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With the arrival of spring comes some of the usual ailments that we and our community often find ourselves dealing with—colds, allergies, losing some of the “winter weight,” and of course, the common aches, pains, and physical maladies that often follow the first few overly zealous runs, trail hikes, and the like.



While the calendar says it is spring, the weather certainly doesn't support that notion. I am hopeful, as I am sure you are, that soon the nice weather will arrive, giving us all the chance to get outside, return to our outdoor activities and exercise routine, and finally enjoy some well-deserved sunshine and warmth!

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certainly not alone!

That is why I am pleased to highlight two, free upcoming health and wellness events later this month sponsored by Care New England Medical Group.

The first event is a free hernia screening program scheduled for **Thursday, April 19 from 5 to 7 p.m.** at Kent Hospital's Doctors' Auditorium on Toll Gate Road. Hernias are the most common general surgical procedure performed in the United States and they can be repaired with new robotic techniques that most hospitals don't offer.

The Hernia Program at Care New England is offering an opportunity to learn more about what a hernia is, common symptoms, and options for repair, including a demonstration of the da Vinci robot-assisted system. Free hernia screenings are available for all attendees. The event will be led by Drs. Lucas Beffa and Guy Nicastrì from Care New England Surgical Care. To learn more and/or register for this free screening event, visit <http://carenewengland.org/hernia-care>.

The second event will be at the CNEMG Primary Care and Specialty Services building located at 111 Brewster Street, Pawtucket. The event will be held on **Saturday, April 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** and will feature free blood pressure checks, opportunities to speak with primary care and specialty providers, exercise demonstrations with physical therapists, and the opportunity to enter a raffle to win a four-pack of tickets to the PawSox. Attendees are asked to bring a canned good to be donated to the Blackstone Valley Emergency Food Center.

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Not only is this a great opportunity to speak with local doctors and other experts, but this is a chance for Care New England to connect with and provide important services for the Blackstone Valley community. We understand that the first step in making important decisions about your health is getting the right information. This event offers the opportunity to get health information and meet the many primary and specialty care providers who continue to see patients in the Blackstone Valley.

Care New England Medical Group services provided in the Blackstone Valley include the Family Care Center, Internal Medicine Center, cardiology (offered through Brigham and Women's Cardiovascular Associates at Care New England), general surgery consultation, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, orthopedic surgery consultation, pulmonary and sleep medicine, dermatology, rehabilitation, pediatric primary care, and pediatric neurodevelopment. Care New England also offers diagnostic imaging and laboratory services at this location.

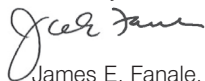
In closing, I want to once again announce that another round of CNE Town Hall meetings has been scheduled. I would like to continue to provide the opportunity for everyone to come together and allow me to share updates and give staff a chance to ask questions and express concerns.

We have scheduled the following Town Meetings so please feel free to attend whichever day/time is most convenient. Staff from the VNA and The Providence Center should feel free to attend any of the scheduled sessions.

KENT	Monday, April 9, 1 to 2 p.m. (Doctor's Auditorium)
BUTLER	Monday, April 9, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. (Ray Hall)
WOMEN & INFANTS	Tuesday, April 10, 3 to 4 p.m. (South Pavilion)
SERVICE ROAD	Wednesday, April 11, 9 to 10 a.m. (Building 2 – Lunch Room)
CNEMG PRIMARY CARE & SPECIALTY SERVICES BLDG	Thursday, April 19, 12 noon to 1 p.m. (Room TBD)

Have a great week ahead.

Sincerely,



James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer



CARE NEW ENGLAND

Care New England and Lifespan teaching hospitals and Brown University's medical school infused more than \$2.4 billion into the state, supported 26,400 jobs in 2017

A new study shows that Lifespan and Care New England teaching hospitals and The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University supported 26,449 jobs across the state last year. Those jobs, on average, provided \$69,189 in wages, salaries, and benefits for a total of \$1.83 billion in labor income to Rhode Island.

The study by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) also found that its member organizations in Rhode Island infused \$2.46 billion into the state in direct and secondary economic impact. Secondary benefits include purchases of equipment, services, or supplies, and employee purchases at local businesses.

"Academic medical centers contribute to their local environment in a number of ways. It is easy to see how the research and clinical care that take place improve human health. The academic activities also garner grant support from the

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National Institutes of Health and philanthropic foundations. In so doing, they provide good paying jobs and generate intellectual property and knowledge about diseases that can lead to new companies and eventually new therapies," said Jack A. Elias, MD, senior vice president for health affairs and dean of medicine and biological sciences at Brown.

