

carenews

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Good afternoon! Last Friday I joined Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott of the Rhode Island Department of Health and health care leaders from across the state for a 2018-2019 flu season kick-off event. The focus was on vaccination because we know that the best way to protect against the flu virus is for people to get vaccinated every year. It was also stressed that people should see their primary care providers regularly rather than waiting and going to the ER when they think they might have the flu.

By getting vaccinated, health care workers not only protect themselves, but also help protect the vulnerable patients they care for. This week, our Occupational Health office kicks off flu clinics for staff. A full flu clinic schedule is on carenet.

Our goal is to reach and sustain staff vaccination rates greater than 95 percent system-wide. We know this is crucial to the health and well-being of our workforce and also of the communities we serve.

We are proud that Care New England has exceeded the Healthy People 2020 goal of having 90 percent of our workforce vaccinated. Moreover, our goal is to reach and sustain staff vaccination rates greater than 95 percent system-wide. We know this is crucial to the health and well-being of our workforce and also of the communities we serve.

As such, Care New England has joined with the Department of Health to increase the number of flu vaccinations this year, and that starts with all of you. I am challenging each of you to #VaxWithMeRI as we #FightFluRI. That's right—we are taking our flu message and challenge to social media.

Our marketing team will be posting photos to CNE corporate and operating unit social media pages of health care workers getting their flu shots with the hashtags #VaxWithMeRI and #FightFluRI.

I'm asking each of you to share your story of why you vaccinate across your own social media platforms—just tag @ButlerHospital, @CareNewEngland, @IntegraHealth, @KentHospital, *continued >*



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@ProvidenceCenter, @VNACNE, or @WomenandInfants on Twitter and Facebook. If you prefer, our marketing team can post a picture for you—send your picture and why you vaccinate to marketing@carene.org.

I received my flu vaccination because I know the danger I can cause if I were to pass along the flu to patients, particularly as a geriatrician with such a vulnerable elderly population. **Why do you get your flu vaccine?**

Sincerely,



James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer



CARE NEW ENGLAND

Care New England experts offer help

No matter what your beliefs, the daily headlines and ongoing public discourse around sexual assault may trigger some memories or even trauma in sexual assault survivors. Melissa Meyer, LMHC, ATR, program therapist at Butler Hospital, provided helpful information for the community that is now available at <http://carenewengland.org/health-alerts/> and has been shared on several social media platforms.

Melissa was also interviewed about the subject for a *Providence Journal* article available at <https://bit.ly/2Ohr0x5>.

CARE NEW ENGLAND

Making Strides against Breast Cancer

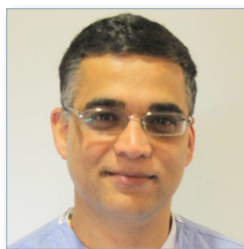
Care New England is pleased to sponsor the Health and Wellness Tent at this year's Making Strides Providence. The event takes place on Sunday, October 14 in downtown Providence—registration at 7:30 a.m. and the walk begins at 9 a.m. Stop by the information table and say hi to colleagues from Kent and Women & Infants Breast Health Centers!



Interested in walking? You can still sign up at <https://bit.ly/2HYBgE3>. Send pictures of you and your teammates to marketing@carene.org and we may include them on social media and in upcoming issues of carenews and ACTivity (be sure you have permission from everyone in the photo before submitting).

KENT

Vijay Sudheendra, MD appointed chief of anesthesia at Kent Hospital



Last week, Kent Hospital President and COO Bob Haffey and interim CNO Darcy Abbott announced the reappointment of Vijay Sudheendra, MD as chief of anesthesia at Kent Hospital. Dr. Sudheendra also serves as chairman of anesthesia at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital and Roger Williams Medical Center and is president of Narragansett Bay Anesthesia.

Dr. Sudheendra has served as chief of anesthesia at Saint Anne's Hospital in Fall River, MA, and its affiliated Hawthorn Surgery Center in Dartmouth, MA. He also served as medical director of Southern New England Surgery Center in Attleboro, MA, also affiliated with St. Anne's Hospital. Dr. Sudheendra served as director of cardiac anesthesia at Miriam Hospital from 2006 to 2011. Dr. Sudheendra served as a clinical assistant professor of surgery and anesthesia at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University from 2003-2012. He received his medical degree from Karnataka Medical College in Hubli, India, and completed an anesthesia residency at The Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH, in 2002, while also serving at the Cornell University New York Presbyterian Hospital for a portion of his anesthesia residency.

Women & Infants holds 6th Annual Nursing Award and Recognition Ceremony Carol Opiekun Scholarship—Julie Spirito, RN, nurse director, Antenatal Care Unit

This award was established in December 2012 as a means of supporting the continuing education efforts of nurses at Women & Infants Hospital. The \$500 scholarship may be used to support education-related expenses. Applicants submit an application describing their interest in advancing their education including a patient/family story or situation describing how the care they provided made a difference in the patient outcome/experience.

