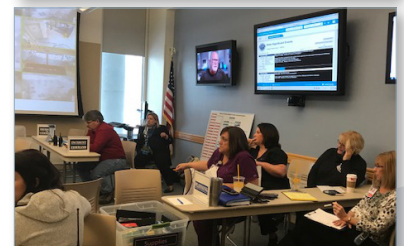
*I am always amazed but never surprised at the level of commitment and dedication both clinical and non-clinical staff show during challenging times such as this.*

We are all indebted to the many of you who did whatever it took to take care of patients and colleagues, whether it was removing snow to ensure a safe environment, making sure food and supplies were delivered, or safeguarding the many technology platforms on which we all rely to do our jobs at the highest level. I am always amazed, but never surprised at the level of commitment and dedication both clinical and non-clinical staff show during challenging times such as this. I am proud to see results of your efforts and comforted knowing we will again be ready when the snow flies once more. I'm sure there are numerous individual stories about those who went above and beyond during Winter Storm Grayson, but as a system you should all be extremely proud of the work you did in putting our mission and vision into action. Thank you.

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale, MD  
President and Chief Executive Officer

**ConvergenceRI**  
VIEW THIS WEEK'S EDITION HERE



## Care New England partners with Rhode Island College Institute for Education in Healthcare

Skills for Rhode Island's Future (Skills RI) is recruiting Care New England employees for the Community Health Worker Training Program in Providence, sponsored by the Rhode Island College Institute for Education in Healthcare. Care New England will be hiring community health workers at Women & Infants Hospital, Kent Hospital, Butler Hospital, and The Providence Center, as part of The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services grant.



Training will occur from **January 8 to March 22** on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., in addition to five Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon (January 13, February 3, February 10, February 24, and March 17). Training will be held at Rhode Island College, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908.

The program is designed to give participants the opportunity to learn the skills, knowledge, and responsibilities of a community health worker. A community health worker serves as a connector between members of their communities and health care providers and social services to ensure people are gaining access to the appropriate health services and care. For more information and to apply, visit <http://bit.ly/2m9NgYX>.

## The Department of Health declares widespread influenza in Rhode Island

Influenza can be a very serious infection leading to severe illness and even death. Flu vaccination provides protection from illness for many people, lessens severity of disease for others, and helps prevent spread within vulnerable populations.



For the safety of our patients and coworkers, and to prevent spread and outbreaks within our facilities, it is critical that each of us adheres to the following:

- Eligible health care workers should already be vaccinated. If you have NOT yet been vaccinated and are eligible to receive vaccine, you should do it now.
- Beginning immediately, unvaccinated workers must wear a mask whenever there is potential for direct contact with a patient. This includes both patient rooms and public areas where patients and families are present.
- Do not work if you are ill with flu symptoms. Working while sick places others at risk. You may return to work 24 hours after your fever has been gone while off fever-reducing medicines, and you are able to control your cough and secretions.
- Patients presenting with suspected flu illness should be placed immediately in a private room (or private area) under droplet precautions. Precautions are maintained for seven days after illness onset, or until 24 hours after the resolution of fever and respiratory symptoms, whichever is longer.

For more information on the flu, flu vaccine, or masking, visit <http://bit.ly/2m9Hbvl> to preview the FAQ guide.

## Arts & Health: Care New England staff exhibition planned for 2018



Original work by staff will be the next exhibit in the Malcolm and Elizabeth Chace Education Center at Women & Infants, the 29th in a series funded by a grant from Raymond F. Murphy Jr. and his family in honor of Dr. Walter R. Durkin. The submission deadline is **March 5, 2018**. This exhibit is open to all Care New England staff.

Two concurrent exhibits, each approximately eight weeks in duration, will run from April through August. Up to 40 artworks (20 per exhibit) will be chosen by a jury selection. In addition, two artists will be awarded a two-person exhibit in 2019.

*continued >*

< continued

Submissions are limited to two-dimensional work that is framed (or similar mounting), no larger than approximately 24 by 28 inches. They must be the original work of a staff member (paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, textiles) and be available for the duration of the exhibit. One submission per employee. Exhibitors will be notified by email of their inclusion in the exhibit and information regarding delivery of artwork.

Visit <http://carenet/wih/upload/ArtExhibitApplication.pdf> for the application. For more information, please contact Nancy Gaucher-Thomas at (401) 222-0619 or [NGaucherThomas@CareNE.org](mailto:NGaucherThomas@CareNE.org).

BUTLER

## Butler Hospital takes part in *Owning Our Story*

*Owning Our Story* is a play that highlights a family struggling with an adult child's substance abuse and addiction. The free educational event illustrates addiction as a chronic disease to create healing around loss from overdose, rally around recovery, and shed light on the stigma, pain, and shame of the disease. The play will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. on **Monday, January 15**, at The Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Providence.

The evening will feature guest speakers and scenes from *Four Legs to Stand On* by Creating Outreach About Addiction Support Together (COAAST). The last 30 minutes of the event will be dedicated to a "talk-back" between audience members and COAAST cast members for meaningful dialog on the play and the topic addiction.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. with one-hour of pre-show events. Representatives from local community-based organizations, including Butler Hospital, will offer information on overdose prevention and treatment/recovery services.



WOMEN & INFANTS

## Gina Demou named director of Diagnostic Imaging at Women & Infants



Gina Demou, RT (R), has been named director of Diagnostic Imaging at Women & Infants Hospital. Gina joins Women & Infants from Memorial Hospital, where she worked since February 2009 (first as chief of operations and then as site manager in Diagnostic Imaging) and also as a technologist from 1998 to 2008.

A graduate of the Community College of Rhode Island with an associate of science degree in applied science, Gina is currently enrolled at Johnson and Wales University and expects to earn a bachelor of arts degree in management this spring. 