"The contributions of medical students, residents, fellows, and other trainees across our Care New England hospitals are crucial to our ability to provide high quality care, conduct groundbreaking research, and train the next generation of caregivers," said James E. Fanale, MD, CNE's president and chief executive officer. "We attract some of the best and brightest from across the country and around the globe. These trainees contribute to our local economy and, through this foundation of education, offer long-term financial contributions locally and nationally."

Lifespan, Rhode Island Hospital, and The Miriam Hospital as well as Care New England (CNE) and its Women & Infants Hospital are AAMC members, as is Brown's medical school. CNE's Butler Hospital is an academic affiliate of Brown as well but not a member of the AAMC. CNE's Kent Hospital has an academic affiliation with the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, which is not a member of AAMC. Conducted by RTI International on behalf of the AAMC, the study examined the economic impact of medical schools and teaching hospitals represented by the AAMC in 46 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The full report can be viewed at <http://www.aamc.org/EconomicImpact>.

THE PROVIDENCE CENTER

The Providence Center awarded \$54,000 from RI Foundation's RIGHA fund

Recently, the Rhode Island Foundation announced that The Providence Center (TPC) will receive \$54,000 in funding through the Foundation's Rhode Island Group Health Association (RIGHA) Foundation Fund, made possible by Harvard Pilgrim Health Care. TPC's award, given as part of more than \$280,000 in grants, will allow clinicians from its School Counseling and Support Partnership with Providence Public Schools to increase coordination with students' primary care providers. The program, currently operating in seven middle and elementary schools, embeds clinicians to work with at-risk students and their parents to treat behavioral health issues.



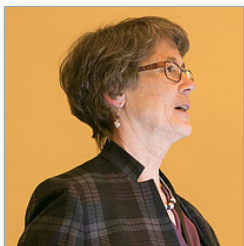
RI Foundation President Neil Steinberg

"A child's primary care provider often has a critical role in recognizing behavioral issues, and improving connections with these providers will allow our school clinicians to treat these issues more effectively and reduce gaps in services," said TPC President and Chief Operating Officer Deb O'Brien.

The RIGHA Fund's mission is supports projects, programs, and organizations that improve health outcomes in Rhode Island through primary care-related initiatives. "Developing an inclusive primary care system that promotes healthy lives is one of our core strategic initiatives. These grants will advance our continuing efforts to make quality health care more accessible and affordable," said Neil Steinberg, the Foundation's president and CEO. For more info on TPC's school counseling program, visit: <https://bit.ly/2qbvRRm>.

CARE NEW ENGLAND

Care New England expert speaks at the Annual Assembly for Hospice and Palliative Care



Therese Rochon, MS, MA, APRN, ACHPN, director of advanced illness management for the VNA of Care New England, was recently an inaugural speaker during the annual Assembly for Hospice and Palliative Care presented by Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) and American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Physicians.

During the HPNA clinical lecture series, Rochon presented, "Advance care planning: Moving from words to action." The lecture focused on the VNA of Care New England's advanced illness management program. Rochon reviewed how the VNA maximizes resources to bring palliative care into home care through coaching nurses to utilize communication skills and critical thinking when caring for home care patients. The outcome measures reported included an increase in patients with a documented advance directive, increase in quality, increase in hospice census, and increase in length of stay.

Celebrate National Donate Life Month with New England Donor Services this April

This month marks the 15th annual National Donate Life Month, a celebration commemorating those who have given the gift of life through organ and tissue donation. For those whose lives have been saved or healed by a transplant, National Donate Life Month provides a chance to share their story to encourage more people to register as donors.



In addition to organ donation, tissue donations help more than one million individuals each year. Heart valve, bone, and skin donations give recipients a new chance at a healthy life, the recovery of tendons and ligaments can help heal a severe sports injury, and cornea donations give the gift of sight.

Currently, 56 percent of the U.S. adult population is registered organ and tissue donors, yet the number of people in need of transplants continues to outpace the number of organs donated. More than 119,000 people are waiting for a transplant and a second chance at life. On average, 22 people die each day because the organ they need is not donated in time. That is almost one person dying every hour. Registering your decision to become a donor is the most effective way to save lives through donation and is a sign of support to those who continue to wait.