Mary Dowd Struck Award for Excellence in Nursing – Deborah Schoenfelder, MSN, RN, CNL, clinical staff educator

This award was created in 2006 by the Women & Infants Board of Trustees to honor our former senior vice president of patient care services. The award is given to a nurse that exemplifies clinical excellence, professional collegiality, patient and family advocacy, and a passion for women's and/or newborn health.

Home Loan Unsung Hero Award – Meghan Bertrand, RN, Mother Baby Unit, 5 East

This award was established by the Murphy family (Home Loan) after a nurse from Women & Infants Hospital jumped into the freezing waters of the Providence River to rescue a woman whose car had skidded off the road. The Murphy family provided a \$10,000 endowment and the award is presented annually to a Women & Infants nurse who has performed a heroic act and/or demonstrated heroism in the workplace or the community. The winner receives a \$200 nursing education scholarship, a \$50 check card, and a certificate of recognition.

Women & Infants Nurses' Choice Award – Judy Gonzalez, CNA, Antenatal Care Unit

This award began in 2017 as part of a CNE Professional Development Committee. The group decided to recognize and honor a clinical support colleague for high quality patient care, collaboration, and for incorporating our mission, vision, and values into their daily activities.

In addition to these honorees, Women & Infants also recognized all staff who were nominated throughout the year for the DAISY Award. There was a special recognition for Liz Howard, PhD, CNM, director of midwifery, for her work in providing the Power of Nursing Presence Workshops for nursing staff in the Labor Room, Antenatal Care Unit, and the Emergency Department. The workshop has provided staff with an opportunity to enhance their labor support skills for patients in labor across the care setting. Many thanks to Kaitlin Ditraglia, RN, from the ED, and Donna Tucciarone, RN, from the LDR, for sharing how they have been able to apply the skills to patients in their care.

CARE NEW ENGLAND

Care New England raises awareness during Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender, affecting people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels. The Care New England Interpersonal Violence Taskforce (IPV), established more than 10 years ago as a Women & Infants initiative, addresses the unique needs of this vulnerable population. The taskforce has grown to include representation from all of CNE's operating units and community partners: Women & Infants Hospital, Kent Hospital, Butler Hospital, the VNA of CNE, The Providence Center, Integra, The Rhode Island Coalition for Domestic Violence, DayOne, and Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships (SOAR). Together, we are working diligently to end domestic violence and sexual assault. The IPV Taskforce invites you to join in to raise awareness during October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. A number of activities have been planned including:



Silent Witness Display – Remember my story, remember my name | October 9-19

This month, you can see "silent witnesses" at many of CNE's operating units. In 1990, the Silent Witness Initiative (<http://www.silentwitness.net>) began to honor the lives of domestic violence homicide victims and to offer support, community connections, and advocacy for change. Take a moment to look at these red silhouettes and read the stories of the victims. We need to remember their stories to put an end to these tragic deaths. Displays will be at Butler, Kent Hospital, VNA, and Women & Infants.

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Schwartz Rounds “Trauma Informed Care: A Time to Heal” | October 24 at 11:30 a.m.

Women & Infants will host a Schwartz Rounds “Trauma Informed Care: A Time to Heal” on Wednesday, October 24, at 11:30 a.m. in the South Pavilion. Upon completion of this conference, participants should be able to 1. Explain the concept of trauma informed care and how it can impact patient care, 2. Discuss the importance of follow-up care and referrals when caring for our patients, 3. Identify resources available to support patients and yourself if triggered, and 4. Discuss screening strategies and methods. All are welcome to attend.

Interpersonal Violence Resource Offerings | October 24

We welcome you to take a moment to view the various resources offered by our community partners—DayOne, SOAR, and The Rhode Island Coalition for Domestic Violence—outside the auditoriums in Women & Infants' South Pavilion on Wednesday, October 24, before and after the Schwartz Rounds. Each partner will have their own station with resources and information to take back to your unit/facility.

#PurpleThursday | October 25

All staff are invited to wear purple on Thursday, October 25 to honor victims and support survivors of domestic violence. Please check with your manager for regulatory attire before participating.

CARE NEW ENGLAND

Care New England Match and Savings Plan

As of October 4, the discretionary match has been deposited to eligible participant's accounts. If you are a plan participant, please login to your CNE Match and Savings Account on the Transamerica website (<https://cne.trsretire.com>) to view your CNE credits and latest account balance. New to Transamerica? Visit <https://cne.trsretire.com> and click on "New User? Get Started Now" to quickly access your account.

Please contact the iCare Benefits team with any questions at ext. 12273 or 680-4400, option #2. 