To register as a donor or for more information, please visit <http://registerme.org>.

Participate in Blue & Green Day for a chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift card



In recognition of National Donate Life Month, all are invited to participate in Blue & Green Day on **Friday, April 13**.

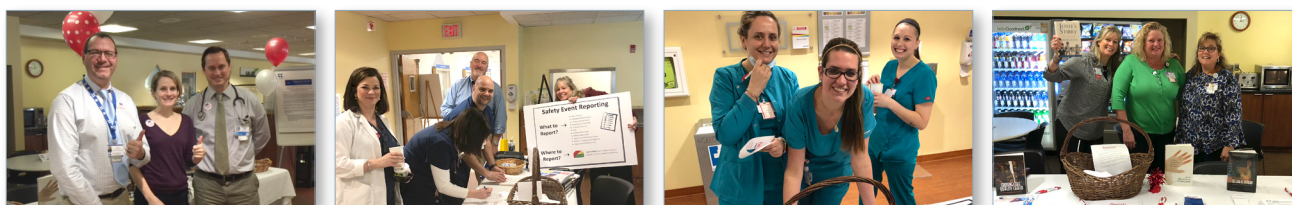
1. Show your creativity in blue and green Donate Life colors. Send in your best blue and green photo to the Donate Life America Facebook page starting **Friday, April 13 through Tuesday, April 17 at 11:59 p.m.** in one of six categories:
 - a. Outfitted for Life (adult fashion)
 - b. Colorful Kids (kids fashion)
 - c. Pets for Donation (pet fashion)
 - d. Get Together for Blue & Green (group photos)
 - e. Blue, Green, & Delicious (food and drinks)
 - f. Donate Life Décor (places and spaces)
2. Community Choice Award: The photo with the most votes will be the Community Choice Award Winner. Vote for your favorite photos submitted for the contest (**April 13 through 19**).
3. The Best of Each Category: The winner for each category will be selected by a panel of Donate Life America judges and announced—with the Community Choice Award Winner—on **Wednesday, April 25**. The winner from each photo contest category will be awarded a \$100 Amazon gift card.

<https://www.facebook.com/DonateLife> | <https://www.donatelife.net/Blue-Green-Day/> | #DonateLife | #BlueGreenDay

KENT

Kent Hospital celebrates patient safety

During March, the Risk Management Department at Kent Hospital celebrated patient safety awareness in coordination with the national recognition week (**March 12 through 16**) dedicated by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) and the National Patient Safety Foundation (NPSF). In order to engage the staff on the importance of patient safety amongst health professionals and the communities we serve, the team put on several events to improve awareness and education.



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The webcast, "Engaging patients and providers: Speaking up for patient safety" was streamed in the Doctors' Auditorium, and an educational fair in the Blue Wave Café included an array of activities, patient safety brochures, and information on an upcoming webinar. Taking the time to learn more about patient safety was rewarded with United for Patient Safety post-its, pens, and stickers along with complimentary popcorn. A patient safety quiz was also presented to all employees and visitors; those who took the time to complete the quiz were entered into a raffle for a \$25 gift card.

Raffle winners included Janet Brouillette, Respiratory Care; Michelle Clarke, Laboratory; Janet Flood-Cole, Case Management; and Diane Nagel, Laboratory.

Congratulations to all and thank you for taking the time to be patient safety champions!

CARE NEW ENGLAND

Did you know that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month?



The goal of Sexual Assault Awareness Month is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities on how to prevent it. Sexual violence is a very serious public health problem that affects millions of men and women. Statistics underestimate the problem because many victims do not tell the police, family or friends about the violence. Our ultimate goal is to call attention to and stop sexual violence before it begins.

Care New England has an Interpersonal Violence Task Force, a multidisciplinary committee whose role it is to provide education to our staff, advocate for our patients, and assure that all Care New England operating units are implementing best practices in regard to screening for violence and the care of our patients. The Interpersonal Violence Task Force is seeking new members; all disciplines from all operating units are invited to participate. The Task Force meets for one hour once per month and the location will be rotating across operating units to accommodate as many members as possible.

If you are passionate about caring for patients, especially those who may be affected by domestic violence or sexual violence, please consider joining. For more information, you may contact Kayla Rodrigues, clinical coordinator at Women & Infants at KMRodrigues@wihri.org or Brydie Thomasian, social services manager at Kent Hospital at BThomasian@KentRI.org. 